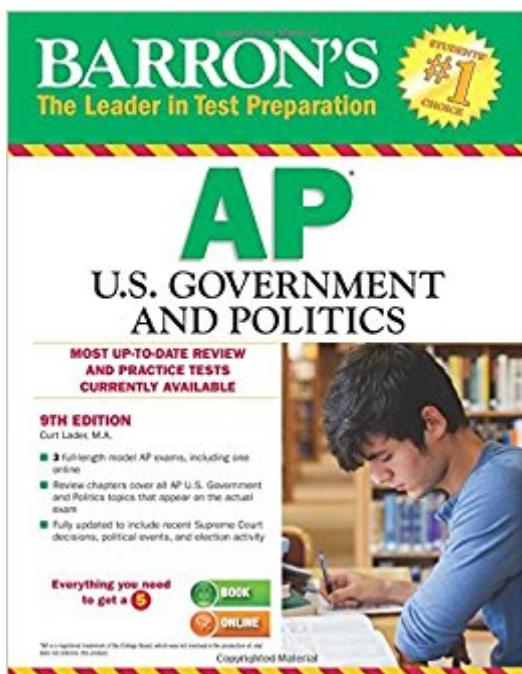


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# Barron's AP U.S. Government And Politics, 9th Edition (Barron's AP United States Government & Politics)



## **Synopsis**

In-depth preparation for the AP U.S. Government and Politics exam features: Two full-length model AP exams with answer keys and explanations An extensive subject review covering constitutional development, the branches of federal government, political parties, social welfare, foreign policy, and more Updated content includes recent Supreme Court decisions Newly revised free-response questions with rubrics The manual can be purchased alone or with an optional CD-ROM that presents two additional full-length practice tests with automatic scoring and fully explained answers.

## **Book Information**

Series: Barron's AP United States Government & Politics

Paperback: 392 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series; 9 edition (February 1, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1438007442

ISBN-13: 978-1438007441

Product Dimensions: 10.8 x 8.4 x 0.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 76 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #17,168 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Books > Teens > Education & Reference > Study Aids > Advanced Placement #58 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Civics & Citizenship #72 in Books > Textbooks > Social Sciences > Political Science > Government

## **Customer Reviews**

Table of Contents: Barron's Essential 5  
Preface  
Introduction  
Using the Book  
The Structure of the Test  
How the Test Is Scored  
Study Strategies  
Multiple-Choice Questions  
Free-Response Questions  
Data-Based Questions  
Part One: Constitutional Underpinnings  
The Theory of Modern Government  
Constitutional Foundations  
The Constitution  
Federalism  
Part Two: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties  
The Bill of Rights and Civil Liberties  
Civil Rights: Equal Protection Under the Law  
Part Three: The Institutions of Government  
The Congress  
The Presidency  
The Judiciary  
The Bureaucracy  
Part Four: Political Parties, Elections, Political Beliefs, The Media, And Special Interest Groups  
Political Parties and Political Action  
Nominations, Campaigns, and Elections  
Political Beliefs and the Media  
Special Interest Groups  
Lobbyists and PACs  
Part Five: Public Policy Issues  
The Economy, the Federal Budget, Social Welfare and

Curt was a former AP Government and Politics teacher at Northport High School, located in Suffolk County in New York. He is a frequent guest lecturer at law related conferences; and teaches Inside Politics at the CW Post Hutton House lecture series. Curt lives in Smithtown, NY and has Graduate degrees from Queens College and St. John's University.

In a nutshell, buy this prep book if your goal is a very detailed review of content. If you have actually read your spine text, mastered all its terms, and done well on course quizzes and midterms, then you could likely purchase a skinnier volume than Barron's and do fine. This is too much for a weekend of review, but IS well suited for use over several weeks, a semester, or a year. What Barron's does well -- better than REA and MyMaxScore -- is to provide a comprehensive but focused review. I like the short review questions at the end of each section. Each of these three prep books for US GOPO has fairly poor "model" or practice exams; it's hard to say which is worst on that score. For this reason, I don't advise spending more for the Barron's edition that contains more model exams. While I would purchase this book again, it's rather like the whole-wheat toast shown next to the sugar-laden cereal in those old TV advertisements. Useful, but most definitely not enough on its own. Remember "part of this healthy breakfast?" You'll want the fresh fruit and milk to really do the job. To score a "five" on this exam, do these six things. (1) Actually read (gasp!) your spine textbook and master all of its terms. I recommend creating your own notecards by hand, preferably paper. Make your brain and fingers do the work so you "own" those definitions and can then apply them. (Buying ready-made notecards or flipping through other people's work on a screen will not weave the neural connections you want. It's got to be YOU.) Set aside a few minutes each week to review notecards cumulatively. No review means you've merely marked up a pack of cards. If you need to skimp on any textbook area, make that historical detail. Some GOPO books begin with and dwell lovingly on colonial history, but you need to focus on constitutional underpinnings in that section: Articles of Confederation versus the Constitution, impact of Shays' Rebellion, the Federalist Papers, core political values, and contents of the Constitution. (2) Follow news on Congress, the presidency, and the Supreme Court; and pay attention to their interactions with each other. Note how each branch attempts to limit the others and how it interacts with the bureaucracy and linking institutions such as parties and media. (3) If possible, make good use of actual College Board released exams, available from your AP instructor, so you truly understand the types of

questions asked on the exam. The model exams in Barron's do have some value in your review, but like those in other prep books, are a poor reflection of the actual exam. (4) Practice writing answers to released essays with a pen, on lined paper, in the time limits given. If you write very little and have lots of time left over, you are likely not fulfilling the prompts. "Explain" means to tell HOW! (5) Memorize a core list of Supreme Court cases, because this will help you master several areas of the course -- not just the judiciary. Understand how cases relate to incorporation, different judicial philosophies, and linkage institutions. (6) Do use a review book like Barron's (or a competitor) for somewhat different coverage of what you know already; but be sure to read College Board's own "Course Description" document for the final word. Most prep books I've seen have some mistakes regarding the exam.

Extremely useful guide. My daughter will not use any others. It provides all the information needed to get ready for class and AP testing.

Used this for my CSET Social Science test, and it was a huge help. Can't speak to it for the AP test, but Barron's is a great company, so I'd assume it would be even better for that exam.

as expected

Standard study guide

My 10th grader is currently studying for the AP test to be held in two weeks. There are certain areas that he needs to focus on and this book allows him to target his studying. Each section has a summary of the topic and then review questions with explanations of the answers at the end of the chapter. He was immediately engaged by the book. The mock exams at the back of the book as well as the online tools make this a very valuable study tool. Well done.

It's a book

Fit our needs - thank you!

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