

**2012 Syllabus for U.S. Government and Politics**  
**July 23 - 26, 2012**

**Institute Overview**

The sessions in this institute will introduce participants to the AP U.S. Government and Politics course with a combination of "how to" and content. Sessions will range from looking at the scope of the course and how to cover the content, to lessons from past exams. We will start the week by analyzing the 2012 free response questions and past free response questions. We will also look at past multiple choice exams.

After you've had all that you can take of the exam, we'll look at the course and different ways to organize your course. We'll talk about preparing your syllabus and look at lots of different examples. As we go through the different units, we'll look at content that should be covered and possible activities and materials appropriate to each unit. The goal of the week is for you to feel comfortable teaching AP U.S. Government and Politics and go home with lots of different activities and resources.

**Institute Preparation**

Participants should bring a copy of the text they are using or plan to use and a copy of their best lesson plan.

**Consultant Background**

Jenny Esler graduated from The University of Texas at Austin. She has taught in the Round Rock Independent School District for 28 years, 24 at Round Rock High School. Jenny has extensive experience in the AP U.S. Government and Politics curriculum: she has taught the course for 21 years and been a reader or grader for the national exam for 16 years and served as a member of the AP Government & Politics Test Development Committee.

**Institute Schedule**

**Monday**

- Introduction
- Overview of Test Development & Grading
- 2012 Exam Free Response Questions
- 2011 Multiple Choice Exam

**Tuesday**

- Organizing your Course
  - Writing in AP Government
  - Planning & Strategy: Unit I: Constitutional Roots & Unit II: Political Participation
- These discussions include both content and activities for the units.

**Wednesday**

- Planning & Strategy: Units III & IV-Elections & Congress
- Planning & Strategy: Unit V – Executive Branch, Bureaucracy & the Budget
- Data Analysis
- Materials & Resources

**Thursday**

- Planning & Strategy: Unit VI- Judicial Branch & Civil Rights & Liberties
- Policy Making Process- How to tie it all together!
- Preparing Students for the Test
- Sharing Best Lessons

**Graduate Credit Option**

Participants may also earn three graduate education hours for any of the AP Summer Institutes from Washburn University for a reduced tuition rate and the successful completion of an academic assignment.

**Additional Information**

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