

## Level IV: AP US Government and Politics Summer Work

Mrs. Chewning [jpchewning@henrico.k12.va.us](mailto:jpchewning@henrico.k12.va.us)

### Rationale:

It is crucial the Level IV Government students are aware of current events and news issues. I want you to get in the habit of following the news, and get excited about it! Delve in! Don't be superficial-know more than the *what*, know the *why* and ask questions about world events. It is required that you keep up with news events occurring in this nation and around the world. Specifically, look for national events that will influence policy (changes in trade/tariffs, etc.) or news that comes from government action (legislation or court decisions.)

### Your job:

- 1) This summer, you will find and follow a news story that interests you for **3 weeks, twice each week (6 times total.)** Pick one story that will be on- going: Congressional races, Syria, US/Russia relationship, Congressional investigations, any interesting current court cases (Supreme Court, US District Courts, US Appeals Courts, etc.) or any other significant topic.
- 2) Following your news story could mean watching accredited TV news programs: NBC, ABC, CBS, MSNBC, CNN, Fox News; reading print magazines (*Times, Newsweek*) or newspapers; or following the story on-line. (Avoid programs like *The Daily Show* or *Last Week Tonight* for this assignment b/c of media bias.) You may use the same source, or different sources each of the 6 times you "check on" your story.

### Assignment: Notes/Works Cited/6 Twitter posts→Tuesday, September 4, 2018

- 1) As you get updates on your story, take notes, indicating the **date and source** of the story. Make sure to summarize or bullet the information IN YOUR OWN WORDS. This will be turned in. You will have **six entries** and a Works Cited PAGE at the end (MLA format.)
- 2) Using Twitter (yes, you will need an account set to PUBLIC so I can see your tweets) Tweet a comment or reaction to your news story each time you check in using the hashtag: **#ChewAPGov2018**. Include a link or picture with your tweet for context. You should have **6 total tweets over 3 weeks** (not 6 tweets on one day!!) Mention me @jpchewning so I'll get notified. Also, take a SCREEN SHOT of each-you will drop these on Sept 4 with the notes.
- 3) At the end of the 3 week period, you will use the information to write an Editorial piece on your story w/a definite position or purpose. **We will work on these in class and they are due Tuesday, September 11.** You should consult <http://www.geneseo.edu/~bennett/EdWrite.htm> for characteristics and structure of an editorial. Make sure to have a good introduction with a thesis. Editorials have a "slant" or opinion, but they also clearly explain the issue, as well as mentioning opposing viewpoints. Editorials frequently offer suggestions or solutions and conclude with a powerful ending. This editorial and notes together will count as a Major Assessment.

### **Rubric \_\_\_\_\_/100 Turn this in w/your Editorial: Due→Tuesday, September 11, 2018**

_____/10	Strong/interesting introduction with a clear thesis/position
_____/20	ISSUE: Clear explanation w/ample facts on topic <u>that support your thesis</u>
_____/20	ARGUMENT: persuasive, convincing, includes opposing viewpoints & offers specific solutions-you make your point
_____/10	Writing style: organization, flow, syntax, spelling, grammar, punctuation-your thoughts are logically presented
_____/20	News notes: in own words, ample facts, properly cited, 6 entries, formatted Works Cited
_____/20	Tweets: 6 tweets over 3 weeks, referencing your news story w/link or picture

Please e-mail me over the summer if you have questions.