

Haddonfield Memorial High School
Summer Assignment Cover Sheet

Course: AP Government

Teacher(s): Mr. Boogaard

Due Date(s): 9/7/10

Grade Weight (%) of Quarter 1: Major Grade (10%)

NJ Core

Curriculum Standards:

6.2 World History: Global Studies: All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically and systematically about how past interactions of people, cultures, and the environment affect issues across time and cultures. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions as socially and ethically responsible world citizens in the 21st century. A. Civics, Government, and Human Rights

5.

Decolonization, the emergence of new independent nations, and competing ideologies changed the political landscape and national identities of those involved, and sometimes included military confrontations and violations of human rights.

International migration and scientific and technological improvements in the second half of the 20th century resulted in an increasingly global economy and society that are challenged by limited natural resources.

6. Technological innovation, economic interdependence, changes in population growth, migratory patterns, and the development, distribution, and use of natural resources offer challenges and opportunities that transcend regional and national borders.

Description of Assignment:

Create a portfolio of news articles and responses

Purpose of Assignment:

This will help the students to begin to look at the current events in a context of the AP US Government course.

Specific Expectations:

Students are to have well constructed reactions written clearly and ready for discussion.

Potential Help Sources:

Teacher email jboogaar@haddonfield.k12.nj.us

AP U.S. Government and Politics
Mr. Boogaard

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Congratulations on accepting the challenge to take AP U.S. Government and Politics next year. What lies ahead is a year spent exploring the intricacies of how our government and political system works and - in some cases - how it doesn't.

This summer promises to be an exciting one politically. President Obama continues to work with Congress to get legislation passed. Every member of the U.S. House of Representatives and one-third of the Senate is up for reelection in November in what is shaping up to be an exciting midterm election year, as the Republican Party hopes to regain a majority in Congress. President Obama will also send his second Supreme Court nominee to the Senate for confirmation hearings.

To get you ready for a year of discussing contemporary political events, I am asking each student to prepare a portfolio over the summer. In this portfolio, I would like each student to collect five news articles about five different topics that deal with American government and/or politics. Feel free to include any news articles that may also deal with topics that may indirectly affect the government as well, such as various policies, influence of the media, and civil liberties. Please spread these articles out over the summer. Read each article critically. They should be from a reputable **national** news source, such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *The New Republic*, *The Economist* or a similar news journal. Do not shy away from editorials. For each article, type a one – two page response that analyzes the issue and clearly explains your opinion on the issue. For this reason, you may wish to select issues that you may have an opinion on already. Include both the articles and your written responses in the portfolio.

This will serve as your first major grade for the course and is due on the first day of class. We will spend time during the first week of school discussing the issues that you investigate. If you have any questions over the summer, please contact me at jboogaar@haddonfield.k12.nj.us.

Have a happy and safe summer. I look forward to an exciting year!