

Unit #2: Political Beliefs/Political Behaviors

AP US Government & Politics

Mr. Coia

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Fri 10/7

- Unit 1 Constitutional Underpinnings Test
- Writing Gov FRQs
- Explain Election Interview sheet

HW: *American Government* chap 1.14-28; Election Interview sheet; stateside address (to find out your local elections)

Wed 10/12

- Reading Quiz 1.14-28
- **Notebook Check #2**
- Lecture/Discussion topic: Ideology & the American People
- Watch: [Jimmy Kimmel-Obamacare](#)
- Key Terms for PB-PB

HW: Work on index cards for key terms; Election Interview sheet

Mon 10/17

- **Key terms** unit 2 completed
- Watch: [Backfire: How to Destroy a Presidential Candidate](#) (13 min)
- IC visit: 2016 Election Sheet research
- [Living Room Candidate](#) commercials (watch two from Trump and two from Clinton; watch one from Obama; watch two from your birth year)
- Absent? Type your findings. What do they have in common? What do they do differently? Include title, candidate, and year for each.
- Quizlet work [spend 10 minutes on vocabulary]

HW: AG, 11.376-390

Wed 10/19

- Reading Quiz 11.376-390
- Lecture/Discussion topic: Political Socialization & Voter Behavior
- Charts: Presidential Vote and 2008 Exit Poll

HW: AG, 11.391-402; work on index cards

Fri 10/21

- Reading Quiz 11.391-402
- Lecture/Discussion topic: Political Socialization & Voter Behavior (continued); Public Opinion & Polling
- How to answer FRQs from charts and graphs
- Charts: Trust in Government and Voter Turnout in Federal Elections
- Practice FRQ

HW: AG, 13.444-455; finish index cards for key terms; Election Interview Sheet—TYPE RESULTS

Tues 10/25

- **Share Election Interview findings**
- Reading Quiz 13.444-455
- Lecture/Discussion topic: Voter Turnout
- Chart: Voter Turnout by Groups

HW: AG, 13.455-463

Thurs 10/27

- Reading Quiz 13.455-463
- Lecture/Discussion topic: Voting Patterns
- Researching debate topics

HW: AG, 13.463-478; researching debate topics

Mon 10/31

- Reading Quiz 13.463-478
- Practice FRQ
- Lecture/Discussion topic: Electoral College; Types of Elections
- Video: [Electoral College](#) and [Schoolhouse Rock](#)

HW: AG, 13.478-490; Researching debate topics

Wed 11/2

- Reading Quiz 13.478-490
- Lecture/Discussion topic: Congressional Elections; Gerrymandering

HW: AG, 14.508-515

Thurs 11/10 B Day SEMINAR DEBATES IN THE IC--Mandatory

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Quarter 1 Ends
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Mon 11/7

- Reading Quiz 14.508-515
- Election Coverage and catch-up
- Absent? The assignment is to look at three different polls for the presidential winner and compare the difference. Why are they different? Type a one-page summary of your findings due NLT 11/8. Include all three graphs.

Tues 11/8 B Day
 VOTING DAY IN THE IC
Wed 11/9

- ELECTION DAY in the States
- Analyze school voting data with the national data

HW: AG, 14.515-524

Mon 11/14

- Reading Quiz 14.515-524
- IC visit: Election Day results

Wed 11/16

- Lecture/Discussion topic: Campaign Finance
- FRQ review

HW: Study for key terms test

Thurs 11/18: Parent/Teacher Conference
Mon 11/21

- **Key Terms test**
- Review session for unit exam

HW: Study for test; Review Free Response Writing Guide

Wed 11/23

- **Unit Exam** (MC and 2 FRQs)
- DVD: Presidential Mandate (35 min)
- Does President-elect_____ have a mandate? Why or why not?

HW: No homework over Thanksgiving

Mon 11/28

- Begin Unit 3

Notebook and Supply Check

You'll need the following for our notebook check **Wed 10/12**. Remember, this is the first, and we'll add to this throughout the year to provide you with an orderly notebook. Therefore, you need ALL the pieces to receive credit. No partial credit offered on this.

You need **three** tabs with the following:

GOV Handouts:

- *Unit Guide 2*
- Unit guide 1
- Conservative/Liberal Chart
- Understanding the Amendments (unit guide 1, p.13-14)
- *Federalist Papers #10, 51* (unit 1, p. 7-11)
- Key Terms: Constitutional Underpinnings (unit 1, p. 3-4)
- Key Terms: Constitutional Clauses (unit 1, p. 5-6)
- AP GOV Syllabus
- Class Rules sheet, initialed

GOV Classwork:

Notes from lectures, presentations, mini-lessons. Remember you should be taking notes each class period. You will also have at least 25 sheets of loose-leaf paper in your binder, and your pens, pencils, highlighter, etc.

GOV Outlines:

Unit 1: Constitutional Underpinnings outlines (this includes all of your SIX outlines put in order with a cover page stapled to the top). This will help you review for semester tests and the AP exam in May.

KEY TERMS:
UNIT 2: POLITICAL BELIEFS/POLITICAL BEHAVIORS

1. **Attentive public:** those who follow politics and public affairs carefully.
2. **Australian ballot:** secret ballot printed at the expense of the state.
3. **Balancing the ticket:** occurs when a presidential nominee chooses a vice presidential running mate who has different qualities in order to attract more votes for the ticket.
4. **Blanket primary:** election to choose candidates that is open to independents, and that allows voters to choose candidates from all the parties.
5. **Caucus:** local party meeting
6. **Closed primary:** party election to choose candidates that is closed to independents. Voters may not cross party lines.
7. **Coattail effect:** the influence of a popular presidential candidate on the election of congressional candidates of the same party.
8. **Demographics:** characteristics of populations, e.g., race, sex, income.
9. **Direct election:** election of an official directly by the people rather than by an intermediary group such as the Electoral College.
10. **Direct primary:** election in which the people choose candidates for office.
11. **Fixed terms:** terms of office that have a definite length of time, e.g., two years for a member of the House.
12. **Front loading:** scheduling presidential primary elections early (e.g., February or March) in an election year.
13. **Gender gap:** difference in voting patterns for men and women, particularly in the greater tendency of the latter to vote for Democratic presidential candidates.
14. **General election:** election in which the officeholders are chosen. Contrast with a primary election, in which only the candidates are chosen.
15. **Hard money:** campaign contributions donated directly to candidates.
16. **Ideology:** set of beliefs about political values and the role of government.
17. **Incumbent:** an officeholder who is seeking reelection.
18. **Independent:** one is not registered with a political party. **Independent leaners** tend to vote for candidates of one particular party, whereas **pure independents** have no consistent pattern of party voting.
19. **Issue advocacy ads:** ads that focus on issues and do not explicitly encourage citizens to vote for a certain candidate.
20. **Open primary:** election to choose candidates that is open to independents, and in which voters may choose candidates from any one party.
21. **Party identification:** a sense of affiliation that a person has with a particular political party.
22. **Party platform:** a list of positions and programs that the party adopts at the national convention. Each position is called a **plank**.

23. **Political culture:** the widely shared beliefs, values, and norms that citizens share about their government.
24. **Plurality:** more votes than anyone else, but less than half, e.g., Clinton won a plurality (43%) of popular votes in 1992, but not a majority. **Plurality elections** such as those for Congress are won by the person with the most votes, regardless if he/she has a majority.
25. **Political efficacy:** capacity to understand and influence political events
26. **Political socialization:** process in which one acquires his/her political beliefs.
27. **Realigning (“critical”) election:** an election in which there is a long term
28. change in party alignment, e.g., 1932.
29. **Safe seat:** an office that is extremely likely to be won by a particular candidate or political party.
30. **Single member district system:** system in which the people elect one representative per district. With a winner-take-all rule, this system strengthens the two major parties and weakens minor parties.
31. **Soft money:** campaign contributions that are not donated directly to candidates, but are instead donated to parties.
32. **Solid South:** historically, the South voted solidly Democratic. However, the South is now strongly Republican: Bush carried every Southern state in 2000.
33. **Split ticket voting:** casting votes for candidates of one’s own party and for candidates of opposing parties, e.g., voting for a Republican presidential candidate and a Democratic congressional candidate.
34. **Straight ticket voting:** casting votes only for candidates of one’s party.
35. **Suffrage:** the right to vote.
36. **Superdelegate:** a delegate to the Democratic national convention who is there by virtue of holding an office.
37. **Super Tuesday:** a Tuesday in early March in which many presidential primaries, particularly in the South, are held.
38. **Swing state:** a state that does not consistently vote either Democratic or Republican in presidential elections.

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AP US Government & Politics-- Political Beliefs/Political Behaviors Unit

Election Interview Sheet

Due Tuesday 10/25

Directions: Interview five adults of *various ages and experiences* to find out the following information. If the interviewee prefers, this can be anonymous. Get a variety of people, not all folks from church, or teachers, or family. (A maximum of two can be family).

Name and Democrat or Republican?	Last 5 Votes for President	Age, Gender, Geographical location	Other factors (military service, religion, race, etc.)
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		

What patterns or conclusions do you notice? (Type 2-3 paragraphs on your conclusions about the results and the assignment itself. Staple the writing portion to the back of your TYPED chart).

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2016 Election Results Sheet

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Home State of Your Parents: _____

Go to www.house.gov to find your district for House race. You will need an address.

<p>Senate Race <i>Include party and percentages of votes. Circle winner</i></p> <p>Incumbent:</p> <p>Challengers:</p>	<p>House Race for Your District <i>Include party and percentages of votes. Circle winner</i></p> <p>Incumbent:</p> <p>Challengers:</p>
<p>Governor Race <i>Include party and percentages of votes. Circle winner</i></p> <p>Incumbent:</p> <p>Challengers:</p>	<p>Local and State Ballot measures <i>Pick two that are most interesting to you, and give percentage of votes for each</i></p>
<p>Research what the voter turnout is in your state:</p> <p>Overall:</p> <p>Men:</p> <p>Women:</p> <p>Ages breakdown:</p>	

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DVD Viewing Guide

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For each DVD clip this unit, complete the section as you watch

<i>The West Wing</i>	<i>Mandate: The President and the People</i>
List three political issues that are main points in this episode.	Define "mandate."
Does this have a political bias? If so, what is it and what made it apparent?	Why is it important for a president to claim that he has a mandate?
Give one or two new pieces of information that surprised you about how the White House is run (as shown in this episode)	Do you think that President Obama has a mandate?

THE PRESIDENTIAL VOTE: 1960, 1980, 2000 (IN PERCENTAGES)

	1960		1980		2000	
	Democratic	Republican	Democratic	Republican	Democratic	Republican
Year of Birth						
1975 & later	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	63	37
1959-1974	(NA)	(NA)	52	48	46	54
1943-1958	(NA)	(NA)	41	59	53	47
1927-1942	51	49	38	62	48	52
1911-1926	51	49	47	53	64	36
1895-1910	49	51	50	50	0	100
Sex						
Male	52	48	39	61	47	53
Female	47	53	47	53	56	44
Race						
White	48	52	37	63	46	54
Black	71	29	93	7	92	8
Education						
Less than high school	52	48	65	35	65	35
H.S. diploma or equivalent	54	46	38	62	53	47
Some college, no degree	33	67	38	62	50	50
College or advanced degree	40	60	35	65	50	50
Union Household						
Yes	64	36	55	45	61	39
No	44	56	40	60	50	50

Source: American National Election Studies

ELECTION OF 2008: EXIT POLL RESULTS (IN PERCENTAGES)

	Obama	McCain
Men	49	48
Women	56	43
White	43	58
Black	95	5
Hispanic	67	31
Asian	62	35
18-29	66	32
30-44	52	46
45-59	49	48
65 +	47	51
Not a high school graduate	63	35
High school graduate	52	46
Some college education	51	47
College graduate or more	53	45
Protestants	45	54
Catholics	54	45
Jewish	78	21
Big cities	70	28
Small cities	59	39
Suburbs	50	48
Small towns	45	53
Rural areas	45	53

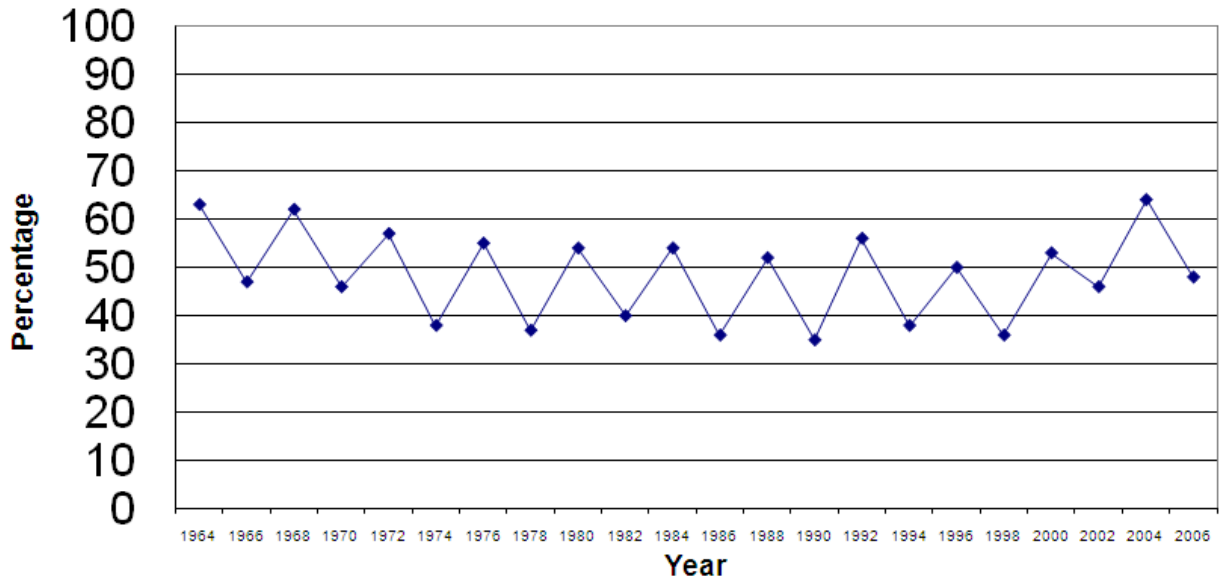
Source: NY Times

VOTER TURNOUT BY GROUPS, 2008 (IN PERCENTAGES)

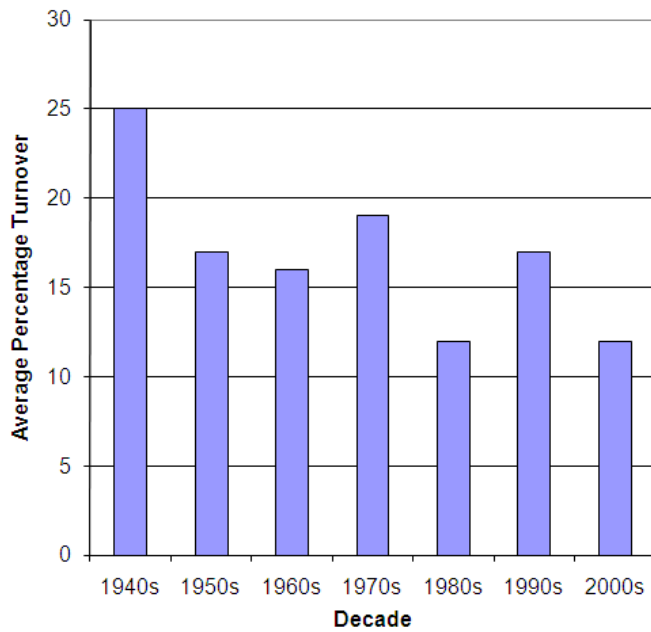
Source: US Census Bureau

Total	58.2
Age	
18-24 years old	44
25-44 years old	52
45-64 years old	65
65-74 years old	70
75 + years old	66
Sex	
Male	56
Female	60
Race	
White	60
Black	61
Asian	32
Hispanic	31
Region	
Northeast	58.6
Midwest	65.0
South	56.4
West	54.4
School Years Completed	
8 years or less	23
Less than high school graduate	34
High school graduate or GED	51
Some college or A.A. degree	65
B.A.	72
Advanced Degree	76
Employed	
Yes	59
No	55

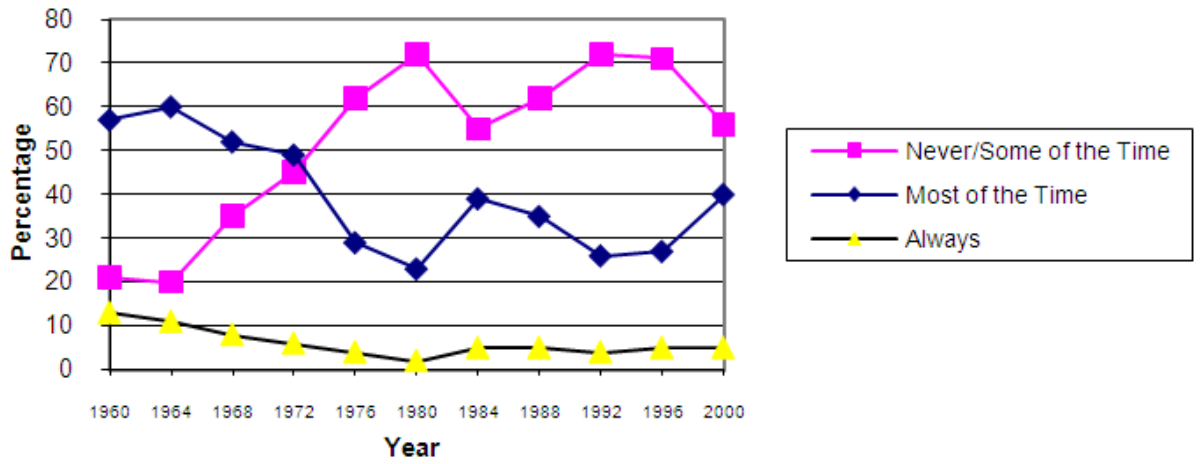
Voter Turnout in Federal Elections



Average Turnover in House of Representatives by Decade



Trust in Government



Campaign Spending for Winning House Candidates

