

# AP US Government & Politics - Summer Prep

Teacher: Paul Sams

Due: First week of school – August 25-27, 2021

**\*Printed copies of this document and the Constitution will be available in the main office at TRHS starting June 10.**

Crash Course Video Review	U.S. Constitution	Exploring Podcasts
<p>AP US Government and Politics begins with a unit called “Founders’ Intent.” This unit quickly covers our nation’s transition from subjects of a monarchy, to our creation of a confederation, and finally the writing of our <i>Constitution</i> and development of a representative democracy.</p> <p>We are not going to “redo” US History, but I do want you to feel prepared walking in to discuss some of our early history. You can google each of these video clips on YouTube done by PBS and titled “<b>Crash Course US Government and Politics.</b>”</p> <p><b>Please watch each of the following video clips and create a ½ page summary of each.</b> Feel free to use visuals, text, or a combination of the two to summarize your understanding of each short clip.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-<b>Episode 1:</b> Why Study Government? (6 min)</li> <li>-<b>Episode 3:</b> Separation of Powers, Checks and Balances (9 min)</li> <li>-<b>Episode 4:</b> Federalism (9 min)</li> <li>-<b>Episode 5:</b> Constitutional Compromises (9 min)</li> </ul>	<p>The <i>U.S. Constitution</i> is arguably the most important document we have to guide our democracy and civic practices.</p> <p>To prepare for this course, use this annotated version of the primary document.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Read</b> through the document and use a highlighter, marker, or colored pencil to <b>highlight the big ideas.</b></li> <li>2. Try to <b>understand the structure and function of this document.</b> The more time you spend unpacking this source, the more our course will make sense.</li> </ol> <p>When school starts, you’ll work in teams to go on a <b>scavenger hunt</b> using the <i>US Constitution</i>. If you have spent time with this and highlight well, you’ll be an asset to your team.</p>	<p>This course is taught using project-based learning methods. Some projects are done individually, some with a partner, and some in small groups.</p> <p>In our first unit, you will be part of a team building a podcast.</p> <p>Podcasts are cool. You can listen to podcasts for free!</p> <p>This summer, you need to <b>select two different podcasts to listen to and critique.</b></p> <p>Podcast ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Constitutional</li> <li>-Civics 101</li> <li>-Revisionist History</li> <li>-Pitch</li> <li>-RadioLab</li> <li>-Stuff You Missed in History Class</li> <li>-Serial (Seasons 1 &amp; 2)</li> <li>-The Dan Patrick Show (Sports)</li> </ul> <p><b>Write a one page (single-spaced) summary for each podcast you listen to this summer. Handwritten or typed.</b></p> <p>½ <b>page summary</b> (what’s the content of the podcast, how is it presented, structure, etc.)</p> <p>½ <b>page reflection</b> (what did you like or dislike about it? why?)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">If you have ANY questions this summer, email us at <a href="mailto:paul.sams@dmschools.org">paul.sams@dmschools.org</a> OR <a href="mailto:amber.graeber@dmschools.org">amber.graeber@dmschools.org</a></p>		