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 assignment is due on the first day of class in September.

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 prepare to enter the course in the fall. The assignment requires each student to maintain a news portfolio. The portfolio must include **10 articles, 5 political cartoons and 5 graphs/charts, each with an analytical summary. Include a link to the article with your summary.** All content should be relevant to US domestic, and/or foreign policy. Use reliable print sources for the articles (*Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Economist, Newsweek, US News & World Report, The Christian Science Monitor, etc.*). Each article, cartoon, and graph must have a summary that identifies and describes the substance of the article, cartoon, and graph *along with an* explanation of the importance of the issue in American politics. Organize the summaries in chronological order and include articles that represent the entire time-period (June-Sept.) with different points of view and perspectives. Organize the portfolio in a binder and do not use page projectors.

With a general election in November 2024 be sure to include news related to presidential & congressional campaigns, along with information on the national party conventions scheduled to occur this summer.

To include a variety of topics, reference the list below:

- National Government
- Treasury Department
- Environment
- Congress
- Federal Reserve
- Executive Branch
- US Supreme Court
- Economy
- Veterans Affairs
- State Courts
- Immigration
- State Legislation
- Justice Department
- Healthcare
- Voting Bills
- Defense Department
- Trade
- Globalization
- Regulatory Agencies
- Unemployment
- Elections/Campaigns
- Civil Rights
- Lobbying
- Gun Safety
- Primaries
- Inflation

**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. Have a wonderful summer, and I look forward to your participation in the class!

Mrs. Comblo