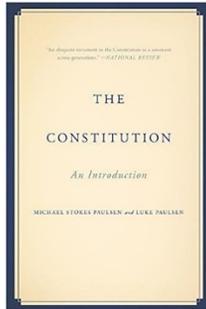


AP Government and Politics Summer Reading Assignment

Paulsen and Paulsen, *The Constitution: An Introduction*, Basic Books, 2015.



This book is written by a father-son team; the dad a professor of law, the son a recent college graduate. The duo conceived and wrote the book with the father as the expert and the son to make the book easier to digest. Hopefully, their efforts will allow you to more easily understand the creation and function of the Constitution. The book is available in new paperback and a host of cheaper, used options (**\$19.99 on down**) [from Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

Before you begin reading the book, read an online summary (5-10 pages) on the creation of the Constitution. Also, occasionally read and highlight the text of the Constitution in the back of this book. As you read the book, perhaps highlight your copy and take a few notes. Also, be sure to read the boxed asides, biographies, etc.

Reading Schedule (3 deadlines)

1. **First Day of School.** Read the Introduction and Chapters 1 through 5 (pp. xi—115) by the first day of school. We will have a **multiple-choice test** over these chapters **on Day 2** of school. This test will be worth about the same as a typical unit test.
2. **1st Week of School.** Read Chapters 6 & 7 (pp. 119—184) during the first few days of school in August. I'll have exact deadlines posted when we return to school. We will take a shorter assessment, probably a **25-point test** on these two chapters.
3. **Feb-March 2018.** We will read the final three chapters later during the year as we study the Supreme Court, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties, about March 2018.

The summer reading is rather important. How you approach this assignment signals how you will approach the class in general. Do NOT rely on online book reviews or other short cuts. But be ready to discuss Part I when school starts, and ready for that initial Test on Day 2. Good luck.

--Mr. Wolfford