Congratulations! You’ve made it through your AP U.S. Government course and are now ready to prepare for the AP Exam. These tips and strategies should help you in the final days or weeks before taking the exam. Remember that preparing for the Exam is a bit like training for a marathon—you won’t do as well if you wait and cram a lot of training into the day before the Exam. Working at a reasonable pace from now until test day will pay off in the end.

The Format of the Exam: Let’s begin by looking at a breakdown of how the AP US Government Exam is structured:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Time allowed</th>
<th>Percentage of grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55 multiple choice</td>
<td>1 hour &amp; 20 minutes</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 free response</td>
<td>1 hour &amp; 40 minutes</td>
<td>50%</td>
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</table>

The questions on the test will cover topics from the whole course. However, in the multiple-choice section, you’ll find that certain subjects come up more often:

**Subject**                                                                  **Percentage of the Test**
Government Institutions (Congress, presidency, courts, bureaucracy)          
Political Behavior of Individuals (political culture, public opinion, voting)  
Political Behavior of Groups (political parties, elections, interest groups, PACs, and mass media)  
Constitutional Foundations (federalism, checks & balances, separation of powers, theories of democracy)  
Civil Liberties and Civil Rights  

There are 15 Required Supreme Court Cases:
Marbury v. Madison                                                        NY Times Co. v. US
McCulloch v. Maryland                                                     Wisconsin v. Yoder
Schenck v. US                                                            Roe v. Wade
Baker v. Carr                                                            US. v. Lopez
Engel v. Vitale                                                          McDonald v. Chicago
Gideon v. Wainright                                                      Citizens United v. FEC
Tinker v. DesMoines  

Required Documents:
The Declaration of Independence
The Articles of Confederation
The Constitution of the United States
Federalist #10
Brutus #1
Federalist #51
Federalist #70
Federalist # 78
Letter from a Birmingham Jail
### Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

Through the U.S. Constitution, but primarily through the Bill of Rights and the Fourteenth Amendment, citizens and groups have attempted to restrict national and state governments from unduly infringing upon individual rights essential to ordered liberty and from denying equal protection under the law. Likewise, it has sometimes been argued that these legal protections have been used to block reforms and restrict freedoms of others in the name of social order.

Provisions of the U.S. Constitution’s Bill of Rights are continually being interpreted to balance the power of government against the civil liberties of individuals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explain how the U.S. Constitution protects individual liberties and rights.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The U.S. Constitution includes a Bill of Rights specifically designed to protect individual liberties and rights. <strong>Describe</strong> the rights protected in the Bill of Rights.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st Amendment</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd Amendment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>4th Amendment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5th Amendment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>6th Amendment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8th Amendment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9th Amendment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>10th Amendment</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court’s interpretation of the First and Second Amendments reflects a commitment to individual liberty.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The interpretation and application of the First Amendment’s establishment and free exercise clauses reflect an ongoing debate over balancing majoritarian religious practice and free exercise, as represented by such cases as:</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Engel v. Vitale</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wisconsin v. Yoder</strong></td>
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</table>
The Supreme Court has held that symbolic speech is protected by the First Amendment, demonstrated by Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District.

Efforts to balance social order and individual freedom are reflected in interpretations of the First Amendment that limit speech, including:

- Time, place, and manner regulations
- Miller Test
- Schenck v. US- Clear and Present Danger Test

In New York Times Co. v. United States (1971), the Supreme Court bolstered the freedom of the press, establishing a “heavy presumption against prior restraint” even in cases involving national security.

**prior restraint**

**Explain** how the Supreme Court has attempted to balance claims of individual freedom with laws and enforcement procedures that promote public order and safety.

- Mapp v. Ohio - **Exclusionary Rule**
- **4th Amendment** - *Protection against warrantless searches & collection of meta data*
- **Patriot Act**

**Freedom Acts:**

- **Gideon v. Wainright**

Court decisions defining cruel and unusual punishment involve interpretation of the Eighth Amendment and its application to state death penalty statutes.

- **Furman v. Georgia**
- **Atkins v. Virginia**
- **Roper v. Simmons**
Protections of the Bill of Rights have been selectively incorporated by way of the Fourteenth Amendment’s “due process” clause to prevent state infringement of basic liberties.

**Explain** the implications of the doctrine of selective incorporation.

The doctrine of selective incorporation has imposed limitations on state regulation of civil rights and liberties as represented by:

- **Barron v. Baltimore**
- **Gitlow v. NY**
- **McDonald v. Chicago**

**Explain** the extent to which states are limited by the due process clause from infringing upon individual rights.

- **5th Amendment**
- **6th Amendment**
- **Miranda Rule**

The Court has on occasion ruled in favor of states’ power to restrict individual liberty, as for example, which speech can be shown to increase the danger to public safety.

While a right to privacy is not explicitly named in the Constitution, the court has interpreted the due process clause to protect the right of privacy from infringement. The interpretation of the due process clause has been the subject of controversy:

- **Due Process**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Example:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Roe v. Wade</strong></td>
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</table>
The 14th Amendment’s “equal protection clause” as well as other constitutional provisions have often been used to support the advancement of equality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Explain how constitutional provisions have supported and motivated social movements.</th>
<th>Civil Rights Movement</th>
<th>Women’s Rights Movement</th>
<th>LGBT Rights Movement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Civil rights protect individuals from discrimination based on characteristics such as race, national origin, religion, and sex; these rights are guaranteed to all citizens under the due process and equal protection clauses of the U.S. Constitution, as well as acts of Congress.</td>
<td>Rational Basis</td>
<td>Intermediate Scrutiny</td>
<td>Strict Scrutiny</td>
</tr>
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Public policy promoting civil rights is influenced by citizen-state interactions and constitutional interpretation over time.

<table>
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<th>Explain how the government has responded to social movements.</th>
<th>Civil Rights Movement</th>
<th>Women’s Rights Movement</th>
<th>LGBT Rights Movement</th>
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<td>The government can respond to social movements through court rulings and/or policies.</td>
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</table>

**Brown v. Board of Education**

**The Civil Rights Act of 1964**
**Title IX of the Civil Rights Act Amendments (1972)**

**The Voting Rights Act of 1965**

**Explain** how the Court has at times allowed the restriction of the civil rights of minority groups and at other times has protected those rights.

(Consider state laws & Supreme Court holdings)

The debate on affirmative action includes justices who insist that the Constitution is colorblind and those who maintain that it forbids only racial classifications designed to harm minorities, not help them.

**Bakke v. California**