



Rockville High School



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Dear incoming AP NSL Students:

Congratulations on registering for the AP NSL Government class here at Rockville High School. You have chosen to take on an academic course that will challenge you to perform at the college level, and you are doing that in the 10th grade, something that demonstrates your academic seriousness and maturity.

I am really looking forward to working with all of you to develop the analytical skills and knowledge that will lead you to success on the AP test in May. While that may seem a long way off, especially as you are lounging by the pool or beach, we do need to start preparing for the school year. I have prepared a summer packet, in order to ensure that everyone develops some background knowledge and grows comfortable with some of the content we will be covering in the upcoming academic year. You will see that there are four activities. I recommend completing one activity per week. Many of the activities have multiple parts, so make sure you budget your time. **You should complete all assignments on separate paper (a printed Word document, rather than hand-written, is preferable), answer all questions IN YOUR OWN WORDS. This assignment will be collected on the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.** Under the current grading policy, homework completion can count up to 10% of your first quarter grade.

Finally, there is one other thing you can do over the summer to prepare for the course – Become a regular consumer of the news! Follow the top political stories and issues and keep up with what your government (national, state or local) is doing. Scan newspapers (you can do this on-line now; of course), watch the Sunday morning news talk-shows, nightly news or CNN. Part of the goal of any government course is to have students become informed citizens and play their part in our great democracy.

The students who come into the class with a fair amount of background knowledge (and vocabulary) are almost always the most successful. The goal of this summer assignment is to try and ensure that success by requiring some preparation. Enlist the help of your parents or other adults who can “talk politics” with you.

The activities and materials will be posted on the school web page all summer, (<http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/rockvillehs/>) follow the AP NSL Summer Packet link. Should you need a hard copy, please pick one up from me in Room 2047 between June 10th and June 17th.

Welcome to AP NSL, should you have any questions – please contact me at Caitlin_F_Ulmer@mcpsmd.org. See you in August!

Sincerely,
Ms. Ulmer