

ROBERT S. WELCH CENTER FOR GRADUATE AND  
PROFESSIONAL STUDIES  
GOUCHER COLLEGE  
TEACHERS' INSTITUTE  
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SYLLABUS

AP 537.100 Preparing Students for the AP Exam: United States Government and Politics  
Monday, June 18– Friday, June 22, 2018  
8:30AM – 4:00PM (Mon. – Thurs.)  
8:30AM – 1:00PM (Friday)

**Course Objectives:**

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to:

- Develop a curriculum for the redesigned AP U. S. Government and Politics course.
- Understand the content of each “Big Idea” within the AP U. S. Government and Politics redesigned course.
- Develop unit guides for “Big Idea” within the AP U. S. Government and Politics course.
- Develop an awareness of the texts and materials available for teaching the redesigned AP U. S. Government and Politics course.
- Understand and improve teaching techniques and strategies appropriate for teaching an AP U. S. Government and Politics course.
- Develop strategies for preparing students to take the AP U. S. Government and Politics examination.

**Attendance Policy:**

If you are taking the course for credit, no absences/late arrivals are permitted. You must attend all five days to receive graduate credit.

**Contact:**

Prior to the first day of class instructor may be contacted via e-mail.  
Dr. Maria E. Schmidt ([meschmidt7@earthlink.net](mailto:meschmidt7@earthlink.net))

**Texts:**

If you know the textbook you will be using for your course, please bring it with you as well as any supplemental texts/readers you will be using. In addition, please bring a

favorite lesson you have used (in any course you have taught that may be adaptable to this course) to share as part of our 'best practices' session.

**Details:**

Monday, June 18, 2018

- Introductory Exercise
- Overview of the Advanced Placement (AP) Program/Program Updates/Course Revisions
- Student Selection for the AP Program/Equity and Access to AP
- AP Course Audit
- Understanding the Redesigned Course Framework
- Political Science Practices and Thinking Skills and the AP US Government and Politics Course
- Content of Courses in AP United States Government and Politics/Review of Redesigned Curriculum
- Planning and Developing Unit Guides for AP U. S. Government and Politics
- Review of Resources for Teaching AP Courses in U. S. Government and Politics
- Textbook Content Correlation
- The Advanced Placement Examination: Preparing Your Students for the Multiple Choice and Free-Response Questions/Skills and Content Assessed/Scoring/Self-Diagnostic/Methods of Review
- Using Past and Sample Exam Questions to Teach AP U. S. Government and Politics/Correlation to Curriculum

Tuesday, June 19, 2018

- The Advanced Placement “Reading”
- Mastering the Free-Response Portion of the AP U. S. Government and Politics Examination and Preparing Students for the Redesigned Exam Format

- Development of Rubrics and Sample Grading of the Free-Response Portion of the AP U. S. Government and Politics Examination
- Techniques and Strategies for Teaching the AP U. S. Government and Politics Course: Assignments that Enhance Skills for Success on the AP Exam/Analyzing Political Cartoons, Tables, Charts and Graphs
- Sample Lesson: Reading and Interpreting Supreme Court Cases
- Computer Lab Activities: AP Central/Textbook and other Internet Resources
- Planning and Developing Unit Guides for AP U. S. Government and Politics

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

- Sample Grading of the Free Response Portion of the AP U. S. Government and Politics Examination (continued)
- Importance of Critical Thinking Skills in AP Courses: Effective Strategies for Improving Critical Thinking/Reading Skills: Sample Lessons
- Planning and Developing Units for the Advanced Placement Government and Politics Course (continued)
- Computer Lab Work Session for Developing Unit Guides

Thursday, June 22, 2018

- “Best Practices” Session
- Lessons and Strategies for Diverse Student Audiences
- Correlating Lessons to Specific Exam Content
- Planning and Developing Units for the Advanced Placement U. S. Government and Politics Course (continued)
- Computer Lab Work Session for Developing Unit Guides (continued)

Friday, June 23, 2018

- Presentation of Unit Guides for the AP U. S. Government and Politics Course
- Implementing Ideas from the Institute in School Settings
- Debriefing/Evaluations

**Instructions to receive an official transcript after the completion of the course:**

Goucher College does not issue grade reports. You can obtain your grade approximately 3 weeks after concluding the course by going to the Goucher website (mygoucher) and follow the prompts to receive your grade. There is no charge for this request. Please allow 3-5 working days to process.

If you need a paper copy of grades for tuition reimbursement, you will need to request a transcript in writing. You can fax your request to Student Administrative Services (SAS) at 410-337-6504 or mail to SAS at:

Goucher College, SAS  
1021 Dulaney Valley Road  
Baltimore, MD 21204

Questions? Please call Shelley Johnson or Barbara Bisset at 410-337-6200.