

2010 Syllabus for U.S. Government and Politics July 26-30, 2010

Institute Overview

The 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 the scope of the course and how to cover the content, to lessons from past exams. We will also be discussing web-based resources, textbooks and other materials, techniques for teaching writing skills in AP U.S. Government, specific topics taught in the course and more! This institute is primarily intended for teachers new to or relatively inexperienced in AP U.S. Government and Politics, but more experienced teachers are welcome and should find it beneficial.

Institute Goals

The number one goal of the institute is to make new and inexperienced teachers comfortable and confident about teaching AP U.S. Government. I hope to do this by introducing you to the exam and help you with tips on how to organize your AP U.S. Government course, from different activities to test-taking skills to specific content. I also hope to provide experienced teachers with new ideas and activities.

Consultant Background

Jenny Esler currently teaches AP Government at Round Rock High School in Round Rock, Texas. She has taught AP Government for 19 years and has just finished a four year term on the College Board’s Test Development Committee. Jenny has been a reader for this exam for 15 years and a Table Leader for 12 years. She has been a College Board Consultant for eleven years.

Institute Schedule

Monday

- Introduction
- Overview of Test Development & Grading
- 2010 Exam Free Response Questions
- 2009 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
- Data Analysis
- Materials & Resources

Thursday

- Planning & Strategy: Unit V – Executive Branch, Bureaucracy & the Budget
- Planning & Strategy: Unit VI- Judicial Branch & Civil Rights & Liberties

Friday

- Policy Making Process- How to tie it all together!
- Preparing Students for the Test
- Sharing Best Lessons

Please bring a copy of the textbook that you are using or plan to use and a copy of your best lesson to share with the class.

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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