

Summer Assignment 2010  
United States Government & Politics  
Teacher: Mr. O'Neil

## I. Government and Politics Today

This assignment requires you to follow what's going on in the political world you live in. You will detail what you are reading or hearing about our government and our political leaders. Be sure to examine stories about the economy, the two are very much related.

The written part of this assignment will be to keep a news journal. You must have a minimum of three entries per week. Include in your entries the publication/news broadcast where you found the story and the date of the story with a brief description of the events covered. Try to follow one story and see how it unfolds. Read and observe newspapers, network news shows, the internet and anything else you can think of. There are many sources covering the political world.

The objective of this assignment is to become familiar with American politics and government, which will help you to understand the content of the text and the discussions in the class.

## II Government and Politics Historically

Read the following documents, based on them, you will write a 1/2 page summary typed double-spaced, in Times New Roman 12" font. The purpose of this part of the assignment will be to become familiar with the primary source documents we will use daily in class.

Primary Source Documents;

*The United States Constitution*  
*Articles of Confederation*  
*Federalist Papers 10 & 51*

These documents can be found at <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/>

## III. Review Political Web Pages

This assignment requires you to become familiar with the following websites that we will use through out the year. The objective for this portion of the assignment is to familiarize yourself with the tools used for the research you will conduct in class.

<http://avalon.law.yale.edu/>  
<http://www.loc.gov/index.html>  
<http://www.cnn.com/>

Your summaries and journal are due the first day of class of the fall '10 semester. Late work will not be accepted.