

# AP Government 2019-2020 Pacing

## Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy

- Big Idea: Constitutionalism      EQ: Why are there debates about the balance of power between the federal and state governments?
- Big Idea: Liberty & Order      EQ: Is the Bill of Rights necessary? Why or Why not?
- Big Idea: Competing Policy Making Interests      EQ: How does the Constitution affect you and the choices you make?

Dates	Topic	Dates	Topic
7/8	Democratic Attributes	30/3	Ratification of the U.S. Constitution
9/12	Textbook & Learning Platform	4	*Econ Exam Placeholder
13/14	Positionality & Political Ideology Quizzes	5/6	Principles of American Government
15/16	Ideals of Democracy & Types of Democracy	9/10	Federalist Paper Socratic
19/20	Government Power and Individual Rights Challenges of the Articles of Confederation	11/12	Relationship Between the States and Federal Government
21/23	** Media Literacy & Flipboard	13/16	Constitutional Interpretations of Federalism
26/27	U.S. Constitution	17/18	Federalism in Action
28/29	U.S. Constitution	19	Unit 1 Exam

\*\* Back to School Minimum Day Placeholder

## Unit 2: American Political Ideology & Beliefs

- Big Idea: Competing Policy Making Interests      EQ: How do our core beliefs about the role of government affect our behavior?  
EQ: How does our view of what freedom is shape our opinions?
- Big Idea: Methods of Political Analysis      EQ: Why are some opinion polls better than others?  
EQ: How can policy-makers use information from political science to make decisions?

Dates	Topic	Dates	Topic
20/23	American Attitudes About Government and Politics	4/7	Ideologies of Political Parties
24/25	Political Socialization	8/9	Ideology & Policy Making
26/27	Changes in Ideology	10	*Econ Exam Placeholder



	Influence of Political Events on Ideology		
30/1	Measuring Public Opinion Evaluating Public Opinion Data	11/16	** Ideology & Policy Making
2/3	Evaluating Public Opinion Data	17	Unit 2 Exam

\*\* Homecoming Rally Placeholder

### Unit 3: Political Participation

- Big Idea: Constitutionalism      EQ: Why are there debates about the balance of power between the federal and state governments?
- Big Idea: Liberty & Order      EQ: Is the Bill of Rights necessary? Why or Why not?
- Big Idea: Competing Policy Making Interests      EQ: How does the Constitution affect you and the choices you make?

Dates	Topic	Dates	Topic
18/21	Voting Rights & Models of Voting Behavior	7/8	Electing a President
22/23	Voter Turnout	12/13	Congressional Elections
24/25	Political Parties	14	*Econ Exam Placeholder
28/29	How and Why Political Parties Change and Adapt	15/18	Modern Campaigns
30/31	Third Party Politics	19/20	Campaign Finance
1/4	Interest Groups Influencing Policy Making	21	Unit 3 Exam
5/6	Groups Influencing Policy Outcomes		

### Unit 4: Legislative Branch

- Big Idea: Constitutionalism      EQ: Which branch of government is the most powerful? Why?  
EQ: Are there really checks and balances when one political party controls all three branches of government? Why or Why not?
- Big Idea: Competing Policy Making Interests      EQ: In what ways has the evolution of government powers affected Americans and their daily lives?



Dates	Topic	Dates	Topic
22/2	Congress: The Senate & House of Representatives	9/10	Congressional Inquiry
3/4	Structures, Powers, & Functions of Congress	11/12	Congressional Inquiry
5/6	Congressional Behavior	13/16	Congressional Socratic

\*\*\* Unit Exam Included in Final Exam with Cumulative Questions

## Unit 5: Executive Branch & Bureaucracy

- Big Idea: Constitutionalism  
 EQ: Which branch of government is the most powerful? Why?  
 EQ: Are there really checks and balances when one political party controls all three branches of government? Why or Why not?
- Big Idea: Competing Policy Making Interests  
 EQ: In what ways has the evolution of government powers affected Americans and their daily lives?

Dates	Topic	Dates	Topic
6/7	Roles & Powers of the President	21/22	Discretionary & Rule Making Authority
8/9	Checks on the Presidency	23/24	Holding the Bureaucracy Accountable
10/13	Expansion of Presidential Power	27/28	Save My Agency
14/15	Presidential Communication	29/30	Policy & the Branches of Government
16/17	The Bureaucracy	31	Unit 5 Exam

## Unit 6: Judicial Branch

- Big Idea: Constitutionalism  
 EQ: Which branch of government is the most powerful? Why?  
 EQ: Are there really checks and balances when one political party controls all three branches of government? Why or Why not?
- Big Idea: Competing Policy Making Interests  
 EQ: In what ways has the evolution of government powers affected Americans and their daily lives?

Dates	Topic	Dates	Topic
3/4	Conversation with Chief Justice Roberts	13/14	Courts in Action
5/6	The Judicial Branch	18/19	Checks on the Judiciary
7	*Econ Exam Placeholder	20/21	Judicial Inquiry



11/12	Legitimacy of the Judicial Branch	24	Unit 6 Exam
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## Unit 7: Civil Rights & Liberties

- Big Idea: Constitutionalism      EQ: In what ways does the Constitution attempt to limit abuse of government powers
- Big Idea: Civic Participation in a representative Democracy      EQ: How can individuals and groups help protect civil liberties and civil rights?
- Big Idea: Competing Policy Making Interests      EQ: Why have Supreme Court decisions about civil liberties and civil rights changed over time?

Dates	Topic	Dates	Topic
25/26	The Bill of Rights	18/19	Amendments: Due Process and the Right to Privacy
27/28	First Amendment: Freedom of Religion	20/30	Social Movements and Equal Protection
2/3	First Amendment: Freedom of Speech	31/1	Government Responses to Social Movements
4/5	First Amendment: Freedom of the Press	2/3	Balancing Minority and Majority Rights
6/9	Second Amendment: Right to Bear Arms	6/7	Affirmative Action
10/11	Amendments: Balancing Individual Freedom with Public Order and Safety	8/9	Review Activity
12/13	Selective Incorporation	10	Unit 7 Exam
16/17	Amendments: Due Process and the Rights of the Accused		

## AP Exam Review

Dates	Topic	Dates	Topic
14/15	Review Jenga	24/27	Linkage Institutions Review
16	*Econ Exam Placeholder	28/29	Constitutional Foundations Review
17/21	** Ideology/Beliefs & Judicial Branch Review	30/1	FRQ Jigsaw
22/23	Congress & Executive Branches Review	4	<b>***AP Government Exam***</b>

\*\* Prom Rally Placeholder

Note: Above dates and topics are tentative and subject to change.

