

UNIT MATERIALS

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS



UNIT III

*The Judiciary, Civil Rights,
and Civil Liberties*



AP US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS ESSENTIAL TERMS LIST

UNIT III *The Judiciary / Civil Rights & Liberties*

THE CONSTITUTION

The Bill of Rights (especially 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, 9th, 10th)

Fourteenth & Fifteenth Amendments

Discrimination (*Race and Gender*)

First Amendment Vocabulary (*Establishment Clause, Free Exercise Clause, "Wall of Separation" Doctrine*)

Right to Privacy (*and controversies involving – namely abortion*)

ACLU

THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY

Amicus curiae Brief

Stare decisis

Writ of Certiorari

Originalism (Original Intent)

Judicial Activism

Judicial Review

Selective Incorporation (Incorporation Doctrine)

The nomination and confirmation process

"Borking"

"Ginsburg Rule"

Clarence Thomas confirmation hearings

The judiciary and public opinion

Checks and Balances

Chief Justice & Associate Justices (*Currently 8*)

Life Tenure

The structure of the federal judiciary

(*district courts, appellate courts, judicial circuits*)

SUPREME COURT CASES

Tier One

(Mentioned on Multiple Released Exams)

Marbury v. Madison

Mcculloch v. Maryland

Gibbons v. Ogden

Dred Scott v. Sandford

Plessy v. Ferguson

Brown v. Board

Miranda v. Arizona

Roe v. Wade

Tier Two

(Mentioned on a Released Exam)

Baker v. Carr

Gideon V. Wainwright

Gitlow v. New York

Griswold v. Connecticut

Korematsu v. United States

Mapp v. Ohio

New York Times v. Sullivan

Shaw v. Reno

Sweatt v. Painter

Wolf v. Colorado

Tier Three

(Landmark Cases Not Mentioned on Available Exams)

Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States

Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States

Tinker v. Des Moines

Miller v. California

Hustler Magazine v. Falwell

Schenck v. United States

Texas v. Johnson

Engle v. Vitale

Lemon v. Kurtzman

Regents v. Bakke

Civil Rights Acts

1957

1960

1964

1968

**AP US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
LEARNING SUPPLEMENTS**

**UNIT III
*The Judiciary, Civil Rights & Liberties***

Textbook Chapters (Click for PowerPoint)

[Chapter 4](#) (Civil Liberties and Public Policy)

[Chapter 5](#) (Civil Rights and Public Policy)

[Chapter 16](#) (The Federal Courts)

Supplemental Readings

[Article III – The Judicial Branch](#) (U.S. Constitution)

[The Federalist No. 78](#) (The Judiciary Department)

[The Federalist No. 84](#) (Certain General and Miscellaneous Objections... Considered and Answered)

Brutus Essays ([Excerpt 1](#) [Excerpt 2](#) [Excerpt 3](#) [Excerpt 4](#))

[Thomas Jefferson to William Jarvis](#) (September 28, 1820)

Andrew Napolitano, *The Constitution in Exile*, Chapter 2 (The Rise of the Supreme Court)

[William Rehnquist, The Supreme Court, Chapter 1 \(Marbury v. Madison\)](#)

William Rehnquist, *The Supreme Court*, Chapter 11 (Presidential Appointments to the Supreme Court)

[Mark Levin, Men in Black, Chapter 1 \(Radicals in Robes\)](#)

William J. Watkins, Jr., "[Abandon the 'Ginsburg Rule' for Supreme Court Candidates](#)"

William J. Watkins, Jr., "[A Role for the People in Judicial Selection](#)"

Videos

Robert Bork Confirmation Hearings

[Clip 1](#) [Clip 2](#) [Anti-Bork Ad](#)

Clarence Thomas Confirmation Hearings

[Clip 1](#) [Clip 2](#) [Clip 3](#)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Confirmation Hearings

[Clip 1](#)

Samuel Alito Confirmation Hearings

[Clip 1](#)

AP US GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

SUPREME COURT CASE PROJECT

General Criteria:

Groups of 2-3 students

A 10-15 minute **multimedia presentation** with lasting value

(i.e., something that I can show to classes in future years)

The best presentations will combine video clips, narrations over still images, and on-screen text when necessary.

You should consider the following when researching:

1. Facts of the Case (Background)
2. Constitutional Questions
3. *Stare decisis*
4. Lower Court Decision(s)
5. The Court's Decision:
 - a. Majority Opinion
 - b. Concurring Opinion(s)
 - c. Dissenting Opinion(s)

*** NOTE: *You are not required to consider all concurring or dissenting opinions, but only the ones that make significant arguments that add something to the understanding of the central constitutional questions and/or inform later decisions.*
6. Respect for Precedent / Activism (to what extent were each present?)
7. Judicial Philosophies (originalism, textualism, activism, strict/loose construction, international law, "living constitution")
8. Public Opinion (any relevant polling data you can find – if any exists for your case)
9. THE LEGACY
 - a. What's happened as a result?
 - b. How has the ruling influenced American society?
 - c. How has this ruling influenced subsequent rulings?
 - i. Are there any "tests" that are employed now as a result of the ruling?

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

[Cornell University Legal Information Institute \(LII\)](#)
[Landmark Cases at Street Law](#)

TEST III WORDLE

