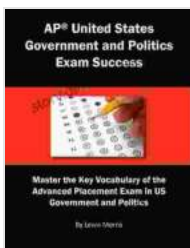


# Master the Key Vocabulary of the Advanced Placement Exam in U.S. Government and Politics

The Advanced Placement (AP) Exam in U.S. Government and Politics is a rigorous exam that tests students' knowledge of the American political system. One of the most important aspects of the exam is the vocabulary section. Students who are able to master the key vocabulary terms will be at a significant advantage on the exam.

This article provides a comprehensive guide to the key vocabulary terms that students need to know for the AP Exam in U.S. Government and Politics. With detailed explanations and examples, this article will help students build a strong foundation in the subject and achieve success on the exam.

The following are the key vocabulary terms that students need to know for the AP Exam in U.S. Government and Politics:



## AP United States Government and Politics Exam Success: Master the Key Vocabulary of the Advanced Placement Exam in US Government and Politics

by Lewis Morris

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 2800 KB

Print length : 154 pages

Lending : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported



- **Amendment:** A change to the U.S. Constitution.
- **Bill of Rights:** The first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, which guarantee certain individual rights and freedoms.
- **Checks and balances:** A system of government in which different branches of government have the ability to limit the power of other branches.
- **Civil liberties:** The rights and freedoms that are guaranteed to all citizens by the U.S. Constitution.
- **Civil rights:** The rights that are guaranteed to all citizens by law, regardless of race, gender, religion, or national origin.
- **Common law:** The system of law that is based on the decisions of judges in previous cases.
- **Constitution:** The supreme law of the United States.
- **Delegated powers:** The powers that are explicitly granted to the federal government by the U.S. Constitution.
- **Democracy:** A system of government in which the people have the power to choose their leaders.
- **Due process of law:** The legal requirement that the government must follow certain procedures before depriving a person of life, liberty, or property.
- **Electoral College:** The group of electors who are chosen by the voters in each state to elect the president and vice president.

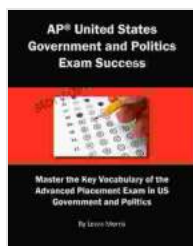
- **Equal protection clause:** The clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that prohibits states from denying any person "within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."
- **Federalism:** A system of government in which power is divided between a central government and regional governments.
- **Foreign policy:** The policies that a government adopts in its dealings with other countries.
- **Fundamental rights:** The rights that are considered to be essential to human dignity and freedom.
- **Habeas corpus:** A writ that requires a person who is being held in custody to be brought before a judge to determine whether the person is being held lawfully.
- **Impeachment:** The process by which a president or other high-ranking government official is accused of wrongdoing and removed from office.
- **Judicial review:** The power of the courts to declare laws unconstitutional.
- **Law:** A rule of conduct that is created and enforced by the government.
- **Legislative branch:** The branch of government that makes laws.
- **Limited government:** A system of government in which the powers of the government are limited by a constitution or other legal document.
- **Majority rule:** The principle that the majority of people should have the power to make decisions for the entire group.

- **Natural law:** The system of law that is based on the principles of reason and justice.
- **Popular sovereignty:** The principle that the government derives its authority from the consent of the governed.
- **Preamble:** The to the U.S. Constitution, which states the purposes of the Constitution.
- **Presidency:** The office of the president of the United States.
- **Reserved powers:** The powers that are not explicitly granted to the federal government by the U.S. Constitution and are therefore reserved to the states.
- **Rule of law:** The principle that everyone, including the government, is subject to the law.
- **Separation of powers:** The principle that the powers of government should be divided among different branches of government.
- **Sovereignty:** The supreme authority of a government over its territory and people.
- **Supremacy clause:** The clause of the U.S. Constitution that establishes the Constitution as the supreme law of the land.
- **Treaty:** An agreement between two or more countries.
- **Veto:** The power of the president to reject a bill passed by Congress.

The key vocabulary terms listed in this article are essential for success on the AP Exam in U.S. Government and Politics. Students who are able to master these terms will be able to demonstrate their understanding of the subject and achieve a high score on the exam.

In addition to the key vocabulary terms, students should also be familiar with the following resources:

- The AP Exam in U.S. Government and Politics website:  
<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-government-and-politics>
- The College Board's AP Exam in U.S. Government and Politics study guide: <https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-go>



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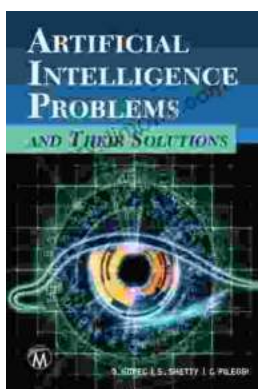
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