



Interactions Among Branches of Government

AP Government

Unit 2 Reading Guide – Chapters 11, 12, 14, 15



Use this to guide your reading through the unit. It is strongly recommended that you take notes, as they will assist you for quizzes and tests.

CHAPTER 11

Enduring Understanding: Constitutionalism-3 (CON-3): The republican ideal is manifested in the structure and operation of the legislative branch.

Learning Objectives:

- CON-3.A Describe the different structures, powers, and functions of each house of Congress.
- CON-3.B Explain how the structure, powers, and functions of both houses of Congress affect the policy-making process.
- CON-3.C Explain how congressional behavior is influenced by election processes, partisanship, and divided government.

CHAPTER 12

Enduring Understanding: Constitutionalism-4 (CON-4): The presidency has been enhanced beyond its expressed constitutional powers.

Learning Objectives:

- CON-4.A Explain how the president can implement a policy agenda.
- CON-4.B Explain how the president’s agenda can create frequent tension and frequent confrontations with Congress.
- CON-4.C Explain how presidents have interpreted and justified their use of formal and informal powers.
- CON-4.D Explain how communication technology has changed president’s relationship with the national constituency and the other branches.

CHAPTER 15

Enduring Understanding: Constitutionalism-5 (CON-5): The design of the judicial branch protects the Supreme Court’s independence as a branch of government, and the emergence and use of judicial review remains a powerful judicial practice.

Learning Objectives

- CON-5.A Explain the principle of judicial review and how it checks the power of other institutions and state governments.
- CON-5.B Explain how the exercise of judicial review in conjunction with life tenure can lead to debate about the legitimacy of the Supreme Court’s power.
- CON-5.C Explain how other branches of government can limit the Supreme Court.

CHAPTER 14

Enduring Understanding: Competing Policymaking Interests-2 (PMI-2): The federal bureaucracy is a powerful institution implementing federal policies with sometimes questionable accountability.

Learning Objectives:

- PMI-2.A Explain how the bureaucracy carries out the responsibilities of the federal government.
- PMI-2.B Explain how the federal bureaucracy uses delegated discretionary authority for rule making and implementation.
- PMI-2.C Explain how Congress uses its oversight power in its relationship with the executive branch.
- PMI-2.D Explain how the president ensures that executive branch agencies and departments carry out their responsibilities in concert with the goals of the administration.
- PMI-2.E Explain the extent to which governmental branches can hold the bureaucracy accountable given the competing interests of Congress, the president, and the federal courts.

Readings

Edwards textbook Chapters 11, 12, 14, 15

*Federalist Papers #51, #70, #78

Dates

- October 5th Vocab Quiz Opens
- October 11th Chapter 11 Test closes
- October 14th Chapter 12 Quiz closes
- October 18th Chapter 12 Test Closes
- October 21st Chapter 14 Quiz closes
- October 25th Chapter 14 Test Closes
- October 29th Unit 2 Vocab Quiz Closes
- October 31st Unit 2 Written Exam
- November 2nd Unit 2 Multiple Choice Exam

*Quizzes and Tests close at 11:59pm on date indicated.

Unit 2 Inquiry Question:

Which institution of the national government has the greatest influence over policymaking?

Supporting Question 1 (Ch 11):

How do lobbyists impact the policymaking process?

Supporting Question 2 (Ch 12):

Just how powerful is the President of the United States?

Supporting Question 3 (Ch 14):

Why is the bureaucracy considered the 4th branch of government?

Supporting Question 4 (Ch 15):

Should federal judges be elected?

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	10/1 Unit 1 Exam	10/2 Unit 1 Inquiry Portfolio Workday	10/3 Chapter 11 Lecture	10/4 11.4	10/5 NO SCHOOL Unit 2 Vocab Quiz Opens	10/6
10/7	10/8 11.4 Ch 11 Test Opens	10/9 11.4 Congressional Simulation	10/10 11.4 Congressional Simulation	10/11 Ch 12 Lecture Ch 11 Test Closes	10/12 12.3 (Cabinet) Ch 12 Quiz Open	10/13
10/14 Ch 12 Quiz Closes	10/15 12.2 +12.5 Ch 12 Test Opens	10/16 12.2 +12.5	10/17 12.2 +12.5	10/18 Ch 14 Lecture 14.2 Ch12 Test Closes	10/19 14.3	10/20 Ch 14 Quiz Opens
10/21 Ch 14 Quiz Closes	10/22 14.4 Ch 14 Test Opens	10/23 14.5 (Iron triangles)	10/24 Bureaucracy Simulation	10/25 15.1 + 15.2 Ch 14 Test Closes	10/26 15.3	10/27
10/28	10/29 15.5 Unit 2 Vocab Quiz Closes	10/30 15.5	10/31 Unit 2 Written Exam	11/1 Unit 2 Review	11/2 Unit 2 Exam	11/3
11/4	11/5 Unit 2 Inquiry Portfolio Due					

***STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL INFORMATION PRESENTED IN CLASS, READINGS, NOTES, AND HOMEWORK**