

**DEPARTMENT:** SOCIAL STUDIES

**NAME OF COURSE:** ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. GOVERNMENT

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE**

Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs and ideas that constitute U.S. politics.

**MAJOR TOPICS**

Constitutional Underpinnings of United States Government  
Political Beliefs and Behaviors  
Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media  
Institutions of National Government: The Congress, the Presidency, the Bureaucracy and the Federal Courts  
Public Policy  
Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

**TEXTBOOK**

Government by the People, Magleby, o'Brian et al 22<sup>nd</sup> ed. Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2008

**REQUIREMENTS**

Daily participation in class  
Tests and quizzes  
Final project

**GRADING PROCEDURE**

- Every assignment is graded by numerically.
- The final grade is arrived at through adherence to the Roslyn High School grading policy.
- Alternative assessments in which students demonstrate knowledge are an important component in the evaluation process.