

The background of the entire image is a stylized American flag, featuring a blue canton with white stars on the left and alternating red and white horizontal stripes on the right.

AP US Government

2019-20 School Year

Methacton High School

Mrs. Ladson

Agenda/Topics to Be Covered

- Personal Background
- Test Information
- Main Units
- Previous Test Scores

Personal Background - Education

- Methacton School District Grad (1986)
- Penn State University (1990)
Undergraduate degree in Secondary Education Social Studies
- Chestnut Hill College (1998)– Master's Degree in Technology in Education
- Numerous continuing education classes on politics and government
- Most recent training was a week long course on the AP US Government rewrite. (2018)

Personal Background – Work

- **Christina School District, Delaware 1991-1993.**
 - Taught 7th and 8th grade American history and a criminal law elective.
- **Arcola Intermediate School from 1993-2005.**
 - 7th grade ancient world history.
- **Chestnut Hill College from 2002-2004**
 - Taught undergraduate education classes focusing on technology use.
- **Methacton High School 2005- present**
 - Currently teaching AP US Government classes
- **Served as AP Reader (Grader) for the AP US Gov test 2019 in Salt Lake City Utah**

AP Test Information

AP US Gov “Rewrite” 2018-19

- College Board has rewritten its curriculum for AP US Government course this year.
- More focus on political skills including:
 - Analysis of political data and writings
 - Apply knowledge to real life policy problems and government scenarios
 - Analysis of 9 foundational documents and 15 key Supreme Court cases
- New Test Format for started in 2019.

Part 1- 55 Multiple Choice

- **Quantitative Analysis:** Analysis and application of quantitative-based source material
- **Qualitative Analysis:** Analysis and application of text-based (primary and secondary) sources
- **Visual Analysis:** Analysis and application of qualitative visual information
- **Concept Application:** Explanation of the application of political concepts in context
- **Comparison:** Explanation of the similarities and differences of political concepts
- **Knowledge:** Identification and definition of political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors

Part 2 - 4 Essays

- **Essay 1 Concept Application**
 - **Apply political concepts in real-world scenarios**
- **Essay 2 Supreme Court Case Analysis**
 - **Compare the decisions and implications of different Supreme Court cases (one of the 15 required gets compared to another random case)**
- **Essay 3 Quantitative Analysis**
 - **Analyze quantitative data**
- **Essay 4 Argumentative/Persuasive Essay**
 - **Develop an argument using required foundational documents as evidence.**

AP Test Information

- **Test Date** - Monday May 4, 2020
- **Cost** -\$97
- **Ordering is between 9/23- 10/21- done online via CollegeBoard ap class site**
- **Payment** -
 - Online link <https://www.methacton.org/Domain/949>
 - Or checks made payable to Methacton School District - can be handed in the Assist. Princ. Office C221.
 - Exam cancellation fee is \$40/test

Preparation for AP Test

- Attended a week long training through College Board in July 2018 to prepare for the new AP US Gov curriculum course and test.
- I rewrote the MHS curriculum to match the new AP/College Board course. (summer 2018)
- Was an essay grader for 2019 AP US Gov test in Salt Lake City, UT
- Many chances to practice for AP style MC and essay questions - in class, hw, and testing.
- Practice tests and reviews will start in March.

15 Required Supreme Court Cases

- **Marbury v. Madison (1803)**
- **McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)**
- **Schenck v. United States (1919)**
- **Brown v. Board of Education (1954)**
- **Baker v. Carr (1961)**
- **Engel v. Vitale (1962)**
- **Gideon v. Wainwright (1963)**
- **Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)**
- **New York Times Company v. United States (1971)**
- **Wisconsin v. Yoder (1972)**
- **Roe v. Wade (1973)**
- **Shaw v. Reno (1993)**
- **United States v. Lopez (1995)**
- **McDonald v. Chicago (2010)**
- **Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (FEC) (2010)**

9 Required Foundational Documents

- Declaration of Independence
- Articles of Confederation
- Federalist Papers 10, 51, 70, and 78
- Brutus 1 (Anti-federalist paper)
- US Constitution
- *Letter From a Birmingham Jail* by Martin Luther King

Civics Projects

- **Mock Presidential Election (Unit 2 Political Participation Unit)**
- **Constitutional Convention (Unit 3)**
- **Mock Congress (Unit 5 Interaction Among Branches)**
- **Others if time allows**

5 Main Units

Unit 1: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs – 4 weeks

Unit 2: Political Participation – 8 weeks

Unit 3: Foundations of American Democracy – 6 weeks

Unit 4: Judicial Branch and Civil Liberties and Civil Rights – 6 weeks

Unit 5: Interactions Among Branches of Government – 9-12 weeks

Unit 1: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs – 4 weeks September

- Economic and Social Policy
- Core American Political Beliefs - individualism, equality of opportunity, free enterprise, rule of law, and limited government
- American Political Ideology - Conservative, Liberal, Libertarian
- Polling in Politics - types, uses, impact on elections and policy

Unit 2: Political Participation

8 weeks - Oct/Nov

- Elections
- Campaigns
- “Linkage Institutions” - Interest Groups, Media, Political Parties

Supreme Court Cases:

***Baker v. Carr (1961)**

***Shaw v. Reno (1993)**

***Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (FEC) (2010)**

Unit 3: Foundations of American Democracy

6 weeks- December beg. of January

- Declaration of Independence
- Articles of Confederation
- Constitutional Convention
- Federalist Papers 10 and 51
- Brutus 1 (Anti-federalist paper)
- US Constitution (emphasis on Articles)
- Federalism

Supreme Court Cases:

- **McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)**
- **United States v. Lopez (1995)**

Unit 4: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

6 weeks- end of January/ February

- Bill of Rights and other constitutional protections
- Judicial Branch
 - Pennsylvania Court System
 - Federal Court System
 - Nomination of Federal Judges
 - Judicial Review and role of courts in policy
- **Civil Liberties** (speech/press, religion, police powers and rights of accused, reproductive privacy, immigration, guns)
- **Civil Rights** - African-American, women, people with disabilities, sexual orientation

Unit 4 Supreme Court Cases

- **Marbury v. Madison (1803) judicial review**
- **Schenck v. United States (1919) speech**
- **Brown v. Board of Education (1954) equal protection clause**
- **Engel v. Vitale (1962) religion**
- **Gideon v. Wainwright (1963) right to a lawyer**
- **Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969) student speech**
- **New York Times Company v. United States (1971) press/prior restraint**
- **Wisconsin v. Yoder (1972) religion**
- **Roe v. Wade (1973) reproductive privacy**
- **McDonald v. Chicago (2010) 2nd amendment**

Unit 5 - Interaction Among Branches

8 weeks March/April

- **Congress**
- **President**
- **Executive Agencies**

Grading Policy

- Grading
 - 80% - quizzes, tests, projects
 - Tests and quizzes need to be made up within one week.
 - Late projects lose a letter grade, every day they are late.
 - 10% Homework
 - No late work unless student is sick – then only two days per day absent.
 - 10% Class participation
 - This includes written and verbal class assignments.
- MHS Academic Code will be enforced.

2018-19 Scores

(First year of new test)

- Students taking the test (Ladson only) 79 students took the test with an average score was 3.97 out of 5 .
- MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 94.9% (national average is usually about 50%)
- **MHS students** **Global%**
- 5's-33 (42%) (13%)
- 4's-15 (19%) (12%)
- 3's-27 (34%) (30%)
- 2's- 4 (5%) (25%)
- 1's- 0 (0%) (20%)
- 61 % of my students earned a 4 or 5

2017-18 Scores

(Last year of Older test version)

- Students taking the test (Ladson only) 91
- Average score was a over a 4.154 out of 5 .
- MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 99%
(national average is usually about 50%)

<u>MHS students</u>	<u>National %</u>
• 5's-41 (46%)	(11.1%)
• 4's-24 (26%)	(12.4%)
• 3's-25 (27%)	(24.7%)
• 2's- 1 (1%)	(24.7%)
• 1's- 0 (0%)	(26.1%)
• 71.4% of my students earned a 4 or 5	

2016-2017

AP US GOV Test Results

- Students taking the test (Ladson only) 84
- Average score was a over a 4.135 out of 5 .
- MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 98%
(national average is usually about 50%)
- MHS students National %
- 5's-43 (about 51.5%) (11.1%)
- 4's-21 (25%) (12.4%)
- 3's-10 (11.9%) (24.7%)
- 2's- 8 (9.5 %) (24.7%)
- 1's- 2 (2.1%) (26.1%)
- 76.5% of my students earned a 4 or 5

2015-2016

AP US GOV Test Results

- Students taking the test (Ladson only) 74
- Average score was a over a 4.027 out of 5 .
- **MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 98%**
(national average is usually about 50%)
- **MHS students National %**
- 5's-28 (about 38%) (around 10%)
- 4's-22 (30%) (around 15%)
- 3's-22 (30 %) (around 25%)
- 2's- 2 (2 %) (around 25%)
- 1's- 0 (about 0%) (around 25%)
- **68% of my students earned a 4 or 5**

2014-2015

AP US GOV Test Results

- Students taking the test (Ladson only) 72
- Average score was a over a 3.6 out of 5 .
- **MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 93%** (national average is usually about 50%)
- **MHS students National %**
- 5's-13 (about 18%) (around 10%)
- 4's-22 (31%) (around 15%)
- 3's-32 (44 %) (around 25%)
- 2's- 4 (6 %) (around 25%)
- 1's- 1 (about 1%) (around 25%)
- **49% of my students earned a 4 or 5**

2013-2014

AP US GOV Test Results

- Students taking the test (Ladson only) 69
- Average score was a over a 4.13 out of 5 .
- **MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 94%**
(national average is usually about 50%)
- **MHS students National %**
- 5's-32 (about 46%) (around 10%)
- 4's-19 (28%) (around 15%)
- 3's-14 (19%) (around 25%)
- 2's- 3 (4 %) (around 25%)
- 1's- 1 (less than 1%) (around 25%)
- **74% of my students earned a 4 or 5.**

2012-2013

AP US GOV Test Results

- Students taking the test (Ladson only) 75
- Average score was a 3.8 out of 5 .
- **MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 83%**
(national average is usually about 50%)
- **MHS students** **National %**
- 5's-25 (about 33%) (around 10%)
- 4's-23 (31%) (around 15%)
- 3's-14 (19%) (around 25%)
- 2's- 13 (17%) (around 25%)
- 1's-0 (0%) (around 25%)
- **64% of my students earned a 4 or 5.**

2011-2012

AP US GOV Test Results

- Students taking the test (Ladson) 64
- Average score was a 3.72 out of 5
- **MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 92%**
(national average is usually about 50%)
- **MHS students** **National %**
- 5's-15 (about 23%) (around 10%)
- 4's-22 (34%) (around 15%)
- 3's-22 (34%) (around 25%)
- 2's-4 (6%) (around 25%)
- 1's-1 (<2%) (around 25%)
- **57% of my students earned a 4 or 5 on the test.**

2010-2011

AP US GOV Test Results

- Students taking the test (Ladson) 47
 - Average score was a 4.043 out of 5
 - **MHS (Ladson) students % passing (3 or higher) = 96%**
(national average was 51.6%)
 - **MHS students National %**
 - 5's-22 (47%) 12.6%
 - 4's-7 (15%) 13.9%
 - 3's-16 (34%) 25.1%
 - 2's-2 (4%) 24.3%
 - 1's-0 24.1%
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- **62% of my students earned a 4 or 5 on the test.**

2009-2010

AP US GOV Test Results

- Students taking the test – 66
- Average score was a “4”
- **MHS students % passing (3 or higher) = 93%**
- **MHS students PA % National %**
- 5's-23 (35%) 16% 12%
- 4's-15 (23%) 15% 13%
- 3's-23 (35%) 28% 26%
- 2's-5 (8%) 21% 24%
- 1's-0 19% 25%
- **58% of my students earned a 4 or 5**

2008-2009

AP US GOV Test Results

Students taking the test— 46

Methacton

- 5's— 27 (59%)
 - 4's— 15 (33%)
 - 3's —3 (7%)
 - 2's— 1 (1%)
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- * 92% of my students earned a 4 or 5

2007-2008 AP US GOV Test Results

Students taking the test— 56

Methacton Students vs. State Average

- 5's—26 (%46) %15
- 4's— 4 (%7) %17
- 3's—22 (39%) %28
- 2's— 4 (7%) %24