

A Comparison of the 12th Grade Standards for Government:
How do the AP Standards compare to the California State Standards?

(For more in depth descriptions of the standards, see attached California and College Board Standards)

United States Government & Politics Topic	Corresponding California State Standard	Corresponding AP Standard
The United States Constitution and Underlying Philosophies	<p>12.1 Students explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.</p> <p>12.2. Students evaluate and take and defend positions on the scope and limits of rights and obligations as democratic citizens, the relationships among them, and how they are secured.</p>	Standard I: Constitutional Underpinnings of US Government
The United States Governmental Institutions (Congress, The Presidency, Federal Courts & The Bureaucracy)	<p>12.4 Students analyze the unique roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government as established by the U.S. Constitution.</p> <p>12.5 Students summarize landmark U.S. Supreme Court interpretations of the Constitution and its amendments.</p>	Standard IV. Institutions of National Government

<p>Political Participation</p>	<p>12.3 Students evaluate and take and defend positions on what the fundamental values and principles of civil society are (i.e., the autonomous sphere of voluntary personal, social, and economic relations that are not part of government), their interdependence, and the meaning and importance of those values and principles for a free society.</p>	<p>Standard II. Political Beliefs and Behaviors</p>
<p>Political Campaigns and Elections</p>	<p>12.6 Students evaluate issues regarding campaigns for national, state, and local elective offices.</p>	<p>Standard III. Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media</p>
<p>State, Federal and Local Governments</p>	<p>12.7 Students analyze and compare the powers and procedures of the national, state, tribal, and local governments.</p> <p>12.10 Students formulate questions about and defend their analyses of tensions within our constitutional democracy and the importance of maintaining a balance between the following concepts: majority rule and individual rights; liberty and equality; state and national authority in a federal system; civil disobedience and the rule of law; freedom of the press and the right to a fair trial; the relationship of religion and government.</p>	<p>IV. Institutions of National Government</p>

Federal and Foreign Policy	12.9 Students analyze the origins, characteristics, and development of different political systems across time, with emphasis on the quest for political democracy, its advances, and its obstacles.	Standard V. Public Policy
Civil Rights Judicial Decisions and Policy	<p>12.5 Students summarize landmark U.S. Supreme Court interpretations of the Constitution and its amendments.</p> <p>12.10 Students formulate questions about and defend their analyses of tensions within our constitutional democracy and the importance of maintaining a balance between the following concepts: majority rule and individual rights; liberty and equality; state and national authority in a federal system; civil disobedience and the rule of law; freedom of the press and the right to a fair trial; the relationship of religion and government.</p>	Standard VI. Civil Rights and Civil Liberties
Mass Media	12.8 Students evaluate and take and defend positions on the influence of the media on American political life.	Standard III. Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media