



## The College Board Advanced Placement Program\*

**What Citizens Need to Know About Government**  
addresses the College Board Advanced Placement Program for the United States  
Government and Politics and Comparative Government and Politics components of  
the Government and Politics Course Description.



This document refers to the summary outline of the Advanced Placement Government  
and Politics Course Description

([http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/repository/ap03\\_cd\\_govpol\\_0405f\\_4321.pdf](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/repository/ap03_cd_govpol_0405f_4321.pdf))

The roman numerals and letters correlate to the same sections of the summary outline.

### AP\* United States Government and Politics

#### Content Area

#### I. A-D.

- *Chapter 1 describes the theories of democratic government that influenced the founders while formulating the U.S. Constitution and U.S. political system. Links are included to biographies of influential political philosophers, such as John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau, and the complete texts of their most important works. Links are also provided to the complete texts of historical documents that had an influence on the nation's founders, like the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights.*
- *Chapter 2 discusses federalism and the separation of powers. Key concepts and terms, such as checks and balances, elastic clause and reserved powers, are defined. Considerations that influenced the formulation and adoption of the U.S. Constitution are also presented and links are provided to historic documents like the Federalist Papers and the response by anti-Federalists like Richard Henry Lee.*
- *Chapter 3 examines the structure of the U.S. Constitution. The way the Constitution is interpreted and amended is explained. The different interpretations of loose and strict constructionists are identified. The way the Constitution defines civil liberties is discussed and the impact of war on civil liberties is explored. Civil liberty issues raised during the War on Terrorism are cited as examples. Links are included to the complete text of the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Independence and the Alien and Sedition Acts, as well as the complete text of important Supreme Court cases dealing with civil liberties, such as Miranda v. Arizona, Schenck v. United States and Korematsu v. United States.*

## II. A-B.

- *Chapter 1 identifies different forms of government—Command, Custom and Consent—and explains how citizens react differently to each one. Examples of each type of government are provided and related articles and Web sites are included for further information. Key concepts and terms like representative democracy, coup d'etat and revolution, are defined.*
- *Chapter 14 explores the role of citizens in the U.S. democratic system. Responsibilities of citizens are highlighted, including the responsibility of being educated about the political system and the issues confronting the society. The naturalization process for immigrants is discussed and a Web link is included to the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services for more information on the naturalization process. Links are also included to other government agencies that monitor and provide assistance to immigrants in the United States.*

## II. C.

- *Chapter 13 examines the nature, sources and consequences of public opinion. The impact of the media, polls and lobbyists on public opinion is explored. Key concepts and terms, like political action committees and propaganda, are defined. Related articles and Web sites identify current public opinion on political topics and examinations of how the media, polls and lobbyists are attempting to sway public opinion.*

## II. D-E.

- *Chapter 14 describes responsibilities of citizens and explains how citizens participate in political life. Web links are included to volunteer organizations that advocate community service, such as AmeriCorps and USA Freedom Corps.*
- *Chapter 15 explores the way in which citizens vote in the United States. Trends in voting are highlighted and the future of electronic voting is addressed. The voting process is described and terms like referendum and primary are defined. Related articles and Websites discuss issues associated with the current election cycle.*
- *Chapter 16 explains how citizens participate in political life through memberships in political parties. The structure of political parties is identified and the role of individual citizens in the campaign process is explored. Key concepts and terms, such as caucuses and platform, are defined. Web links are included to the major political parties in the United States, such as the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, the Reform Party and the Green Party. Related articles and Web sites highlight varying political opinions on current topics.*

### III. A.

- *Chapter 15 explores the election process and discusses electoral laws and systems. Requirements for voters are identified and concepts like the Electoral College are explained. Voting trends are identified and key terms, such as referendum and recall, are defined. The future of electronic voting and the impact of the disputed 2000 presidential election are highlighted. Related articles and Web sites discuss issues associated with the current election cycle.*
- *Chapter 16 discusses the role of political parties in the U.S. political system. The development of the major political parties—Democratic Party and Republican Party—is described and the functions, organization and effect on the political process of political parties are addressed. Key concepts and terms, like factionalism and patronage, are defined. Web links to the major U.S. political parties are included and related articles and Web sites identify the different viewpoints of the various political parties on current issues in the United States.*

### III. B-C.

- *Chapter 13 examines the influence of interest groups and the mass media on U.S. politics. Activities of interest groups and the effects of interest groups on the political process are explored. The range of interests represented and the characteristics and roles of political action committees are discussed. The functions and structure of the media and its impact on politics are highlighted. Key concepts and terms like lobbies and special interest groups are defined. Related articles and Web sites identify current examples of the impact of the media and interest groups on the political process.*

### IV. A-B.

- *Chapter 2 explores the formal and informal institutional arrangements of power and discusses the relationships among the major governmental institutions. Key concepts and terms like checks and balances and separation of power are defined. Web links are available to the different branches of the U.S. government—legislative, executive and judicial.*
- *Chapter 3 explains how the U.S. Constitution formalizes the institutional arrangement of power and influences the relationship among the different branches of government. Key concepts and terms, such as loose constructionist and strict constructionist, are defined. A link is included to the complete text of the U.S. Constitution for primary information on the formal relationship of the different branches of government.*
- *Chapter 4 describes the role of the President of the United States as the head of the executive branch of government. The powers and limitations of the presidency are identified and key terms like impeachment and veto are defined. Biographies of all U.S. presidents are available and a link is included to the White House Web site for current information on the functions of the president.*

- *Chapter 5 identifies the role of the president's cabinet in advising the president and carrying out the functions of the executive branch. Web links are provided to all cabinet departments, including the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice, for current information on the functions of those departments. Related articles and Web sites also highlight current issues being addressed by the various cabinet departments.*
- *Chapter 6 discusses the role and functions of the legislative branch of government and explores the relationship between this branch and other branches of the government. Web links are included to the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate as well as links to the various Congressional committees. Related articles and Web sites identify current issues being addressed by the U.S. Congress.*
- *Chapter 7 explores the role and functions of the judicial branch of government. The relationship between the judicial branch and the other branches of the federal government are explored and the judicial process is explained. Key concepts and terms like due process and precedent are defined. Web links are included to the U.S. Supreme Court and other federal courts. Important Supreme Court decisions are highlighted and links are included to the complete texts of such cases as Marbury v. Madison and Bush v. Gore. Related articles and Web sites discuss current issues on the docket of the Supreme Court and explore judicial decisions of appeals courts and the U.S. Supreme Court.*
- *Chapter 8 explains the role of the government bureaucracy and describes its relationship to the three main branches of the U.S. government. The structure of the bureaucracy is explained and key concepts like civil service and red tape are defined. The restructuring of the bureaucracy that took place in 2003 because of the formation of the Department of Homeland Security is explored. Related articles and Web sites examine issues associated with the bureaucracy and the management of the bureaucracy.*

#### IV. C.

- *Chapter 2 explains how the federal system of government defines the relationship between the federal and state governments. Key concepts and terms like delegated powers and reserved powers are defined. Related articles and Web sites identify current issues of contention between various states and the federal government.*
- *Chapter 10 discusses the relationships between the state governments and federal institutions. The functions and organization of state governments are explored and key terms, such as block grants and concurrent powers, are defined. Links are included to all state government Web sites for more information. Related articles and Web sites also identify issues being addressed by state governments and discuss issues of contention between the federal and state governments.*

- *Chapter 11 explores the relationship between the federal government, state governments and local governments. Different organizational structures of local governments are identified and the responsibilities of local governments are highlighted. Links are included to all local government Web pages available on the Internet. Related articles and Web sites identify issues affecting local governments nationwide, such as budgetary and homeland defense issues.*
- *Chapter 13 examines the linkages between government institutions and public opinion, interest groups and the media. The accuracy of public opinion polls is debated and the growing influence of the media is discussed. The role of interest groups is explored and campaign finance legislation to limit the power of interest groups is highlighted. The way the media, opinion polls and interest groups attempt to sway voters is explained. Related articles and Web sites are included for further research and current examples of the linkages between government institutions and interest groups and the media are provided.*
- *Chapter 16 describes the linkages between government institutions and political parties. Key concepts and terms, such as spoils system and incumbent, are defined. Web links are included to major U.S. political parties, like the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, the Reform Party and the Green Party.*

#### V. A-B.

- *Chapter 4 explores the role of the presidency in setting public policy. The use of the state of the union address to set the public policy agenda is discussed and a link is included to the most current state of the union address and other related articles highlight important speeches of the president that are used to promote the public policy agenda. A Link is also included to the White House Web site to ensure the most current information is available on the president's public policy agenda.*
- *Chapter 5 explains how it is the duty of the president's cabinet to help formulate and implement the public policy agenda. Web links are included to all cabinet departments, such as the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of the Interior, for current information on the functions of the various cabinet departments.*
- *Chapter 6 discusses the Congress' role in the formation of policy agendas. The different Congressional committees that address various policy agendas are identified and Web links are included to both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. Web links are also provided to the various Congressional committees and related articles and Web sites highlight current policy issues being debated in Congress.*
- *Chapter 16 describes the influence of political parties in formulating public policy. The creation of a party platform and the use of political conventions to outline public policy agendas are explained. Web links are included to the major U.S. political parties, including the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, the Green Party and the Reform Party.*

#### V. C-D.

- *Chapter 6 explores the role of Congress in formulating and enacting public policy through legislation. Web links are included to both branches of Congress and all Congressional committees for current information on the public policy agenda of Congress. Related articles also identify issues being addressed by Congress in the current session.*
- *Chapter 7 discusses the role of the courts in implementing and interpreting public policy directives from Congress and the executive branch. Key concepts and terms like judicial review and precedence are defined. Links are provided to the Web sites of the U.S. Supreme Court and many federal courts. Links are also included to the complete text of important Supreme Court decisions, including *Brown v. Board of Education* and *Gideon v. Wainright*. Related articles and Web sites also identify current public policy issues being debated in the federal court system.*
- *Chapter 8 describes the role of the bureaucracy in the implementation and interpretation of public policy. The role of the executive branch in overseeing government bureaucracy is explained and Web links are included to many cabinet departments involved in the bureaucracy. Web links are also provided to independent government agencies that are included in the bureaucracy, such as the Social Security Administration and the U.S. Postal Service.*

#### V. E.

- *Chapter 2 explores the linkage between public policy and political institutions and federalism. Key concepts and terms like checks and balances, and implied powers are defined. Related articles and Web sites identify current public policy issues that conflict between the state and federal levels of government. Oregon's assisted suicide law and various medical marijuana initiatives around the country are cited as examples.*
- *Chapter 13 explains how interest groups attempt to sway public opinion and influence public policy. The role of the media in expressing and influencing public opinion is also discussed. Key concepts and terms like political action committees and special interest groups are defined. Related articles and Web sites explore the influence of interest groups in the creation of a public policy agenda. The influence that money has on the system is also explored and important campaign finance legislation is highlighted.*
- *Chapter 15 describes how elections are used to determine the public policy agenda, through referendums and the election of candidates that support specific public policy actions. Related articles and Web sites identify current public policy issues being addressed through elections.*

- *Chapter 16 discusses the linkage between public policy processes and political parties. The ways public policy agendas of political parties are set and promoted through platforms and conventions are examined. Related articles and Web sites identify the positions of the major political parties on public policy issues. Links are also included to the Web sites of the Democratic, Republican, Reform and Green parties for more information on their public policy positions.*

## VI. A-C.

- *Chapter 3 explains how the Constitution defines civil liberties and describes how differing interpretations of the Constitution impact civil liberties. The impacts of wars and civil unrest on civil liberties are explored and the War on Terrorism is cited as an example. Related articles and Web sites identify current civil liberty issues being debated in the courts and in the realm of public opinion.*
- *Chapter 7 explains how judicial interpretation has impacted the development of civil liberties and civil rights. Key concepts and terms like due process and precedent are defined. Important Supreme Court cases related to civil liberties and civil rights are identified and links are included to the complete texts of these influential Supreme Court decisions, such as *Miranda v. Arizona* and *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*.*
- *Chapter 9 presents an overview of the civil rights movement in the United States. The impact of the Fourteenth Amendment is discussed and a link is included to the complete text of that amendment and other important legislation. Leaders of the civil rights movement like *Martin Luther King, Jr.* and *Rosa Parks* are identified and related articles and Web sites provide biographies of these and other civil rights activists. Important Supreme Court decisions pertaining to the civil rights movement and civil liberties are identified and links are available to the complete texts of the majority, concurring and dissenting Supreme Court opinions on these cases, such as the *Dred Scott* decision and *Gitlow v. New York*. Related articles and Web sites also identify current civil rights issues that are still a concern to minorities in the United States.*

## AP\* Comparative Government and Politics

### Content Area

## I. A-C.

- *Chapter 1 explores the nature and sources of government's legitimacy and traces the historical evolution of national political traditions. Different types of government are identified—command, custom and consent—and examples are cited. Important political philosophers, such as John Locke and Rene Descartes, are highlighted and links are included to their biographies and the complete texts of their most influential works. Links are also included to important historical documents like the Code of Hammurabi, the Magna Carta and the English Bill of Rights.*
- *Chapter 16 explains how political values are transmitted through the political party process. The way individuals volunteer in the political party process through campaigning and working to create a party platform is discussed. Web links are included to major U.S. political parties, such as the Republican Party, the Democratic Party, the Reform Party and the Green Party.*

## II. A-D.

- *Chapter 9 explores social cleavages based on race and ethnicity. The translation of social cleavage into political conflict is examined and the U.S. civil rights movement is cited as an example. The political consequences of such cleavages and the permeability of social boundaries are discussed. The political movement toward equality in the United States is traced and important figures like Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rosa Parks are highlighted. Links are included to their biographies and the complete texts of their most influential writings. Links are also included to the complete texts of important U.S. Supreme Court decisions on civil rights, such as the Dred Scott decision and Brown v. Board of Education. Related articles and Web sites also highlight current incidences of social cleavage in the United States.*

## II E.

- *Chapter 16 explores the institutional expression of social cleavages through the political party system. The different ideologies of the U.S. political parties are identified and Web links are included to the major U.S. political parties, such as the Republican Party and the Democratic Party. Related articles and Web sites identify the varying viewpoints of the different U.S. political parties.*

## III. A-D.

- *Chapter 1 identifies different forms of government—Command, Custom and Consent—and explains how citizens react differently to each one. Examples of each type of government are provided and related articles and Web sites are included for further information. Key concepts and terms like representative democracy, coup d'etat and revolution, are defined.*

- *Chapter 14 explores the role of citizens in the U.S. democratic system. Responsibilities of citizens are highlighted, including the responsibility of being educated about the political system and the issues confronting the society. The naturalization process for immigrants is discussed and a Web link is included to the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services for more information on the naturalization process. Links are also included to other governmental agencies that monitor and provide assistance to immigrants in the United States. This chapter also explains how citizens participate in political life. Web links are included to volunteer organizations that advocate community service, such as AmeriCorps and USA Freedom Corps.*
- *Chapter 15 explores the way in which citizens vote in the United States. Trends in voting are explored and the future of electronic voting is addressed. The voting process is described and terms like referendum and primary are defined. Related articles and Web sites discuss issues associated with the current election cycle.*
- *Chapter 16 explains how citizens participate in political life through membership in political parties. The structure of political parties is identified and the role of individual citizens in the campaign process is explored. Key concepts and terms, such as caucuses and platform, are defined. Web links are included to the major political parties in the United States, such as the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, the Reform Party and the Green Party. Related articles and Web sites highlight varying political opinions on current topics.*

#### IV. A.

- *Chapter 1 identifies different types of political regimes and describes their political framework. Examples of democratic and communist governments are cited and links are included to biographies of dictators like Adolph Hitler and Joseph Stalin and links are also provided to democratic government Web sites like the British Parliament for comparative study.*
- *Chapter 24 explores the relationship between government and the economy. The impact of government legislation on business is discussed and links are included to the complete text of important government legislation, such as the Clayton Antitrust Act and the Sherman Antitrust Act. Key concepts and terms like monopoly and laissez-faire are defined. The relationship between economic development and international organizations is highlighted and links are available to international organizations, such as the North American Free Trade Agreement.*
- *Chapter 28 examines the influence of international institutions on the U.S. economy and political process. Web links are included to international organizations that the U.S. participates in, such as the World Trade Organization and the Group of Eight.*

#### IV. B.

- *Part II of the book explores the scope of government activity and identifies problems associated with government and politics. Chapters highlight different aspects of government activity, such as environmental and economic concerns, national defense and foreign policy. Related articles and Web sites linked to the individual chapters identify current issues being addressed by the U.S. government in those respective topics.*

#### IV. C.

- *Chapter 1 highlights the various institutions of national governments in different political systems. The relationships between the British monarch, Prime Minister and Parliament are compared to the authoritarian rules of dictators and tribal governments of Native Americans. Links are included to the Web sites of the British Parliament and monarchy and Web sites of many Native American tribal governments for comparative purposes.*
- *Chapter 2 explores the formal and informal institutional arrangements of power and discusses the relationships among the major government institutions. Key concepts and terms like checks and balances and separation of power are defined. Web links are available to the different branches of the U.S. government—legislative, executive and judicial.*
- *Chapter 3 explains how the U.S. Constitution formalizes the institutional arrangement of power and influences the relationship among the different branches of government. Key concepts and terms, such as loose constructionist and strict constructionist, are defined. A link is included to the complete text of the U.S. Constitution for primary information on the formal relationship of the different branches of government.*
- *Chapter 4 describes the role of the President of the United States as the head of the executive branch of government. The powers and limitations of the presidency are identified and key terms like impeachment and veto are defined. Biographies of all U.S. presidents are available and a link is included to the White House Web site for current information on the functions of the president.*
- *Chapter 5 identifies the role of the president's cabinet in advising the president and carrying out the functions of the executive branch. Web links are available to all Cabinet departments, including the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Justice, for current information on the functions of those departments. Related articles and Web sites also highlight current issues being addressed by the various cabinet departments.*
- *Chapter 6 discusses the role and functions of the legislative branch of government and explores the relationship between this branch and other branches of the government. Web links are included to the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, as well as links to the various Congressional committees. Related articles and Web sites identify current issues being addressed by the U.S. Congress.*

- *Chapter 7 explores the role and functions of the judicial branch of government. The relationship between the judicial branch and the other branches of the federal government are explored and the judicial process is explained. Key concepts and terms like due process and precedent are defined. Web links are included to the U.S. Supreme Court and other federal courts. Important Supreme Court decisions are highlighted and links are included to the complete texts of such cases as Marbury v. Madison and Bush v. Gore. Related articles and Web sites discuss current issues on the docket of the Supreme Court and explore judicial decisions of appeals courts and the U.S. Supreme Court.*
- *Chapter 8 discusses the role of the government bureaucracy and describes its relationship to the three main branches of the U.S. government. The structure of the bureaucracy is explained and key concepts like civil service and red tape are defined. The restructuring of the bureaucracy that took place in 2003 because of the formation of the Department of Homeland Security is explored. Related articles and Web sites examine issues associated with the bureaucracy and the management of the bureaucracy.*
- *Chapter 10 highlights the relationship between the state government and federal institutions. The functions and organization of state governments are explored and key terms, such as block grants and concurrent powers, are defined. Links are included to all state government Web sites. Related articles also identify issues being addressed by state governments and discuss issues of contention between the federal and state governments.*
- *Chapter 11 explores the relationship between the federal government, state governments and local governments. Different organizational structures of local governments are identified and the responsibilities of local governments are highlighted. Links are included to all local government Web pages available on the Internet. Related articles and Web sites identify issues affecting local governments nationwide, such as budgetary and homeland defense issues.*

#### IV. D.

- *Chapter 13 examines the influence of interest groups and the mass media on U.S. politics. Activities of interest groups and the effects of interest groups on the political process are explored. The range of interests represented and the characteristics and roles of political action committees are discussed. Key concepts and terms like lobbies and special interest groups are defined. Related articles and Web sites identify current examples of the impact of interest groups on the political process.*
- *Chapter 16 discusses the role of political parties in the U.S. political system. The development of the major political parties—Democratic Party and Republican Party—is described and the functions, organization and effect on the political process are addressed. Key concepts and terms, like factionalism and patronage, are defined. Web links are included to the major U.S. political parties and related articles and Web sites identify the different viewpoints of the various political parties on major issues in the United States.*

#### IV. E.

- *Chapter 28 discusses the relationships between institutions of national government and supranational organizations. Political and economic issues are explored and the relationship to domestic politics and laws are identified. Web links are included to supranational organizations that the U.S. has relations with, such as the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Related articles identify current foreign policy issues being addressed by the U.S. and supranational organizations.*

#### IV. F.

- *Chapter 1 describes how the political elite function in various forms of political systems. Key concepts and terms like dictatorship, absolute monarchy and oligarchy are defined. Examples of each are cited and related articles and Web sites include biographies of dictators and a link to the Web page of the British monarchy for comparative purposes.*
- *Chapter 4 explains how the President of the United States is the political leader of the country. The role of the presidency is discussed and the powers and limits of power of the office are identified. Key concepts and terms like impeachment and veto are defined. The succession of the presidency in the event that the office becomes vacant is discussed and the role of the vice-president is described. Links are included to biographies of all U.S. presidents and a Web link is available to the White House for more information.*
- *Chapter 16 discusses the role of political parties in the U.S. political system. The leadership of the parties and recruitment strategies are discussed. The way political parties create strata of political elites in the society is explored. Web links are included to major U.S. political parties for more information on their structure and role in the political society.*

#### V. A-B.

- *Chapter 1 examines how political change occurs in different types of political systems. Key concepts and terms like revolution and coup d'etat are defined. The nature of political change and different forms of regime legitimacy are identified. The diffusion of new ideologies and the changing scope of governmental activity are also explored. Links are available to biographies of important political philosophers, such as Thomas Hobbes and Voltaire, and the complete texts of their most influential works.*
- *Chapter 3 explains how the U.S. Constitution dictates the formula for political change in the United States. The way regimes are changed through elections is discussed. The way amendments to the Constitution are used to change the scope of governmental activity is explored. A link is included to the complete text of the U.S. Constitution and all its amendments for more information on the structure of the U.S. government.*

- *Chapter 9 describes how political change occurs in the United States through political activism. The U.S. civil rights movement is cited as an example. Links are included to the biographies of influential political activists like Susan B. Anthony and Martin Luther King, Jr.*
- *Chapter 15 discusses the way political change occurs through the election process. Key concepts and terms like referendum and recall are defined. The future of elections is explored and related articles and Web sites identify current examples of political change through elections.*

#### V. C.

- *Chapter 1 explains how national identity is formed in different types of political systems. Key concepts and terms, such as sovereignty and republic, are defined. Related articles and Web sites explore U.S. nationalism.*
- *Chapter 16 discusses the role of political parties in the U.S. political system. The role of political parties to foster nationalism is explored and related articles and Web sites are included for further information.*
- *Chapter 28 discusses the relationship of government to supranational organizations. Related articles and Web sites highlight the debate over nationalism, sovereignty and the role of the U.S. government in supranational organizations. Web links are included to many supranational organizations that the U.S. is a member of, such as the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.*

#### V. D.

- *Chapter 3 explains how domestic and international events cause political change and differing interpretations of the U.S. Constitution. Key concepts and terms like strict constructionists and loose constructionists are defined. The way civil liberties are changed during wartime is cited as an example and related articles and Web sites are included for further research.*
- *Chapter 9 explores the consequences of political change in the context of the U.S. civil rights movement. Links are included to important U.S. Supreme Court decisions like the Dred Scott decision and Brown v. Board of Education, that were the result of political change. Related articles and Web sites identify current consequences of political change in perspectives on civil rights.*
- *Chapter 14 discusses the changing nature of citizen participation and the acquisition and/or loss of citizen rights. Rights and responsibilities of citizens are identified. The loss of citizen rights for Japanese-Americans during World War II is examined and current incidents of the changing nature of citizen rights are explored. Related articles and Web sites are available for further research.*
- *Related articles and Web sites linked to every chapter identify instances of political change and explore the consequences within the context of the topics covered in the respective chapters.*

VI. A-C.

- *Chapter 1 provides the resources necessary for exploring comparative politics. Different political systems are classified and examples are cited. Important political philosophers are highlighted and links are included to their biographies and the complete texts of their most influential works. Links are available to official government Web sites with different forms of government structures, such as the British Parliament, Native American tribal governments, and the U.S. government, for comparative purposes.*

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