



ISLAMIC FOUNDATION
SCHOOL

Scholarship - Character -
Service



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Date: June 2026

Dear AP Student:

Welcome to Advanced Placement Government and Politics The Advanced Placement curriculum reflects college-level analysis, reading, and writing. This seminar course will require students to participate verbally. Students enrolled in an AP course are expected to keep up with the academic rigor involved and spend at least 10 hours on assigned work/review weekly.

By taking this advanced course, you have agreed to engage in summer work. [Summer work will be due the first week of school.](#) The Social Studies Department recommends that you do so at a pace that allows you to enjoy and process the materials. Taking time to conduct the summer work will facilitate your understanding and better prepare you for the content covered in August.

You can access all this information on the Islamic Foundation School website. Go to, then click on "Student Life" (top right), then select "AP Summer Work" from the menu. A list of all AP courses will be displayed. Select the course that you are enrolled in.

Textbook: AMSCO: Advanced Placement: United States Government and Politics

https://www.amazon.com/Advanced-Placement-United-Government-Politics/dp/1690384166/ref=pd_lpo_d_sccl_1/133-4693890-9855527?pd_rd_w=j9epr&content-id=amzn1.sym.4c8c52db-06f8-4e42-8e56-912796f2ea6c&pf_rd_p=4c8c52db-06f8-4e42-8e56-912796f2ea6c&pf_rd_r=A32E3G3HS2V63M6595GR&pd_rd_wg=HJrfH&pd_rd_r=70827ae3-9806-42bf-8dad-4bb73427256c&pd_rd_i=1690384166&psc=1

This will be the textbook the AP Government students will use throughout the year, please ensure you purchase a copy, you will need it for your summer work. ISBN: **978-1690384168**

Please review the IFS Academic Integrity Policy as listed in the Parent/Student Handbook on the school website. As society becomes more reliant on technology, IFS teachers have seen a notable increase in plagiarism, including students claiming material from online sources and/or claiming the work of past and present peers as their own original ideas. Due to this, we want to be sure that each student understands the seriousness of this offense and request that you sign and date the policy (see below) and return it to your AP teacher during the first week of class.

We look forward to having you join us in the upcoming school year,
Sincerely,
Nicholas Morea
Social Studies Teacher
nmorea@ifsvp.org

[Academic Integrity Agreement:](#)

I acknowledge that I have read the Academic Integrity Agreement entailing the Student Code of Conduct and Honor Code as identified in the Parent/Student Handbook and I will adhere to these policies and procedures while enrolled at Islamic Foundation School.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Unit #1: AMSCO Guided Reading Foundations of American Democracy

Chapter 1: Founding Principles (Topics 1.1 - 1.3)

Chapter 2: The Constitution (Topics 1.4 - 1.6)

Chapter 3: Federalism (Topics 1.7 - 1.9)

Topic 1.1: Ideals of Democracy Pages 3 - 9

When you come across terms/phrases you do not understand, look up their definitions. The AP US Government & Politics Exam contains complex language that can create confusion for students - even those students who have a strong understanding of course material. Improving your vocabulary will improve your ability to read and decipher passages, scenarios, questions, etc.

Example: The Enlightenment = A European movement of the 18th century that stressed the belief that science and logic give people more knowledge and understanding than tradition and religion.

1. Complete the chart below that contains information about the Enlightenment principles adopted by leading revolutionaries in the colonies.

Idea from Enlightenment Philosopher(s)	Description
Natural Rights (John Locke)	
Social Contract (Thomas Hobbes & Jean-Jacques Rousseau)	
Popular Sovereignty (Jean-Jacques Rousseau)	

Republicanism (Baron de Montesquieu)	
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2. Think as a Political Scientist: Define limited government.

3. Why did the American colonists want to break away from King George III & Great Britain? Provide 2+ reasons.

4. Foundational Documents: What was the intended purpose of the Declaration of Independence (July 4, 1776)?

5. The first official government in the United States was called the _____.

6. The framers of the US Constitution wanted the citizen representation of a democracy, but on a national level, so they created a _____, a collection of sovereign states gathered for the national interest, national needs, and national defense.

7. In your opinion, which of the five principles of our government is MOST important? *Why?* (Options: Natural rights, popular sovereignty, social contract, limited government, republicanism)

Topic 1.2: Types of Democracy Pages 10 - 15

1. Complete the chart below that contains information about the forms of Representative Democracies.

Type of Democrac	Definition	Pros	Cons	Example(s)
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y				
Participatory Democracy				
Pluralist Democracy				

Elite Democracy				
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2. Which of the three types of democracy are most similar? Can you think of an example of democracy being both of them at the same time?

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3. How is each type of democracy represented in the U.S. Constitution?

Participatory	Pluralism	Elitism

4. In your opinion, which form of democracy is most *effective* at the creation of public policy? *Why?* (Options: Participatory, pluralist, elite)

5. Those who supported the proposed structure of the US Constitution, a strong federal government, and supported full ratification (approval) of the proposed Constitution became known as _____.

6. How did the Federalists encourage the states to ratify the US Constitution?

7. Those who opposed ratification of the proposed US Constitution because of its consolidation of the states under a federal government, became known as the _____.

8. Why type of democracy does Federalist #10 support? **Circle one** (Options: Participatory, Pluralist, Elite) 9. Which type of democracy does Brutus 1 support? **Circle one** (Options: Participatory, Pluralist, Elite)

Topic 1.3: Government Power & Individual Rights Pages 16 - 21

1. Under the Articles of Confederation, political power belonged largely to _____ governments. 2. According to *Federalist #10*, what main points are the "Federalists" trying to make?

3. According to *Brutus 1*, what main points are the "Anti-Federalists" trying to make?

4. Complete the chart below that contains information on the Federalists and Anti-Federalists.

	Believed Power Should Lie with the	Views Regarding the Proposed U.S. Constitution	Fears
Federalists			
Anti-Federalists			

5. In your opinion, were the Anti-Federalists fears justified? Why or why not?