

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT AP GOVERNMENT

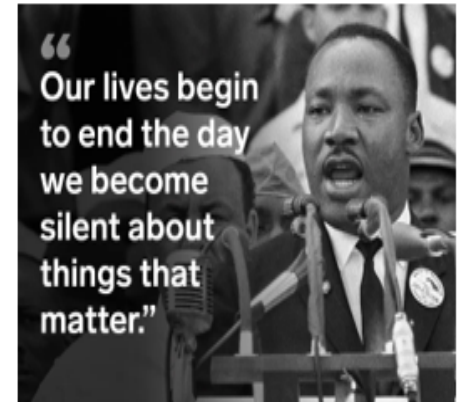
## About This Course:

AP US Government & Politics is an advanced course designed to enable students to gain as much knowledge as they would in an introductory political science course at the college level, and to qualify the student for college credit.

Students will be assigned challenging tasks involving reading (**2.5 hours a week**), research, analysis, synthesis, writing (**1.5 hours a week**), class debates, moot courts, lectures are given, and current public issues frequently used to illustrate concepts covered in class. Each unit exam includes a multiple-choice test and a written exam (FRQ).

Here is the outline of the class

- I. The Constitution 15%
- II. The Interactions between the Three Branches 35%
  - A. The Congress
  - B. The Executive
  - C. The Bureaucracy
  - D. The Judicial
- III. Development of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties 20%
- IV. Political Beliefs and Behavior of the American Public 15%
- V. Political Parties, Interest Groups, Mass Media 15%



**Q: So, how is the class structured?**

*A: Here is a typical week:*

### First Block Period:

- Journal and Discussion** on what should be the qualifications of the president.
- Lecture** on Constitutional Powers of the President with outline
- Webquest research assignment** on Executive Orders/Executive Agreements/Executive Privilege in class (finished in class)
- **Discussion** on whether Executive Orders/Privilege are good for America?

### Second Block Period

- Lecture** on The Evolution of the Presidential Power with outline
- Cabinet Research Assignment** on the structure of the cabinet, who the current secretaries are and personal commentary on free response questions. (most finish in class with a handful taking it home to finish)

### Homework:

1. **Reading of Federalist Papers #78** (Read 6-7 pages, answer 5 questions)
2. **Interview** someone who voted in the last election and ask them 15-18 questions regarding what they believe the presidents qualifications should be and what they are looking for in a president.