

**AP US Government & Politics**  
**Mrs. Comblo**

**Summer Assignment 2019**

Welcome to Advanced Placement US Government & Politics, a dynamic political science course. In preparation for our course of study, you are required to maintain a news portfolio throughout the summer. **The portfolio is due the first day of school, Sept. 2019.**

AP US Government & Politics is a contemporary course. As such, it is essential for you to be informed of current issues and events during the summer as you enter the course in the fall. The assignment requires each student to maintain a news portfolio. Each portfolio must include **10 articles, 5 political cartoons and 5 graphs/charts, each with a summary.** The articles or links to the articles, cartoons and graphs must be included in the portfolio and should be relevant to US domestic, and/or foreign policy issues. Include articles on the three branches of government (legislative, judicial, executive) along with those that are linked to government agencies (EPA, FEC, SEC, etc.). Be sure to obtain articles from reliable sources (*The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, The Economist, Newsweek, US News & World Report, The Christian Science Monitor, etc.*). Each article, cartoon, and graph must be accompanied by a typed summary that describes the sum and substance of the article, cartoon, and graph **AND** a rationale explaining why you selected that particular article/cartoon for the portfolio. **Arrange items in chronological order** and include articles that represent the entire time period (June-Sept.) and different points of view. Do not use page protectors over the summaries, as I often write comments on them. Organize the portfolio in a **folder or binder** with your name clearly labeled on the cover. To create a portfolio with a range of articles, reference the topic list below:

National Government	Treasury Department	Environment
Congress	Federal Reserve	War on Terror/ISIS
US Supreme Court	Economy	Veterans Affairs
State Courts	Immigration	Mid-Term Elections/Campaigns
Justice Department	Healthcare	
Defense Department	Trade	Globalization
Regulatory Agencies	Unemployment	
Civil Rights	Lobbying	

**The portfolio will count as a test grade for the first quarter.**

If you have any questions during the summer, please contact me via email at [scomblo@briarcliffschools.org](mailto:scomblo@briarcliffschools.org). Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to a great year.  
Mrs. Comblo

