



American Government Table of Contents

Customize your own textbook and Poly Sci Activity Manual with our content. Develop your own content with our online tools in assessment, polls, and discussion boards. Upload anything off your desktop and from the web, including YouTube. If you are new to online or want to build up an online course you have taught, professors have found the full-tool set of Globalyceum to work exceptionally well. See our “Tips for Developing an Online American Government Course with Globalyceum.”

- **Readings:** 36 digital essays and introductions in the fields and subjects of American Government reinforced with instructive images, videos, and animations. (Essays are audio recorded and have adapted 11th-grade versions for struggling readers.) Readings include banks of questions tagged by difficulty level and aligned to key terms and focus questions.
- **Poly Sci Activity Manual:** 58 textual and/or data-driven problems and 8 contemporary issues for the current presidential and Congressional terms. Includes a context-building background section, an analytical activity (optional for grading purposes), opinion polls, quiz polls, and activity quizzes.
- **Video Libraries:** Over 80 brief 1-4 minute videos available to enhance or launch lectures or discussions.

Assessments and video libraries can be reviewed on the secure live site.

Overview of American Government

- Document: Articles of Confederation
- Document: The Declaration of Independence
- Document: The US Constitution
- Document: The Bill of Rights

Unit 1: The Foundations of American Government by Jack Rakove, Stanford University

Introduction: The Foundations of American Government

Contemporary Issue: The Future of the Electoral College After 2016

Unit Further Reading

Readings

- Reading: The Authority of the Constitution
- Reading: Brief History of the Emergence of the US Constitution
- Reading: Three Myths of the US Constitution (Topical Essay)
- Reading: Federalism

- Reading: Separation of Powers

Poly Sci Activity Manual

- Activity: *Federalist 10*
- Activity: *Federalist 37*
- Activity: *Federalist 51*
- Activity: John Adams' *Thoughts on Government*
- Activity: Would Direct Democracy Be Better?
- Activity: Why are Americans generally uninformed about the Constitution?
- Activity: The Equal Rights Amendment

Video Library

Unit 2: Federalism, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties by Ange-Marie Hancock, USC

Introduction: Federalism, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties

Contemporary Issue: Immigration and Immigration Rights in the Trump Administration

Unit Further Reading

Readings

- Reading: Federalism Today
- Reading: Civil Liberties
- Reading: Civil Rights
- Reading: How to Get Away With a Social Movement (Topical Essay)

Poly Sci Activity Manual

- Activity: Voter ID Laws
- Activity: *Gibbons v. Ogden*
- Activity: How have views of sexual harassment changed over time?
- Activity: The Second Amendment and State Regulations
- Activity: The Eighth Amendment and Incarceration
- Activity: Lesser Known Amendments
- Activity: Should immigrants have civil rights?

Video Library

Unit 3: Political Culture, Public Opinion, and Elections by Melinda Jackson, San Jose State University

Introduction: Political Culture, Public Opinion, and Elections

Contemporary Issue: The Job Approval Rating of President Trump

Unit Further Reading

Readings

- Reading: Political Socialization and Values
- Reading: Understanding Public Opinion (Topical Essay)
- Reading: Elections in America
- Reading: How Voters Decide
- Reading: The Media

Poly Sci Activity Manual

- Activity: The Big Sort
- Activity: How Your Government Affects You?

- Activity: Conventions: Pageants or Political Drama?
- Activity: Where is the Real Election Battleground?
- Activity: Do Debates Make a Difference?
- Activity: Voter Participation
- Activity: The Citizenship Test
- Activity: How Do Americans Decide?
- Activity: The Vote of the College Educated
- Activity: Why is the Hispanic Vote Critical in Presidential Elections?

Video Library

Unit 4: Social Movements, Interest Groups, and Political Parties by Dara Strolovitch, Princeton University

Introduction: Social Movements, Interest Groups, and Political Parties

Contemporary Issue: Affirmative Action and White Grievance

Unit Further Reading

Readings

- Reading: Groups and the Democratic Exercise of Power
- Reading: Can Interest Groups Represent the Disadvantaged? (Topical Essay)
- Reading: Understanding Interest Groups and Social Movements
- Reading: Political Parties

Poly Sci Activity Manual

- Activity: Madison and De Tocqueville
- Activity: Advocacy in Hard Times
- Activity: Rapid Social Change and the LGBT Community
- Activity: Citizens' United
- Activity: The US Libertarian Party Platform
- Activity: What is my political type?
- Activity: Are parties relevant or essential?

Video Library

Unit 5: The US Congress by Kathleen Dolan, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Introduction: The US Congress

Contemporary Issue: The American Deficit and the Trump Tax Cut

Unit Further Reading

Readings

- Reading: Congress and Representation
- Reading: Apportionment and Representation in the House (Topical Essay)
- Reading: Congress and the Legislative Process
- Reading: Congress in the Political System

Poly Sci Activity Manual

- Activity: Congressional Representation and Pork Barrel Politics
- Activity: Congress and War Powers
- Activity: The US National Debt
- Activity: Should Congress eliminate the mandatory minimum sentence?

- Activity: The Gender Gap in Voting
- Activity: Congress and the Revolving Door

Video Library

Unit 6: The US President by Sean Gailmard. University of California, Berkeley

Introduction: The US President

Contemporary Issue: Does Lying Matter in a President?

Unit Further Reading

Readings

- Reading: Presidents and Unilateral Powers Over Domestic Policy
- Reading: Presidents and Their Interactions with Congress
- Reading: The Presidency and War (Topical Essay)
- Reading: Presidents and Public Opinion
- Reading: Challenges of the Trump Presidency (Topical Essay) by Jeneen Hobby, Cleveland State University

Poly Sci Activity Manual

- Activity: Character and the President
- Activity: Impeachment: Nixon and Clinton
- Activity: The President's Use of Media
- Activity: Foreign Policy and the Presidency
- Activity: The Growth and Opportunity Project (2013)
- Activity: Was there a Reagan Revolution?

Video Library

Unit 7: The US Supreme Court and Court System by Lawrence Baum, Ohio State University

Introduction: The US Supreme Court and Judiciary

Contemporary Issue: Trump Supreme Court Appointments (Post-election update January 2019)

Unit Further Reading

Readings

- Reading: Selecting Judges
- Reading: Responding to Decisions
- Reading: The US Supreme Court and Its Decision-Making Process (Topical Essay)

Reading: Influencing Decisions

Poly Sci Activity Manual

- Activity: The Garland-Gorsuch Nomination Controversy
- Activity: Are 5-4 decisions harmful to the reputation of the Supreme Court?
- Activity: Original and Evolving Meaning in the US Constitution
- Activity: Decision-Making on the US Supreme Court (The Kylo Decision)
- Activity: The Louisiana Literacy Test
- Activity: President Obama's Argument on Solitary Confinement

Video Library

Unit 8: Domestic Policy and Foreign Policy by Paul Pierson, University of California, Berkeley. And Amy Skonieczny, San Francisco State University

Introduction: Domestic and Foreign Policy

Contemporary Issue: Is There a Trump Foreign Policy?

Unit Further Reading

Readings

- Reading: Why Do We Have So Much Government?
- Reading: How Do American Political Institutions Affect Domestic Policy
- Reading: Policymaking in an Era of Polarization
- Reading: Public Policy and the Health Care Debate (Topical Essay)
- Reading: American Foreign Policy and the Impact of 9/11 (Topical Essay)

Poly Sci Activity Manual

- Activity: The Story of Annual Deficits in the Last Two Decades
- Activity: Taxes and Social Welfare Benefits
- Activity: Inequality and Policy
- Activity: Student Loan Debt and Free College
- Activity: Will police reform improve race relations?
- Activity: American Ideas About Foreign Aid
- Activity: National Security Strategy
- Activity: Nuclear Weapons and Their Owners
- Activity: In the long run is our foreign policy in Asia more important?

Video Library

Writing Workshops:

- Writing: *Federalist 10*
- Writing: Voter ID Laws
- Writing: Voter Participation
- Writing: Madison and De Tocqueville
- Writing: The Gender Gap in Voting
- Writing: The President's Use of Media
- Writing: Original and Evolving Meaning in the US Constitution
- Writing: Taxes and Social Welfare Benefits

Scholars Mart California Government by Kimberly Nalder, Sacramento State University \$5.00 (covering American Institutions standards).

- Introduction
- Reading: The Structure of California Government
- Reading: Direct Democracy and the Governability of California
- Reading: Campaigns and Elections in California
- Reading: California Voters: Knowledge, Misinformation, and Consequences
- Activity: Six Californias
- Activity: How will you balance California's budget?
- Activity: Do California legislators look just like you?

Scholars Mart Florida Government

- The Florida Constitutional Amendment Process in Historical Context (Topical Essay, **\$2**)
By Terri Susan Fine, University of Central Florida
- A Brief Introduction to Florida Government (Survey Course Supplement; **\$15**)
By John Bertalan, University of South Florida

Scholars Mart Women in Government and Politics by Kathleen Dolan, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. \$5.00 or individual items for \$2

- Reading: Women and the US Constitution
- Reading: Women's Representation in the American States
- Reading: Gender and the American Election
- Reading: The Conservative Women's Movement (Topical Essay)
- Reading: Do Women in Congress Make a Difference? (Topical Essay)
- Activity: Women and the Presidency
- Activity: Women and the Courts
- Activity: The Impact of Domestic Policy Decisions on Women's Lives