

## Government Course Selection Guidelines

This course meets the Illinois Civics Requirement

	College Prep	AP
<b>Enrollment is open to:</b>	Seniors	Seniors Potential to earn college credit based on AP exam in May
<b>Length of Course</b>	Semester	Semester
<b>Summer Reading Assignment</b>	No	No
<b>Content taught in the course</b>	Government provides an introduction to the Constitution and its structure, an overview of the branches and functions of national and state government, and a robust exploration of federalism. The course also provides a review of the political process and elections. Students will examine the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States of America, the State of Illinois.	<p>AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, non-partisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States.</p> <p>Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, as well as primary and secondary texts to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. Students will also read and interpret data, make comparisons, and develop evidence-based arguments to defend a position. Students will examine the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the State of Illinois.</p> <p>Students who enroll in this course will be prepared to take the AP United States Government and Politics exam in May.</p>
<b>Skills essential to success:</b>	Emphasizes the ability to understand political media and perspective.	<p>In addition to the honors levels skills you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are disciplined about keeping up with</li> </ul>

	<p>Analysis and evaluation of primary and secondary source documents.</p> <p>Development of writing skills in which students take a position and defend it using evidence.</p>	<p>assigned readings in advance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• can learn independently and seek out help when you find that you are struggling with a concept.</li> <li>• are well-organized.</li> <li>• can balance your efforts in many classes that are demanding of your time.</li> <li>• have an interest in gaining a deeper level of understanding regarding local, state and federal government.</li> <li>• have had previous success in an honors or AP Social Studies course.</li> </ul>
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