

2023 Advanced Placement® United States Government and Politics

About the AP® United States Government and Politics Summer Institute

The U.S. Government and Politics Institute is designed to help teachers organize an AP course in U.S. Government and Politics, select appropriate materials, determine course content and depth of mastery, provide techniques and strategies for teaching the course and provide a better understanding of the AP exam (what to expect and how the free-response answers are graded).

We will:

- suggest methods of organizing course content.
- examine the content for each of the five units of study.
- demonstrate writing strategies to prepare students to write the free-response essays.
- examine a bibliography of materials that can be used and how to incorporate these materials effectively.
- explore AP Classroom and other College Board Resources.
- demonstrate strategies to use in the classroom.

The instructor will model an AP Reading with sample essays from the AP test, explore ways to save time, discuss motivation, and help participants determine individual action plans.

Goals of the Institute:

Participants will:

- Understand the mission statement of the College Board and how it affects the development of an AP United States Government and Politics class.
- Develop an AP United States Government and Politics scope and sequence that will meet the requirements of the Course and Exam Description.
- Develop or improve a curriculum that will include the following topics:
 1. Foundations of Democracy
 2. Interactions Among Branches of Government
 3. Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
 4. American Political Ideologies and Beliefs
 5. Political Participation
- Examine various textbooks and supplementary materials available.
- Understand the scope of the content and skills students will need to demonstrate on the AP exam.

Tentative Agenda:

Day One

Introduction to US Government and Politics; Diversity and Inclusion/Equity and Access in AP; Course and Exam Description; Understanding the Course- Integrating Content and Skills: The Practice of Political Science; Exploring the CED; Connecting and Applying Concepts; FRQ #1: Concept Application; Focus: Unit 1- Foundations of Democracy (Activities and Resources).

Day Two

Planning the Course; The Course Audit, Curricular Requirements, and Syllabus Development; Course Organization: Sequencing and Pacing/Spiraling and Scaffolding; Course at a Glance; Skills Practice; Materials and Resources; Analyzing Quantitative Data; Analyzing and Interpreting Visuals; FRQ #2: Quantitative Analysis; Focus: Unit 2- Interactions Among Branches of Government (Activities and Resources).

Day Three

Teaching the Course; Strategies and Pedagogical Tools; Instructional Approaches; Sample Instructional Activities; AP Classroom and AP Daily; Analyzing and Comparing Supreme Court Cases; FRQ #3: SCOTUS Comparison; Focus: Unit 3- Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (Activities and Resources).

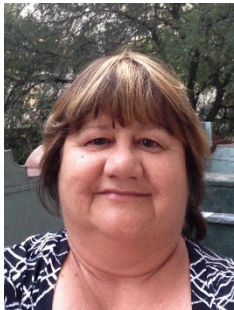
Day Four

The AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam; Exam Overview; Released Exams/2019 MC and 2021 FRQs; IPRs: Instructional Planning Reports; Chief Reader Reports; Reading and Analyzing the Required Documents; Writing an Argument Essay; FRQ #4; Argumentative Essay; Focus: Unit 4- American Political Ideologies and Beliefs (Activities and Resources); Applied Learning: The Political Science Research or Applied Civics Project; Engaging as a Member of the AP Community; Focus: Unit 5- Political Participation (Activities and Resources); Favorite Lessons and Best Practices Wrap Up and What's Next?

Items you should have available during the week include:

- a laptop computer or tablet.
- a copy of your classroom syllabus, including scope and sequence.
- a copy of your current audit syllabus (if you have one).
- a copy of your school's academic calendar for 2023-2024 (if you know it).
- a copy of the textbook you currently use or plan to use.
- a favorite activity, lesson, simulation, etc. you have found useful in the classroom.

Instructor:



Pamela K. Lamb has taught AP and Dual Credit U.S. Government and Politics, Macroeconomics, and Microeconomics classes at Del Rio High School in Del Rio, Texas. She holds a B.A. in history and an M.A. in both history and political science. She has been teaching for thirty-four years, twenty-nine in AP. Ms. Lamb has also taught political science, history, and economics classes at Southwest Texas Junior College and Sul Ross State University, Rio Grande College. Ms. Lamb has served as a reader, table leader, or question leader at the U.S. Government and Politics AP reading since 2000. Ms. Lamb has been a workshop consultant for the Southwest Regional Office of the College Board since 1994 and received the Special Recognition Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Southwest Region in 2000. She has been recognized by Who's Who Among America's Teachers numerous times, received the Harvard Book Club Award, and was an HEB Excellence in Teaching semi-finalist in 2008. Ms. Lamb is the author of 5 Steps to a 5: AP® U.S. Government and Politics. In 2018, Ms. Lamb was a contributing author to the Foundational Documents and Court Cases Reader to accompany the textbook American Government: Stories of a Nation.