

Dr. Heise
AP Government
Summer Quarter 2024

AP Government Summer Assignment

While your summer is a time for rest and relaxation, there are a couple of small things I would like you to do in preparation for the work we will be doing in Government this year.

1. Create a document identifying your representatives at ALL levels of government (i.e.: Federal, State, and Local). Be sure to note the last time they were elected (and if they are up for re-election this year), where applicable their political affiliation, and any other information you might feel relevant to understanding who they are. You should also include – since we are in Massachusetts – your town government information, if you live in a Town Meeting town, or if you have Selectmen, or if it's a City Council, or whatever else you might have (I think those are the only three types of local govt. in MA). This document will be used as a reference tool for you throughout the year.
2. Choose three sources off of the list attached below. AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK over the summer read AT LEAST ONE article from each source. Keep a log of your reading – i.e. start a document where you chart the date you read your article for the week, the source of the article, and a brief summary of the article. These readings should be primarily political in nature.
3. Watch an interview – an in depth interview, not one that is just a couple of questions, something like a segment on *Face the Nation* or *60 Minutes* or a dedicated politics podcast – with a politician, and write a newspaper style summary of the interview. Tell me in 300-350 words the following: who was interviewed, what the interview was about, and whether or not you agreed with the politician's positions. Be sure to include a citation (in Chicago style) of the interview. The politician can be ANY politician at any level of government (local, state, federal).

In summary, by the end of the summer you should have: a document that lists all of your representatives from the National down to the Local level, a reading log of all of the political articles you have read from three different sources (should come out to about 18-21 articles in total), and a 300-350 word summary of a political interview that you've watched.

Beyond this, have a great break, and I will see you in September!

Summer Media Reading List Options

Again: you only have to choose THREE of the possible publications off of this list. Some of these are paywalled. If you happen to have a subscription, that works, but also don't feel the need to purchase a separate subscription just for this class. There are PLENTY of free resources out there.

New York Times
Wall Street Journal
SCOTUSBlog
Fox News
Detroit Free Press
Al-Jazeera
Worcester T&G
Houston Chronicle
Le Monde
Seattle Times
Daily Telegraph

Politico
Foreign Affairs
Marketwatch
The Guardian
Boston Herald
MSNBC
St. Paul Pioneer Press
Atl. Journal-Constitution
London Times
San Francisco Chronicle
Financial Times

National Review
Slate
CNN
Los Angeles Times
Drudge Report
Mpls. Star Tribune
Chicago Tribune
Washington Post
The Japan Times
The Times of India
Philadelphia Inquirer