



AP US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS - SUMMER NEWS JOURNAL

Welcome to AP United States Government and Politics. This year will be a new and exciting year of adventure, challenge, enlightenment, exploration, and growth as a student and a Christian.

Biblical Worldview: How do we, as believers and followers of Jesus Christ, apply our beliefs when getting involved in politics and fulfilling our civic responsibilities as an American citizen? How does a Christian determine the proper role and function of the US government in our lives? In determining who to vote for and/or what issues to support, how should a Christian judge the candidates and issues using a Biblical Worldview? Can we pick and choose which Biblical principles we apply in determining our political ideas?

Ultimately, my purpose in this class is first and foremost to help you answer these questions for yourself.

SUMMER NEWS JOURNAL

I. News Journal Project Outline

It is impossible to truly understand American ideas of government and our form and function of government outside of actual events. Without truly understanding the above, you cannot be a constructive member of United States society. Most importantly, to be an effective Christian disciple, you must understand thoroughly the government and how it relates to our Biblical Worldview and how we can make this country a more Christ like community.

You will listen/watch/read TWENTY (20) different news articles before the first day of school. You will create a record of the news articles in the format of a journal (you may use another equally clear format). For each news article, you will record the date, the news agency source (Fox, NRP, etc.) and a several sentence summary of each news article.

The articles that you will record must deal with the United States Congress, the United States President, the Federal government, the relationship between the Federal government and state governments, civil rights, and/or civil liberties (no sports, no local news, no weather, etc.).

You will submit your journal on the first full day of class.

The News Journal will contain throughout the entire fall semester

II. Grading Rubric

A. A journal with 20 appropriate news articles identified.	20 Points
B. A journal with 20 news articles summarized	20 Points
C. Thoughtful and thorough summarizes	40 Points
D. Proper spelling and grammar	10 Points
E. Easy to understand and follow final project format	10 Points
F. Extra Credit: Originality of final project format	10 Points