

Politics USA Study Guide

Topics of Study:

Political Parties	<i>pgs. 649-677</i>
Elections	<i>pgs. 685-717</i>
Public Opinion	<i>pgs. 725-739</i>
Interest Groups	<i>pgs. 741-762</i>
Mass Media	<i>pgs. 771-798</i>



ID's

Party's Ticket	Conservatives	FCC
Party's Platform	Liberal	Spot Advertisements
Third Parties (Minor Parties)	Ideology	Sound bite
Open Primary	Libertarians	Republican Party (GOP)
Closed Primary	Straw Poll	Cross-Pressured Voter
National Convention	Polling Universe	Strong Party Voter
Representative Sample	Straight Party Voting	Press Conference
Political Action Committee (PAC)	Random Sample	Precinct
Federal Elections Commission (FEC)	Mass Media	Split vs Straight ticket voting
Campaign Manager	Fairness Doctrine	General Election
Interest Group	Equal Time Doctrine	Midterm Election
Lobbying	Press Conference	Direct Primary
Labor Interest Group	Democratic Party	Partisan
Public Interest Group	Hard Money	Soft money
Political Culture	Coattail effect	Caucus
Political Socialization	Telecommunications Commission	Ticket splitting

Essential Questions

1. What is the the origin, development and role of political parties in American politics?
2. What is the origin of the Democratic and Republican political parties? How do ideologies of conservatives and liberals align with these parties? What do these parties currently believe on major issues?
3. What are the roles and different types of minor parties?
4. How has the right to vote evolved over the course of US history?
5. What are the common propaganda techniques campaigns use in elections?
6. What is the process a candidate goes through to win the presidency (from announcing candidacy to winning the Electoral College)?
7. What personal and outside influences affect how an individual votes?
8. What is the role of an interest group? What are different types of interest groups? What tactics do they use to influence policy?
9. How does the media play an important role in setting the public agenda?
10. How does the federal government regulate the media?
11. What is meant by structural and ideological bias in the media?