

# AP U.S. Government & Politics

## Integrated with Statecraft: The Situation Room Simulation

Instructor: [YOUR NAME]

Contact: instructor@school.edu

Office Hours: Mon/Wed 2-4PM

Term: Fall 2025

### Simulation Learning Objectives & Concept Focus:

- Constitutional Powers: President vs. Congress (War Powers Resolution)
- Civil Liberties: 4th, 5th, & 6th Amendments vs. National Security
- Institutional Checks: Vetoes, Overrides, and Judicial Review
- Bureaucratic Politics: Intra-agency conflict and 'Whistleblowers'
- Media Relations: Agenda-setting, Leaks, and the 'Symbiotic Relationship'
- Electoral Pressures: Campaign Finance, Polling, and Re-election Logic

### Grading Breakdown

• Midterm & Final Exams	40%
• Statecraft Simulation Performance (SP)	15%
• Response Papers (Policy Analysis)	20%
• Weekly Assignments / Quizzes	15%
• Participation (Town Halls / Debates)	10%

### Course Schedule & Simulation Phases

#### Week 1: The Citizen & Government

General

*Simulation Focus: Orientation: Login & Role Assignment. Introduction to 'Simulation Points' (SP) and political capital.*

#### Week 2: The Constitution & Founding

AP Unit 1

*Simulation Focus: Constitutional Analysis: War Powers Resolution vs. Commander-in-Chief authority.*

#### Week 3: Federalism

AP Unit 1

*Simulation Focus: Sim Period 0: State Governors vs. Federal Govt on Guantanamo Prisoner Transfers.*

#### Week 4: Civil Rights & Liberties

AP Unit 3

*Simulation Focus: Sim Period 1: Agenda Setting. Balancing 4th Amendment rights with domestic surveillance directives.*

#### Week 5: Public Opinion & Polling

AP Unit 5

*Simulation Focus: Sim Period 2: Polling Data Release. Candidates analyze approval ratings and launch ad buys.*

#### Week 6: The Media

AP Unit 5

*Simulation Focus: Sim Period 3: Crisis & Leaks. Managing the 'symbiotic relationship' with press. Handling a high-impact scoop.*

#### Week 8: Congress (Legislative Branch)

AP Unit 2

*Simulation Focus: Sim Period 4: The Budget Veto. Party Whips count votes; Committee Chairs block legislation.*

**Week 9: The Presidency****AP Unit 2**

*Simulation Focus: Sim Period 5: Executive Orders vs. Presidential Directives. Managing the bureaucracy.*

**Week 11: The Judiciary****AP Unit 2**

*Simulation Focus: Sim Period 6: Judicial Review. The Supreme Court rules on the constitutionality of the 'Veto Override'.*

**Week 15: Domestic & Economic Policy****General**

*Simulation Focus: Final Period: Election Results. Analyzing the impact of policy decisions on re-election rates.*