

# Ms. Berger

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## Fiorello H. LaGuardia HS of Music & Art and Performing Arts

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## t(other)

Register for class

### Past Events and Homework

#### US HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT REGENTS

January 28, 2010

8:45 am!!

and here's a link to [every US Regents ever](#), with answer keys included. they make take a while to download (pdf files)

\*\*\*\*\*CHECK OUT OLDER EXAMS UNDER "ARCHIVE" IN THE BOX TO THE RIGHT, AND NOTICE YOU CAN TAKE EXAMS IN SPANISH, CHINESE, KOREAN, RUSSIAN AND HATIAN CREOLE!! ("TRANSLATED EDITIONS")\*\*\*\*\*

don't forget the article on the home page "REGENTS REVIEW LINKS INSIDE"--or look to your right for the list of articles and click the first one!

don't forget: the key to success on this exam is the multiple choice, your promises to look at the essays first, brainstorm on the DBQ essay BEFORE looking at a single document, and to relate the DBQ essay to today!...and YOU WILL ULTIMATELY DO WELL :)

#### Last day of fall semester!

January 25, 2010

As you know, it takes many steps--some officially deemed by the Constitution and others out of nowhere--for a bill to become a law, and it's not there yet.

As you reflect back over the semester, and over the process of trying to pass the health care bill, begin to choose what you feel are [at least] SEVEN (7) key moments (so far) during this long, arduous process.

These "moments" should and may NOT simply be the steps outlined in the Constitution.

You may present these "moments" creatively, or in essay form. Whichever way, you must: a) explain what happened and the impact on the process b) why YOU chose that "moment" and why YOU felt it was significant in the process.

In addition, please reflect on your opinion of the entire process in general, including: if you would have voted for the bill when it came to a vote in the House (explain why/not), if you would have voted for it when it came to a vote in the Senate...and if you would vote for it as it stands now.

An EXCELLENT source is the cbs news "health care progress report", which is updated every Monday...remember??

#### \*\*\*DBQ essay due if you took the mock regents....PART OF YOUR FINAL\*\*\* (homework)

**Due Date:** January 22, 2010

please complete the June 2002 [DBQ on CHECKS AND BALANCES](#) (scaffolding AND essay!!) -- starts on page 10

#### Final Exam

January 19, 2010

This 80 minute exam will consist of SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS:

- 1.What are the roots of American democracy?
- 2.What are the basic principles of the United States Constitution? (know each and



Fiorello H. LaGuardia HS of Music & Art and Performing Arts  
Ms. Berger

#### Classes

[PARTICIPATION IN GO](#)

[PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT/HONORS](#)

[Spring10](#)

[t\(Fall 09\)](#)

[t\(other\)](#)

#### articles:::

[Congressman Anthony wants 9/11 relief!!](#)  
posted on December

[Reflections on the of the third marking period.....](#)  
posted on November

[Mr. Smith Goes to W](#)  
posted on November

[MIDTERMS MATTER!!](#)  
posted on October 3

[WELCOME BACK!!!!](#)  
posted on September

[LATE WORK MUST BE SUBMITTED!!](#)  
posted on April 10,

[END OF 1ST MARKING REFLECTION](#)  
posted on March 11,

[TABULA RASA](#)  
posted on February

[REGENTS REVIEW LINK INSIDE...](#)  
posted on December

[We are in the FINAL PERIOD--this one is permanent!](#)  
posted on December

[TEST MONDAY ON CONSTITUTIONAL PRIN](#)  
posted on October 1

[TEST NUMBER ONE is Tuesday](#)  
posted on October 3

[Dale Hawrylczak \(8CH\)](#)

[Ms. Healy](#)

[Larry Hoffner](#)

[Carl Johnson](#)

[Linda Johnson](#)

[Marla Karaliolios](#)

[Ms. Kawasaki](#)

[K Kay](#)

[M Kingham](#)

[Theresa LaSalle](#)

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[Dr. Paul Linnehan](#)

[Patricia Marino](#)

[Deepak Marwah](#)

[Melissa Mejias](#)

[Joseph Meyers](#)

[Madame Mitchell](#)

[Mr. Moore](#)

[khan nguyendon](#)

[Antionietta Pace - Chemistry 1](#)

[Antionietta Pace - Chemistry 2](#)

[Antionietta Pace - Electives](#)

[Ms. Regnier](#)

[Anna Roberts](#)

[Ms. Rochkind](#)

[Julie Sandri](#)

[Lucinda Santiago](#)

[Raimonda Sefaj](#)

[Justine Singer](#)

[Neal Singh](#)

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[Mr. Sperber](#)

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[Richard Titone](#)

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[Señor Valerio - Español I-VI](#)

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[Ms. Washburn](#)

[Paula Washington](#)

[Mr. Weiler](#)

specific examples for each)

3.How are various political ideologies determined, and how does America's Two-Party System impact different ideologies? (think about role of 3rd parties)

4.Why is our Congress bicameral, and what are the major differences between the two houses?

5.HOW does a bill become a law? (steps and leadership roles involved)

6.In what ways can a single Senator (real or in Hollywood)influence the passage of a bill to a law?

7.What are the various roles a President must play? (know a real-life example for each "hat")

8.How may Presidential powers overstep their Constitutional parameters?

9.How is American foreign policy made and what are some examples?

10.What are the steps on the "path to the Presidency"? (announcement of candidacy->Election night)

11. Why is the Presidential power to nominate Supreme Court justices often an election issue?

12. How has the Supreme Court ruled on students' 1st Amendment rights in school?

13. To what extent are your 4th Amendment rights protected in school?

14.How are 4th Amendment rights determined for all individuals?

15. What role does "affirmative action" play in our society?

Use as many specific terms and details as possible. VAGUE = THE PLAGUE. Use your notes and THIS WEBSITE (start from day one and scroll up!)

Basic principles: federalism (delegated/reserved/concurrent/etc), separation of powers (3 branches +powers of each), limited gov't, popular sovereignty, checks and balances, flexibility

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU ARE TAKING THE REGENTS, IF YOU'D RATHER TAKE A MOCK REGENTS FOR YOUR FINAL SINCE YOU HAVE TO PREPARE FOR IT!

(you should check the non-honors classjump page for more info and requirements--you will also need to complete a dbq essay for friday--see other class!)

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#### MLK Day

January 18, 2010



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#### NO QUIZ today, woo!

January 15, 2010



Because much of this semester was spent discussing the health care bill, I would much rather you take the time to reflect upon and evaluate that process instead!

As you know, it takes many steps--some officially deemed by the Constitution and others out of nowhere--for a bill to become a law, and it's not there yet.

As you reflect back over the semester, and over the process of trying to pass the health care bill, begin to choose what you feel are [at least] SEVEN (7) key moments (so far) during this long, arduous process.

These "moments" should and may NOT simply be the steps outlined in the Constitution.

Tomorrow we will further discuss this assignment, which will be due on the last day of the term, Monday 1/25.

An EXCELLENT source is the cbs news "health care progress report", which is updated every Monday...remember??

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
#### What role should "affirmative action" play in our society? (homework)

**Due Date:** January 14, 2010



Using the decisions from Bakke, Grutter and Gratz, decide how you would answer the 3 questions posed in the Seattle case (answer yes/no few sentence explanation for each...ideally you should refer to the earlier cases).

#### Downloads

-  [grutter](#) (120.63 KB)
-  [gratz](#) (117.82 KB)
-  [SEATTLE QUESTIONS](#) (64.6 KB)

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#### TLO handout due (homework)

**Due Date:** January 11, 2010



here is the background of the case:

TLO summary

read both arguments.....underline concepts with which you agree, circle ideas with which you disagree.

answer ALL questions BRIEFLY

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**How has the "Tinker standard" been applied over the years?** (homework)



**Due Date:** January 5, 2010

Please read both sides of the handout on Hazelwood vs Kuhlmeier.

As you are reading:

- underline phrases with which you agree
- circle phrases with which you disagree
- jot down any questions or comments you may have in the margins

After you are reading, IN YOUR HEAD:

- decide which argument you agree with more and why
- go over the questions about both opinions

BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THESE QUESTIONS AND GET CALLED ON AT RANDOM. YOU SHOULD HAVE IDEAS READY TO GO!!

(absolutely decide yes or no for ques 6&7...I sense a snap poll!

---

**To what extent are your FIRST AMENDMENT rights protected in school?**



January 4, 2010

here's the overhead if ya want it...

**Downloads**



[Document 1](#) (3.82 MB)

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**Vacation starts, yay!**



December 24, 2009

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**How powerful is the Supreme Court? (HW 3.5)** (homework)



**Due Date:** December 17, 2009

Read A and B on the handout; answer questions for the 2 readings.

---

**TEST on stuff**



December 16, 2009

IF YOU ARE ABSENT, SOMEONE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU MUST CALL THE SOCIAL STUDIES OFFICE, 212-496-0700 x 2647 TO LET US KNOW THAT S/HE IS AWARE THAT YOU HAVE A TEST YET YOU ARE ABSENT!! or else.....

- The Executive Branch (Article II): THE PRESIDENT
- requirements, term of office
- POWERS ("[hats](#)"/roles) [link is a great review! be sure to click each link on the left]
- path to become President (primary, caucus, national convention, electoral college!)
  
- FOREIGN POLICY/WAR POWERS
- Congress vs President (founders' intent?)
- [examples of foreign policies](#) in America's history (and Presidents associated with them) [more good review--click left side links!]
- who else makes foreign policy?
- Obama and Afghanistan

ANSWERS TO HW 3.1 (1-10 p 270/1)

1.B 2.C 3.B 4.B 5.E 6.A 7.E 8.D 9.B 10.C

review notes, handouts, HWs, links, text (pgs 240-281)!

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**more test help: HONORS**



December 16, 2009

\*\*\*the foreign policy section of your exam will focus more on who has the power to make those decisions. You should take the following into consideration: Founder's intent (for war powers), expansion of the executive, other executive "players".

I do ASSUME that you are familiar with basic American foreign policies: neutrality, isolationism, imperialism, collective security, internationalism, containment and deterrence----review the Bush Doctrine!

(you do NOT need to know Presidents/examples as stated above; do NOT concentrate on the policy link above!)

you SHOULD know about expansion of Presidential powers...

Don't forget to review your HWs as well as your notes/handouts!

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#### How does the Electoral College impact Presidential elections?



December 14, 2009

Be sure you can argue 2 reasons to get rid of it AND 2 reasons to keep it!

You have learned that a state's voting pattern determines if it's a "red", "blue" or "swing" state. However, if we looked at the total popular vote for the entire country, we'd see a story that is not all red and blue.

For "fun", check out what the [political ideology landscape](#) would look like without the "red" and "blue" caused by the Electoral College. Notice all the green in 1992! Be sure to scroll down to see other cool breakdowns of votes.

IF YOU FEEL LIKE IT ;)

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#### How does the ELECTORAL COLLEGE impact Presidential elections? (homework)



**Due Date:** December 11, 2009

[please print out and bring to class!](#)

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#### What are the steps on the "path to the Presidency"?



December 10, 2009

In modern history, the Presidential race officially kicks off with Iowa caucuses, followed by the New Hampshire primary. An Iowan tells us why:

"It's because Iowans know and practice pure democracy better than anyone. Where else do each of 1,800 precincts have a say in choosing a nation's leader? Where else do political celebrities answer to thousands of average voters, face-to-face, in living rooms, churches and libraries? Big-state primaries, for all their virtues, reflect the undue influence of big money politicsâ€”relentless advertising, constant polling and negative campaigningâ€”a far cry from Iowa's "one person, one vote" representative system.

[...]

This truly grass-roots approach allows ordinary Americansâ€”the teacher, the plumber and the beauticianâ€”the opportunity to voice their opinions and debate among each other about the best candidate for the job. The depth of the caucuses, both in their vetting of a candidate and the organizational structure that has developed over decades, is almost impossible to replicate."

How is a [CAUCUS](#) different from a [PRIMARY](#)?

We will watch "By the People" to get an idea!

please read links WHEN YOU HAVE A CHANCE

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#### HW 3.4: Who are Obama's Cabinet members? (homework)



**Due Date:** December 9, 2009

Please write a one sentence description of the responsibilities of each job position.

complete by end of week :)

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#### How is American foreign policy made?





December 8, 2009

If you CAN, please print out and bring in (you do NOT need to print it in color...fast draft and low ink setting!)

both documents are the same

\*\*\*\*\*IF YOU WERE ABSENT TODAY, WE PLAYED A [FOREIGN POLICY SIMULATION](#)--AND YOU SHOULD TOO!\*\*\*\*\*

#### Downloads

-  [Document 1](#) (2.67 MB)
-  [Document 2](#) (2.67 MB)

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#### To what extent has Congress relinquished its WAR POWERS to the President? (HW 3.3) (homework)



**Due Date:** December 7, 2009

"The Congress shall have power to...declare war..." [Article I, Section 8, clause 11], yet no war has been officially declared since World War II.

At the onset of the Vietnam War, the Congress empowered Lyndon Johnson with the \*\*\*[GULF OF TONKIN RESOLUTION](#) (1964), but then clarified Congress's powers with the \*\*\*[WAR POWERS ACT](#) (RESOLUTION) (1973). [Any chance you remember?] [YOU DO NOT HAVE TO READ THOSE LINKS]

Please read 3 short articles (A-C) and answer the following questions. If you need until Tuesday to answer the questions that is fine, but you MUST read the articles by Monday.

- A. [War Powers article](#)
- B. [read only five paragraphs](#)--scroll down and only read sections "Constitutional Questions Raised" and "War Powers of the President and Congress" (stop at "Legislative Veto")
- C. [And how about Obama?](#)

1. Which part of government do you think the framers of the Constitution intended to have more power concerning war? Why?
2. Does it seem like the War Powers Resolution works? Explain why or why not.
3. Why did President Nixon Veto the War Powers Resolution?
4. According to the [War Powers article](#), how does Lee Hamilton think that this debate can be resolved?
5. Do you think the War Powers Act is Constitutional or not?
6. Where does it seem President Obama stands on this issue?

If you desire, you can also read about war powers in your textbook, pages 185 and 258-59.

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#### Read this letter! (no writing involved ;) (homework)



**Due Date:** December 1, 2009

Granted, it is from Michael Moore (a raging "lefty liberal")...but, what do you think?

Apparently, once again what we are about to get into in class is coinciding very nicely with current events--I couldn't plan it better!

#### [An Open Letter to President Obama from Michael Moore](#)

-Doesn't Obama know that the most famous classic blunder is "never get involved in a land war in Asia"??

(ps--the 2nd paragraph of the letter is a \*\*\*TRIPLE STAR\*\*\* example...go MM!)

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#### Has President Obama been keeping his promises?



December 1, 2009

#### [Has President Obama been keeping his promises?](#)

check out above link!! (AT YOUR LEISURE)

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#### HW 3.1 (homework)



**Due Date:** November 30, 2009

review pages 242-269 (chapter 11)  
answer MCQ 1-10 p 270

article links:

[Most Presidents Ignore the Constitution](#)

-what is the main idea of this reading?

-what are some concrete examples that substantiate the title of the article?

[Too Much Presidential Power](#)

-what is the main idea of the reading?

-based on the reading, how would you define the concept of "unitary executive"?

-how would you rate Obama's use of power so far?

Which article do you feel may be more influenced by feelings about Bush's presidency? Why?

Please also read/answer questions re Bush's speech at West Point (handout).

---

**BONUS OPPORTUNITY** (homework)

**Due Date:** November 29, 2009



wanna earn a couple of more points?

read [Bill Clinton's draft letter](#) and answer:

1. what is your opinion of this letter?
2. do you think it does Clinton more harm or good? explain.
3. Do you think a US President should have direct experience in the military? explain.

you MUST EMAIL ME the answers BEFORE MONDAY if you want credit for the 2nd marking period!

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**Happy Thanksgiving**

November 26, 2009



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**To what extent is the Constitution the source of Presidential powers?**

November 24, 2009



Article II

requirements/term of office

powers

responsibilities

roles/"hats"

---

**MIDTERM TODAY**

November 19, 2009



This exam WILL be cumulative, covering all topics from September ->now.

Study ALL NOTES, your few handouts, HWs, this website and the text (if you need it)

Major topics:

-foundations/formation of our government ("roots of democracy") chap 2

-the Constitution chap 3

-political ideology/ parties pgs 110-118

-the Legislative Branch chaps 8 and 9

-the health care saga

To review the health care bill, reread the [progress reports](#), be sure to go back a few weeks! To do so:

google cbs health care progress report

and then check out each week by link

(the most recent one is linked for you)

The test will consist of both multiple choice and a writing portion.

To achieve full credit on the writing portion, you must use all RELEVANT and APPROPRIATE terms (correctly). Vague = the plague. Details and specifics!!!

You should be prepared to write about:

-political ideology and parties

-the health care bill

-Constitutional principles

I noticed this was nowhere when I CLICKED SEE PAST! ;)

answers to "Basic Principles of the Constitution worksheet":

1)A 2)C 3)D 4)E 5)B 6)F 7)C 8)D 9)A 10)B 11)F 12)D 13)D--only Supreme Court has power of judicial review 14)A--could also be B 15)C 16)D 17)E 18)F 19)C 20)B

---

#### TEST ON THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH!!



November 13, 2009

\*\*\*IF YOU ARE ABSENT, YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST CALL THE SOCIAL STUDIES OFFICE (212-496-0700 x2647), AS PER THE DEPARTMENT EXPECTATIONS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN MINUS POINTS OFF YOUR MAKEUP TEST\*\*\*

This exam will test your knowledge of the US Congress and the Legislative Branch. It will cover all material from October 27-November 10th on this site, including:

- how Congress is set up and why
- requirements/terms/special powers of House of Reps and Senate
- major Congressional leadership, including who currently holds those positions
- federalism in the legislative branch
- delegated, denied and implied powers of the federal government
- apportionment of Congressional districts: census, gerrymandering
- how a bill becomes a law
- progress of health care bill (key points discussed in class or HW)
- Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (characters, plot, vocab)

Study notes, handouts, HWs 2.2--2.6, text pgs 174--216 (know vocab at end of each chapter 8 & 9), and this website!

This test will consist of 45 multiple choice questions--come on time!

\*\*\*Mr. Smith questions (should be written out NEATLY, or, preferably, typed--counts as quiz!) [do not forget to include a brief critique of the movie--if you liked it or not/what the movie teaches/if it's worth showing/etc] and HWs 2.4-6 will be collected today.\*\*\*

please note that you do not need to know about Congress' War powers/President--it's on the review sheet, but we have not yet discussed!

#### Downloads



[review sheet](#) (34.3 KB)

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#### VETERANS' DAY



November 11, 2009

Enjoy another day off and honor our soldiers, past and present!!

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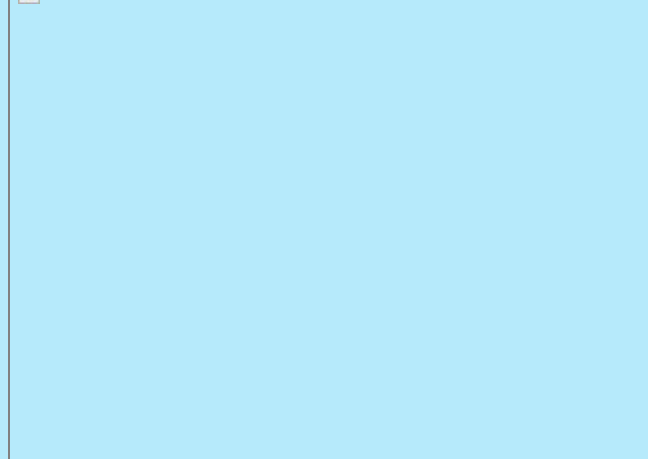
#### How does Mr. Smith prevent action on the Senate floor?



November 10, 2009

Mr. Smith, Part IV

How might Senator Lieberman (I, CT) take a cue from Mr. Smith?



[Watch CBS News Videos Online](#)

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How does the committee system influence Congress? (HW 2.6) (homework)



Due Date: November 9, 2009

Mr. Smith, Part III HW:

1. Review pages 181-184. Make sure you can differentiate standing, special and conference committees.

2. Check out [all of the committees](#) that currently exist in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

A) Look up and list which committees [OUR 2 Senators](#) currently sit on or are the chair of! B) Which committees does your US Representative sit on or chair (consult HW 2.4)? [Read the "About" section on the legislators' home pages.]

BONUS ( 5): A) What are the 3 committees that reviewed the health care bill in the House of Representatives? Who are the chairs of those committees?

B) What are the 3 Senate committees that reviewed the health care bill, and who are the chairs?

[Remember, all work will be collected together on FRIDAY, test day.]

\*\*\*\*\*  
How is the Willet Creek Dam emblematic of Congressional spending issues?

The plans for the Willet Creek dam are "buried in the deficiency bill"--a bill probably as long as our health care bill! This project can be viewed as a "pork barrel spending" or by the euphemism "earmark".

The term "pork barrel" refers to the appropriation of government spending for projects that are intended primarily to benefit constituents of a politician in return for their political support, either in the form of campaign contributions or votes.

"Earmarking" is the term used to refer to a provision in legislation that directs funds to be spent on specific projects. Typically, legislators seek to insert earmarks which direct a specified amount of money to a particular organization or project in his/her home state or district.

Whatever you choose to call it, excessive government spending was a hot issue during the presidential election, and will continue to receive scrutiny while our deficit mounts.

SUPER BONUS ( 7)

\*\*[Citizens Against Government Waste](#) provides transparency on spending. Find 1 earmark that you think is an appropriate allocation of funds and 1 earmark that smells like pork! Do you think there was pork barrel spending in the bailout package? Explain your findings\*\*

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#### Current Events Day

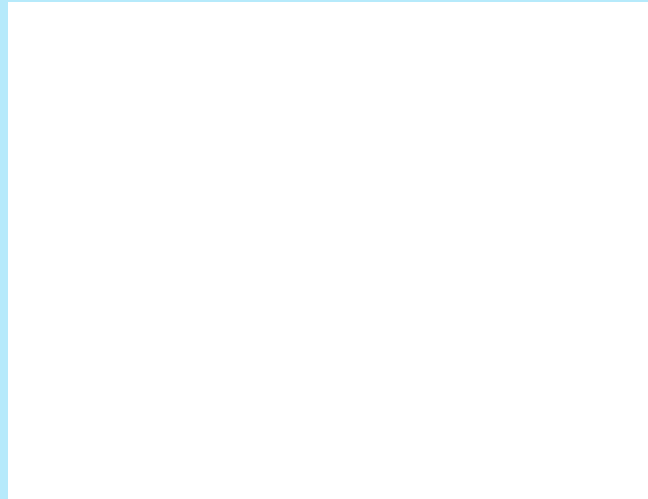
November 6, 2009



We will discuss the progress of the health care bill as well as the ramifications of Tuesday's election!

Please watch these news clips if you are able....

Republican Senator Olympia Snowe, member of the Finance Committee, 2 weeks ago:



Think--What are her concerns?

Some commentary on Election Day:



What do YOU think?!

---

**Why does Mr. Smith need to learn HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW? (HW 2.5)**



November 5, 2009

Did Mr. Smith have good coaching?

In addition to answering "Part II" questions AND the 4 on the bill->law handout,

\*HW--please review pages 197-216 and complete (define) the terms on p. 216 (HW # 2.5)

(turn in with questions at the end of the movie!)

Part II is approximately :35--1:00 (25 minutes)

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**Mr. Smith Goes to Washington!**



November 4, 2009

Please arrive on time, as we will be starting immediately.

\*\*\*\*PLEASE PRINT OUT AND BRING IN THE FILM QUESTIONS--read ahead of time!\*\*\*\*

If you are on blackout or are absent on any days, you will easily be able to make up what you have missed; I will put the link to the movie up on Wednesday.

[Today--Part I: 35 minutes--up to when Smith gets to the Senate]

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**Downloads**



[Mr. Smith Questions](#) (133.4 KB)



[Mr. Smith Questions](#) (28.16 KB)

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**How are Congressional districts apportioned? (homework)**



**Due Date:** November 3, 2009

If you did not understand the lesson, please review pages 176-179 in your textbook.

[Here is the article that accompanied the maps of Texas](#).....According to the Supreme Court, is gerrymandering Constitutional? (Note there were 2 separate rulings for this one case.)

Think: How does our Two-Party System encourage gerrymandering?

HW 2.4--due Wed

Who are [all of your elected officials](#)?? All you need to know is your zip code.....

---

### ELECTION DAY!!

November 3, 2009



Enjoy your day off. If you feel so inclined, take a walk over to your voting site to check out the (lack of?)turnout!

When the results come in, consider that Bloomberg ran the MOST EXPENSIVE CAMPAIGN in ALL OF HISTORY!!

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### Mayoral Campaign Assessment Due

November 2, 2009



Due Monday, November 2nd; counts as a test grade.

\*\*\*\*YOU MAY EMAIL BY 2PM TUESDAY, 11/3 IF NECESSARY--WILL NOT COUNT AS LATE; PLEASE BRING IN A HARD COPY AS WELL.\*\*\*\*\*

Who will be our next Mayor? Using the candidates' websites (see past), the New York Times and any other scholarly news outlet, you will write a two-to-three page typed paper answering that question.

Your paper should address the following in addition to answering the question:

- both candidates' backgrounds
- where they stand on a few key issues

The answer to the question should be YOUR answer and YOUR analysis. You must fully explain why you have arrived at your decision, using specific, concrete examples.

(You may also wish to include a paragraph explaining which candidate you feel SHOULD be mayor, if different from who you think WILL be mayor. Don't forget there are SEVEN candidates in total running.....see [2009 NYC Voter Guide](#) for more info.)

This paper must have appropriate citations where necessary. (See dianahacker.com if you are uncertain!)

Counts as a test grade.

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### BOO!!

October 31, 2009



How does this cartoon show Democratic ideology? Would this ideology apply to a Blue Dog Democrat?

SCARY STUFF ;)

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### Half Day/ Conferences

October 30, 2009



We will not meet today, wah.

---

### Second Mayoral Debate

October 29, 2009



We will watch in class together--info may be used for your campaign assignment!

**Special Powers of the House and Senate (2.3)** (homework)



**Due Date:** October 28, 2009

Using Sections 2 and 3 of Article I, complete the Venn Diagram on today's handout to the best of your ability.

---

**Organization and Powers of Congress (HW 2.2)** (homework)



**Due Date:** October 27, 2009

A) Read pages 174-176, take notes (in your notebooks) that answer:

1. What are the requirements for election to Congress?
2. Why do we have 2 houses of Congress?
3. What is the term of Congress?

B) Read pgs 179-181 ("How does Congress organize itself?") and EXPLAIN each job that you identified from the article you read in class, "[Pelosi Intensifies Pressure for Public Health Plan](#)".

---

**Mayoral race: ideologies**



October 23, 2009

Please check out [Bloomberg's website](#) and [Thompson's website](#).

Be prepared to discuss which site you liked better.

ONLY IF YOU CAN, please copy down or print out and bring in info from the "VISION" section from Bloomy's site, as well as info from the "ISSUES" section from Thompson's site.

PS--the 2-party timeline link is fixed ;)

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**How is America impacted by the TWO-PARTY SYSTEM?**



October 21, 2009

[Ideological Origins of Party Formation](#) (please read by the end of the week--take notes!)

[timeline of the two-party system](#)

if you can, please print out and bring in the pdf below (do not fill out)

**Downloads**



[Document 1](#) (1.18 MB)

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**Who should be Mayor?**



October 19, 2009

Today we will watch the first mayoral debate and you will begin to get an understanding of what the important issues of the election are, and where the candidates stand on each one.

ONLY if you have legal size paper AND you see this on time, please print out and bring in the debate worksheet below. I WILL HAVE COPIES IN CLASS.

**Downloads**



[mayoraldebatesheet](#) (56.32 KB)

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**Federalism and Hurricane Katrina**



October 15, 2009

We will watch news clips explaining what transpired.

Ideally, you will NOT have left the article (see 10/16) for tomorrow.... ;)

[Hurricane Katrina timeline](#)

[MORE DETAILED TIMELINE](#)

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**Senior Class Photo/PSAT Day**



October 14, 2009

Photo in Central Park--meet at school at 9am, return by 11:30 for periods 3-7.

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**How does FEDERALISM run our government?** (homework)



**Due Date:** October 14, 2009

Please familiarize yourself with delegated, reserved and concurrent powers (consult venn diagram on your Constitution "cheat sheet" or p 413 of textbook...ok, fine, or this review of federalism link!) [PLEASE NOTE THAT THE VENN DIAGRAM OF THE LINK IS

NOT AS COMPLETE AS YOUR HANDOUT OR CHART IN TEXTBOOK.]

- HOMEWORK: 1. Which powers do you feel are appropriately assigned? Why? (EXPLAIN)  
2. Which powers do you feel may need to be reassigned? Why? (EXPLAIN)  
3. What two American principles are achieved through federalism?

BONUS: Can you find where these powers are explained in the Constitution? Include Article, Section, and Clause(s)

You can do this HW in your notebooks, but I WILL be checking it!

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#### Discipline Code Day!!

October 13, 2009



How can the Discipline Code teach us about FEDERALISM?  
Believe it or not, it can.


\*\*You are responsible for completing any handouts from last week....some classes need to finish the "basic principles" worksheet (see download), other need to finish the Articles IV-VII scavenger hunt.\*\*

Also, please have the following in class:

1. Our course syllabus (you should already have this as page one of your notes)
2. Social Studies Department Expectations

Both of these documents can be found at the bottom of the page under "Class Downloads".

#### Downloads

 [Basic Principles of Constitution worksheet](#) (34.3 KB)

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#### ENJOY THE DAY OFF :) )

October 12, 2009



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#### How is political ideology determined? (homework)

**Due Date:** October 9, 2009



Please complete this "webquest" and be prepared to discuss your results!

\*\*BONUS: bring in a RECENT political cartoon that refers to political ideology (Democrats, Republicans, liberals, conservatives, etc).\*\*

THIS HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT IS WORTH 10 POINTS.

#### Downloads

 [political ideology](#) (30.72 KB)

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#### What are the basic principles of the United States Constitution? (homework)

**Due Date:** October 7, 2009



Please download, print out, and bring in the US Constitution, as found on the bottom of this page under "Class Downloads".

If you already have your own copy of the Constitution, bring that!

BONUS POINTS to anyone who can get a Constitution booklet from your City Council Rep!! (You have til next week ;)

---

#### TEST TODAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! (wah)

October 6, 2009



\*\*\*\*\*NOTE CHANGE OF DATE\*\*\*\*\*

It's about that time!! Your first test will cover:

- current events (Obama's speech to parents, Obama's healthcare plan/speech to Congress, primary election basics)
- different forms of government (not economic systems)
- roots of American democracy (chapter 2)

see above article for more details.

and don't forget a pencil!

How did the "Bundle of Compromises" fix the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation?



October 2, 2009

[A BRIEF AND HELPFUL REVIEW OF "ROOTS OF DEMOCRACY" THUS FAR!!](#)

Just as some of you felt that certain parts of the Articles were strengths while the textbook viewed them as weaknesses (or vice versa), these differing opinions were echoed by the delegates of the various states at the Constitutional Convention. And what do Americans love to do when they can't reach an agreement? [COMPROMISE!](#)

"Bundle of Compromises" = the Constitution

---

**What were the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation?**

(homework)



**Due Date:** October 1, 2009

Please read pages 47-49 in your text and compare what the text says to what YOU felt were strengths/weaknesses. Please make sure your chart is completed (based on the text) in your notebooks!

[Full text of Articles here](#)

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**CURRENT EVENTS DAY!!!!!!**

September 25, 2009



come prepared with issues and or questions! Bring in a political cartoon on a current issue or find and bring an article on the Obama/ Patterson issue.

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**BRING IN TEXT BARCODE NUMBER** (homework)

**Due Date:** September 25, 2009



Please make sure you have this today....if you do, you'll be rewarded!!

Thanks :)

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**\*\*\*What are the roots of American democracy?? (part 1)**

September 23, 2009



define: "covenant and combine"

"civil body politic"

understand: the significance of the Mayflower Compact!!

(link to follow.....)

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**Updated HW #5** (homework)

**Due Date:** September 21, 2009




\*\*\*\*obviously not due 9/21! Complete for 9/23\*\*\*\*

What does it mean to be an American citizen?

here is the complete speech (minus the intro)

APOLOGIES!!

**Downloads**

 [Document\\_1](#) (57.86 KB)

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**What does it mean to be an American citizen?**



September 21, 2009

In class, you began to develop your opinion based on your own thoughts and the ideas presented in Rep. Hamilton's speech.

If you were absent, please get the 5 questions we answered.

Here's the link the to [Hamilton's whole speech.](#)

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**HW #4: Who is your city council representative?** (homework)



**Due Date:** September 18, 2009

Your challenge is to find out the following:

1. who is your [city council rep?](#)
2. what city council district do you live in?
3. was there a primary election for your district this past Tuesday?



see Sept 11 for details [click SEE PAST]

TODAY IS PRIMARY DAY!

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**Why does President Obama want to reform healthcare?**



September 14, 2009

If you were not in class on Friday, you should have watched (or read) the speech and have notes prepared on:

1. what Obama perceives to be the PROBLEMS of our healthcare system
2. the details of the President's PLAN
3. controversies and concerns about the plan
- (4. suggested ideas for PAYMENT of the plan)--details are not necessary for this one

here's [both the transcript and speech](#)

Be prepared to discuss!

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**What issues define the healthcare debate?**



September 11, 2009

Today in class we will watch President Obama's address to Congress (if you saw it already, you will have greater comprehension).

Here are [some healthcare terms](#) that may be useful to you.

Here's a link to [both the transcript and speech](#).

For Tuesday, you will conduct research on this debate by interviewing 3 people between different ages: 18-39, 40-60, over 60

Ask each person:

1. Are you in favor of healthcare reform?
  2. To what extent do you think the government should be responsible?
  3. Do you know about Obama's plan, if so--do you agree or disagree with it?
- please note that these questions may be personal for your interviewees--

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**HW #1: Why did Obama's welcome back speech stir such controversy? (homework)**



Due Date: September 10, 2009

Think of the cartoon viewed in class, and then (please follow the order):

1. [Read this article](#) and answer: Why did some parents oppose Obama's speech? Do you agree or disagree with their concerns? Be sure to explain why or why not.
2. Watch the [address to students](#) or [read the transcript](#) and answer: Do you think the parents were justified in opposing Obama's speech? Explain why or why not.





[See Cartoons by Cartoon by John Cole](#) - [Courtesy of Politicalcartoons.com](#) - [Email this Cartoon](#)

BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS IN CLASS!

## Class Downloads

pighonors.doc

 [course syllabus PH09](#) (58.37 KB)

Course goals, expectations, grading policy, topics of study. Please print out and keep in your notebook. Consult it often!

jjahDepartment Expectations.doc

 [Social Studies Department Expectations](#) (68.1 KB)

Please familiarize yourself with and adhere to these expectations.

The United States Constitution.doc

 [the US Constitution](#) (68.1 KB)

please have your own copy in class--this is 6 pages long

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