

Ms. K. Gooding
AP Government/Politics
Robert Morgan Educational Center
Social Studies Department
2017-2018 School Year

May 31, 2017

Dear Future APGO Student,

You have received this packet because you are enrolled in Advanced Placement Government and Politics (APGO) for the 2017-2018 school year. Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics is a college-level course providing analysis and evaluation of contemporary political concepts and issues related to American government. Theories, beliefs, and institutions related to the political process will be studied and interpreted. Many factors will be addressed and connections will be developed throughout the curriculum.

The main objective of the course is for students to become well-informed and efficient citizens. Students will develop more political efficacy while coming to understand their political viewpoints and beliefs. Students will leave the course well-prepared for the rigors of upper level coursework at their universities. Writing will also be emphasized as structured and concise writing will be necessary to succeed in higher level education. Students in this class can expect a rigorous workload, and there will be an expectation of original thought.

To be successful in APGO, you must be an independent learner—beginning this summer. Please join our class website on Schoolology.com to receive updates and to communicate with me over summer as well as during the school year. Please use group access code: **H7HFB-PD7VB** to join.

This packet contains handouts you must complete prior to the first day of class. There will be a test on Chapter 1 and court cases within the first two weeks of school. Should you have any questions about the assignments, contact me at: kgooding@dadeschools.net or through Schoolology.com.

Ms. K. Gooding, APGO Instructor

Summer Assignment Checklist

Directions for each assignment are included in this packet. All work should be completed and be ready to submit on the first day of school. A test will be given on Chapters 1 & 2 and court cases within the first two weeks of the beginning of the school year. You should not only complete them but study it as well.

The following work is due on the first day of class:

- Join the APGO class website at Schoolology.com**
- Complete 10 Landmark Court Cases**
- Complete Chapter 1 Identifiers (Vocabulary) on 3x5 notecards**
- Summer News Journal**
- Class Materials: 3-ring binder with 4 dividers (sorry no sharing with other classes), lots and lots of 3x5 notecards (for vocabulary) pens/ pencils, box of paperclips**



APGO Summer Assignments

ASSIGNMENT #1: JOIN SCHOOLOGY (Code: H7HFB-PD7VB)

Throughout the year, I will post assignments and announcements related to our class on **Schoology.com**. I would like for you to visit this page frequently when school begins to keep up with the topics we are covering in the classroom. If you have any questions pertaining to assignments at any time, feel free to message me on Schoology. **(My responses are usually very short and to the point so please do not take offense to it.)**

Also, please download the app on your phone to receive notifications. Take the time to familiarize yourself with **Schoology** and how it works. I will begin posting your summer assignments now and then again a week before school begins in August. (Create a password that can be remembered as well as real names for your username—no nicknames please!)

ASSIGNMENT #2: COMPLETE CHAPTER 1 IDENTIFIERS (VOCABULARY)

Using 3x5 notecards, complete the identifiers listed on Schoology.com, one identifier per card.

ASSIGNMENT #3: SUMMER NEWS JOURNAL

Your assignment is to locate, summarize, and analyze EIGHT (8) current NATIONAL news stories reported or published on any date between January 1, 2017 to August 20, 2017. News stories can be found via online or print newspapers or magazines. Use the News Journal pages handout to complete the assignment and attach copies of each story (newspaper clippings, and/or printouts for example) to the handout for complete credit.

ASSIGNMENT #4: LANDMARK COURT CASES

Knowledge of landmark US court cases are EXTREMELY important for this class and knowing them from the start will assist you greatly. Use the handout provided to guide you in completing 10 court cases. You may write on the handout. Additional court case handouts can be printed out from **Schoology.com** A test will be given on the information at the beginning of the year. Write very neatly on the handout because it will serve as your study guide.

ASSIGNMENT #5: AP CONTRACT

Read, fill out information, sign and return the attached contract.

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AP U.S. Government & Politics (APGO)

Student Contract 2017-2018

I understand that by signing this contract, I am dedicating myself to the rigorous academic adventure known as AP Government. I know that the exam in May 2018 is mandatory and that preparing for it is the primary motive for taking the class. By signing this contract, I pledge myself to the herculean effort that is required to tackle the vast amount of reading, writing, and analyzing necessary for success on the AP Government exam.

I acknowledge the receipt of the summer assignment packet and am fully aware that I will receive multiple zeros if I fail to submit my summer assignments on the first day of classes of the 2017-2018 school year. Additionally, I am aware that a test will be given within the first two weeks of classes covering the material in the summer packet. Finally, by signing this contract, I am committed to attending study/tutoring sessions afterschool/during lunch (your choice) and 2 to 3 scheduled Saturdays between March and May with sufficient prior notification.

Student Name (Print) _____

Student Signature _____

Student Email Address _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature of approval _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Number _____

Please return and submit to Ms. Gooding in Room U245 by Monday, August 21, 2017