



## Ocean City High School Summer Assignment 2021

<b>Course</b>	AP Government and Politics	<b>Teacher</b>	K. Smith
<b>Email</b>		<b>Due Date</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> day of class in September
<b>Standards</b>	The purpose is to provide students a foundational understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the structure of our government.		
<b>Topic</b>			
<b>Purpose</b>			
<b>Text/Novel(s) &amp; Brief Description</b>	Amsco United States Government and Politics		
<b>Approximate Time on Task</b>	3-4 hours		
<b>Suggested Timeline</b>			
<b>How It Will Be Assessed</b>	50-point grade		

*Insert Detailed Description of Assignment*

**A.P. Government and Politics**  
**K. Smith**  
**Introductory Worksheet – the Constitution**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

There are two summer assignments that will be required for candidates of the A.P. Government and Politics course:

1. All students should complete the questions listed below. The assignment must be hand-written (typed work will not be accepted) and is due on the first day of class.
2. All students should study for a quiz on the Constitution which will be held the first week of school. Pay particular attention to Articles I-III and the Bill of Rights.

**Please submit hand-written responses in paragraph form to the following questions. The worksheet is due the first day of school and counts as a 100 point grade.**

1. What were the Articles of Confederation? List some of the features of the Articles as a system of government.
2. Explain some of the philosophical differences between the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists.
3. Why was the Constitution ratified to replace the Articles of Confederation? Explain the weaknesses of the Articles that led to the drafting of the Constitution.
4. Explain Article I of the Constitution and the powers therein.
5. Explain Article II of the Constitution and the powers therein.
6. Explain Article III of the Constitution and the powers therein.
7. What is the Bill of Rights and why was it drafted?
8. List each of the Bill of Rights and explain the purpose and function of each.
9. Why is the First Amendment sometimes controversial? What conflicts would seem to exist in its nature?
10. What are the major arguments both in favor of and against limiting the Second Amendment?

11. Explain the concept of “probable cause” as it relates to the Fourth Amendment. How has “probable cause” expanded since 9/11?
12. Is the death penalty a violation of the Eighth Amendment’s ban on cruel and unusual punishment? Explain your opinion.
13. What must take place in order for the Constitution to be amended? Why have there been so few Amendments throughout our history?
14. Look at the Amendments to the Constitution since the Bill of Rights was passed. Which do you find to be the most important or influential? Explain your answer.
15. If you could enact one change to our current system of government, what would it be? Why? Explain your answer.
16. What are some things the Democratic party believes in? What issues do they promote?
17. What are some things the Republican party believes in? What issues do they promote?
18. How do Democrats and Republicans differ in their beliefs about the role of government? Explain.
19. The government response to the coronavirus pandemic has been met with criticism, to say the least. What could the government have done better in handling it? Be specific.
20. What are your thoughts on President Biden? Were you happy he was elected? Why or why not?