

AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

Each of the following assignments are due on the date listed. You can turn them in early if you choose.

Everfi-Financial Literacy: Due August 9th

Go to everfi.com and click "login" in the top right corner. On the next page click on "register" make sure that student/learner is highlighted next enter the following registration code c4d95851. Fill in the remaining fields, and click "next" (make sure you have your username and password written down so that you do not forget them.) You must complete all 9 lessons which includes passing all 9 tests at the end of each lesson.

Submit both of the following assignments by e-mail

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ASSIGNMENT 1:

Read chapter 1 The Study of American Government (answer questions)

DUE: July 7th

1. Explain the difference among power, authority, and legitimacy. Explain how Americans think of the last concept in particular.
2. What are three conditions of majoritarian politics?
3. Identify and explain four schools of thought about the distribution of power in society. Along the way, note which view suggests the widest distribution of power, which view is popular with political scientists, and which view has the most positive ramifications for America
4. Political scientists break democracy into two types: direct democracy and representative democracy. While the United States is mostly a

representative democracy, it has some elements of a direct democracy.

- A. Define direct democracy
- B. Define representative democracy
- C. Describe two mechanisms of direct democracy in the United States
- D. Explain why the United States relies primarily on representative democracy

ASSIGNMENT 2:

Read chapter 4 American Political Culture (answer the questions)

Due August 7th

1. Identify and briefly comment on the five elements of American political culture.
2. Discuss two ways that religion has played an important role in American political culture and continued to do so to this day.
3. Discuss 4 of the sources of American political culture.
4. What are some explanations for why some highly unpopular groups continue to survive in our culture?
5. A recent trend in American politics is discussion of the culture war.
 - A. Define culture war.
 - B. Identify the two sides in the culture war.
 - C. Explain one argument that supports the assertion that the culture war is a real issue in American politics today.
 - D. Explain one argument that supports the assertion that the culture war is NOT a real issue in American politics today.