

AP US Government - Running Vocabulary List

- as of July 8, 2013 -

3/5ths clause	apolitical
501© corporation	appeal / appellate court
527s	apportion/ apportionment
ABC agencies	appropriations / appropriate
acquisitive bureaucracies	arbitrary rule
activist court	Areopagitica (Milton)
actuary tables	arraignment
ad hominem	Article 1, Section 8
administrative law	Articles of Confederation
adversarial press	asymmetrical warfare
"advice & consent"	at large
advocate	atrophy
affirmative action	Australian ballot
Afghanistan War	authority
age discrimination	balance of trade
agenda	balanced budget
Alexis de Tocqueville	balancing the ticket
Alien & Sedition Acts	bankruptcy
allocation of resources	barriers to entry
"Ameicans"	base, the
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)	battleground states
American empire	bicameral legislature
American Experiment, The	big tent
American Exceptionalism	bilateral
amicus curiae	bill of attainder
anarchy / anarchism	Bill of Rights
anachronistic / anachronism	Black Box
Annapolis Convention	bipartisan
antebellum	block grants
anti-federalist	Blue Dogs
ant- trust	Boston Tea Party

Bush Doctrine
bourgeoisie
budget
budget deficit
budget resolution
bundle/ bundling
bureau
bureaucracy / bureaucrat
burden
cabal
Cabinet
campaign
campaign finance reform
capital
capital offence / capital crime
capitalism
capitol
categorical grants
caucus
Caucus, the Iowa
caveat emptor
census
censor / censorship
Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
centralize / centralization
"cert"
charity
charter
chauvinistic
check & balances
Chief Executive
Christian Coalition
citizenship

civic duty
civil law
civil liberties
civil rights
Civil Rights Acts
civil service
claimant / complainant
classics / classical
classical liberalism
clear & present danger doctrine
client politics
cloture
coalition
coattails
coercion
cognitive dissonance
collateral damage
collective bargaining
collective decisions
Commander in Chief
Commerce clause
commercial speech
commission
committees: standing, select, joint
common law
community standards
competitive federalism
concession
concession speech
concurrent power (s)
concurring opinion
confederation
Conference Committee

congress	creative destruction
Congress	criminal law
Congressional Budget Office (CBO)	cruel and unusual punishment
Congressional oversight	Czar
Connecticut Compromise	dark horse
conflict of interest	de facto
conscription	de facto segregation v de jure segregation
consensus	de jure
conservative / conservatism	debt / federal debt
consent of the governed	debt ceiling
consideration (contract law)	Declaration of Independence
constituency	defendant
constituent	deficit: trade deficit, fiscal deficit, budget deficit
constitutional / unconstitutional	deficit
constitutional crisis	delegate, a (n)
constitutionalism	delegate, to (v)
Consumer Price Index (CPI)	delegated powers
consumerism	deliberation
contempt of court	deliberative body
context / contextual	demagogue / demagoguery
Continental Congress	democratic
continuing resolution	democracy / democratic
contract / contract law	Democratic Party (big "D")
contract of cohesion	demographics
convention: constitutional, party convention	department
convention bump	Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)
cooperative federalism	deregulate
co-option	determinism
copyright	deterrence
corporation / incorporation	deviance
cover up	devolution
Council of Economic Advisors	diffusion
court	diplomacy / diplomat

direct democracy	efficacy (internal v external efficacy)
direct primary	egalitarianism
direct representation	elastic / "elastic clause"
direct tax	election
discount rate (Federal Reserve)	Electoral College
discretionary authority (bureaucracies)	electoral mandate
discrimination	electorate
disenfranchised	elites / elitism
disinterested	eminent domain
dispersed inequality	Enlightenment
dissent	entitlements
dissenting opinion	entitlement state
distribution of power	entrapment
distributive policy	entrepreneurial politics
district	enumerate
District Attorney (D.A.)	enumerated powers
District Court	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
divided government v. unified government	equal application of the law
divine right / divine rule	equal protection
diversity	equal protection clause
doctrine	Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)
double Jeopardy	equality
dualism	equality of condition
dual federalism	equality of opportunity
dual sovereignty	equality of outcomes
dual court system	equity
due process	establishment clause
e pluribus unum	euphemism
earmark	evangelicals
ecclesiastical	ex post facto (laws)
economics	exclusionary rule
economic theory	executive branch
economy / economy	executive order

executive privilege
exit polls
expedient
expressed powers
expropriation
extra-constitutional
extradite
faction (s)
Fairness doctrine
family values
favorite son
federal
Federal
federal apparatus
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
Federal Reserve
federalism
federalist
Federalist Papers
Federalist Party
Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA)
feminism
filibuster
First Lady
fiscal policy / fiscal year
flag burning
flat tax
focus group
food stamps
foreign entanglements
foreign policy
Founders ("Founding Fathers, "Framers")
franchise, the (n)

franking
franchise
franking
fraud
free speech
free trade
friend of the court
front loading (primaries)
front runner
Full faith & credit
functionary
funded mandates (v unfunded)
Gallup
Gang of Eight
gay and lesbian
gender
gender gap
General Accounting Office (GOA)
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
(GATT)
genocide
gentrification
gerrymandering
global warming
government
Government Accountability Office (GAO)
Grand Old Party (GOP)
grandfather laws/ clause / "grandfathered"
grants
grants-in-aid
Great Compromise
gridlock
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

Group of 8 (also G8)	Imperial presidency
Guantanamo (also "Gitmo")	"In God We Trust"
habeas corpus	incentive
hard money (v. soft money)	income distribution
harm	income tax
hegemony	incorporation (14th amendment)
hereditary rule	incumbency
home rule	independence
Homeland Security Department	independent agency
Horatio Alger story	independent counsel
horse race	independent voter
Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD)	indict / indictment
human rights	indirect democracy
humanism	indirect tax
idealism	individualism
ideology (-ies)	inequity
"if you want less of something, tax it"	inflation
"if you want more of something, subsidize it;	influence
illegal alien	infomercial
incentives	informal power
income inequality	inherent power
incumbent	initiative
infrastructure	intellectual property
inherent bias (polling)	inter-state commerce (also, v intra-state)
"initiative, referendum and recall"	institutional bias
interdependent	intelligence agency
interventionism / interventionist	inter-dependent
Iowa caucuses	interests
immigration reform	interest groups
impeachment	International Monetary Fund (IMF)
implied powers	institution
impugn	Iraq War
	iron triangle

isolationism / isolationist	legitimate / legitimacy
issue advocacy	Lemon Test
James Carville	letter of the law
Jean Jacques Rousseau: "Social Contract"	liability / limited liability
Jim Crow laws	liberal
John Locke: "Two Treatises of Government"	Liberal
Joint Chiefs of Staff	liberalism
joint committee	Libertarian
judicial activism	liberty
judicial branch	license
judicial restraint	limited government
judicial review	line item veto
Judiciary Committee	linkage institution
jurisdiction	liquidity
jury nullification	litigant / litigation
justice	living constitution (also "organic")
Justice Department	litmus test
Karl Rove	lobbying/ lobbyist
Keynesianism	local government / local rule
keynote address	lock box
kitchen cabinet	logrolling
laissez-faire	Louisiana Purchase
landslide	machine politics
labor union	Machiavelli
largess	magistrate
laws of unintended consequences	Magna Carta (also "Magna Charta")
legal precedent	majority
legal remedy	majority age
legislation	Majority Leader
legislative branch	majority opinion
legislative veto	majoritarian politics
legislator	"majority rule, minority rights"
legislature	mandate

Manifest Destiny	moral hazard
marginal	mortgage crisis
marginal district	motor voter
market economy	muckraker
market mechanism	mugwump
Marshall Court	nation / nation-states
Maslow's hierarchy of needs	National Abortion Rights Action League
masses, the	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
mass market	national committee
mass media	national convention
matching funds / matching grants	National Governors Association
Mayflower Compact	National Rifle Association (NRA)
McCarthy Era / McCarthyism	National Security Agency (NSA)
means test	nationalize / nationalization
media	natural law
Medicaid / Medicare	natural monopoly
merit / merit system	Necessary and Proper clause
micro / macro	New Deal
Middle America	New Jersey Plan
midterm elections	New Nationalism
Military-Industrial Complex	"New World Order"
militia	networking
minority age	niche
Minority Leader	Nielsen ratings
minority party	"The 99%"
Miranda Rights	No Child Left Behind
mitigate	"No Hypocrites!"
monetary policy	nomination / nominating convention
monolithic	non-governmental organization (NGO)
monopoly	non-partisan
monopoly of force / monopoly on violence	non-profit
Monroe Doctrine	norms
Montesquieu, Baron de la Brede	

North America Free Trade Agreement
(NAFTA)
Nuclear Football
Obamacare
obscenity
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
(OSHA)
Occupy Wall Street / "Occupy"
"of the people"
Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
omnibus legislation
open primary
open society
opinions (Court)
opposition research
oral argument
orderly transfer of power
original intent
original jurisdiction
originalist
pardon
parliamentary maneuver
parliamentary system
parochial
partisan / partisanship
party realignment
parties: major, minor, independent
party dealignment
party discipline / party loyalty
party machine
"passions attached to opinions"
patents
patrician

patriotic / patriotism
patronage
payroll taxes
peaceful transfer of power
penal system
pension
Pentagon Papers
per capita

Persian Gulf
persuasion
perverse incentives
petition
People for the American Way
photo op
plaintiff
planned economy
platform / plank
plea bargain
plebe / plebian
pluralism / pluralistic
pocket veto
polarize / polarization
police power
policy wonk
political
Political Action Committee (PAC)
political appointee
political base
political compromise
political cover
political efficacy
political culture

political economy
political identity
political parties
political stability
politicize
politics
poll tax
polling
polls (surveys / polling stations)
polyarchy
popular government
popular sovereignty
populist / popularism
pork barrel
positive law
poverty line
POW/MIA
power/ powers
Preamble, the
precedent
preemption
prescient
presidency
president
President of the United States (also POTUS)
President pro tempore
Press, the
press secretary
pressure groups
price supports
price theory
primary elections/ primaries: direct primary,
open primary, closed primary

prior restraint v. prior review
privacy / privacy rights
privilege / privileged / privileges
privileges & immunities
procedural due process
procedural rights
process
profit incentive
progenitor
progressive / Progressive Era
projection of power
property rights
proportional representation
prosecutor / prosecution
protection
protectionism
public choice theory
Public Citizen
public interest
public interest group
public opinion
public policy
public-private
public safety
public scrutiny
public weal
pure democracy
push poll
quorum
quotas / quota system
rational-basis review (or scrutiny)
reactionary
Reagan Democrats

Reaganomics	rhetorical power
realclearpolitics.com	riders
recall	right to bear arms
race	"right to life"
racial discrimination	rights
recidivism	roll-call / roll-call votes
reconcile	rule of four
Red Scare	rule of law
red tape	Rule of Reason
redistribution	Rules Committee
redistricting	Rust Belt
referendum	"safe seat"
regressive tax	safety net
regulation (s)	sampling error
regulation v. direct control	sanction
regulatory agency	school prayer
regulatory policy	scrutiny: intermediate & strict scrutiny
release valves	search and seizure
religious right	secession
Reform Party	Second Continental Congress
remedy	Section 8
rent seeking	sectionalism
repeal	secular
republic	Security Council
republican (small "r")	sedition
Republican (big "R")	self-actualization
Republican in Name Only (RINO)	self-determination
republican principle	self-government
republicanism	self-perpetuating
representative democracy	self-rule
reserved powers / Reserved Powers clause	Senatorial Courtesy
resolutions (v. laws)	senior citizens
reverse discrimination	Separate but Equal

separation of church and state
separation of powers
September 11 (also "911")
Sequester
session of Congress
Shays' Rebellion
show cause
silent majority, the
simple majority
single-member district
situational ethics
small claims court
"smoke filled rooms"
soccer mom
social choice theory
social construction
social contract
social engineering
social hierarchy
social justice
social media
social mobility
social class
social welfare
socialism
soft money (v. hard money)
Solicitor General
Solid South
sound bite
sovereignty
Speaker of the House
speech
split ticket v. straight ticket vote

stakeholder
standards / standardize
standing (courts)
stare decisis
state
state ownership
State Department
State of the Union address
states' rights
statute of limitations
statutes
statutory law
statutory
stewardship
straw vote
strict constructionist
strict scrutiny
structure
subpoena
subsidies / subsidize
substantive due process
succession
suffrage
super majority
Supremacy clause
Supreme Court (also SCOTUS)
suspect categories
swing states
swing voters/ votes
symbolic speech
syndicate
takings clause
talking heads

tax rate	universal suffrage
tax shelter	"Unsafe at Any Speed"
taxes	unwritten constitution
Tea Party	urban renewal
technicalities	utility
term limits	values
"The" v. "These" United States	values voter
Thomas Hobbes ("Leviathan")	veto
think tanks	vice presidency
Third Estate	Virginia Plan
third party	virtual representation
threshold	vote
ticket	vote of conscience
Title Programs: Title I, II, IX, etc.	voter behavior
tort	voter apathy (>> not defining of non-
totalitarian	voting)
town hall meeting	voting rights
trial balloon	"wall of separation"
triangulation	War on Drugs
Trickle Down theory	War on Poverty
two party system	War on Terrorism
trust, a (n)	war powers
tyranny of the majority	watchdog
unalienable / unalienable rights	Watergate
unanimity	Ways & Means committee
unanimous	Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)
undocumented worker	wedge issue
underprivileged	weighting
unemployment compensation	welfare
unemployment rate	welfare reform
unfunded mandate	welfare state
unilateral / unilaterally	whip
unintended consequences (moral hazard)	Whiskey Rebellion

"winner take all"

World Bank

workfare

writ

writ of certiorari

xenophobic

zoning

Addendum

Power/ Powers

concurrent

delegated

enumerated

expressed

implied

informal

inherent

reserved

also: distribution of power

Forms of government

absolute monarchy

aristocracy

authoritarian

colony

constitutional monarchy

constitutional government

constitutional monarchy

council

democracy

dictatorship (modern)

direct democracy

divine rule

dynasty

empire

feudalism

hereditary rule

monarchy

nation

oligarchy

parliamentary

polyarchy

primogeniture

representative democracy

republic

self-government

self-rule

state

theocracy

totalitarian

tyranny (tyrant)

Economics

command economy

comparative advantage

consumerism

developed world

developing world

First World

Free-trade

"Invisiible hand of the market"

Keynesianism

laissez-faire

local v national economy

Locke

market economy

Marxism
opportunity cost
Planned-Economy
political economy
public choice & social choice theories
Reaganomics
scarcity & surplus
staple crop
Supply-Side
Third world
traditional economy
Trickle-Down
utility

Taxes / Taxation

city, state, local taxes
direct v. indirect tax
excise
income bracket
income
Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
loopholes
marginal tax rate
progressive tax
property
regressive tax
sales
shelters
tax authority
withholding

Metacognition

anomaly / anomalous

Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning
context / contextual
learning process
non-linear thought
relevancy

Sociological Terms

"defining deviance down" (Daniel Patrick Moynihan)
deviance as healthy (Durkheim)
deviance
linguistics
loss aversion
norms
symbols / symbolism
validation

Landmark Supreme Court Cases

Baker v Carr (1962)
Bakke v Regents of the University of California (1978)
Bob Jones University v US (1983)
Boy Scouts of America v Dale (2000)
Brown v Board of Education (1954)
Buckley v Valeo (1976)
Bush v Gore (2000)
Charles River Bridge v Warren Bridge (1837)
Cherokee Nation v Georgia (1831)
Citizens United v Federal Election Commission (2010)
Civil Rights Cases of 1883
Clinton v City of New York (1998)
Clinton v Jones (1997)
Commonwealth v Hunt (1842)
Dartmouth College v Woodward (1819)
District of Columbia v Heller (2008)
Dred Scott v Sandford (1857)
Engel v Vitale (1962)
Escobeda v Illinois (1964)
Ex parte Endo (1944)
Ex parte Milligan (1866)
Fletcher v Peck (1810)
Furman v Georgia (1972)
Gibbons v Ogden (1824)
Gideon v Wainwright (1963)
Gitlow v New York (1925)
Gratz v Bollinger (2003)
Griswald v Connecticut (1965)
Grottner v Bollinger (2003)
Hamdi v Rumsfeld (2004)
Hazelwood v Kuhlmeier (1983)
Heart of Atlanta v US (1964)
Kelo v City of New London (2005)
Korematsu v United States (1944)
Lau v Nichols (1974)
Lawrence v Texas (2003)
Lemon v Kurtzman (1971)
Lochner v New York (1905)
Loving v Virginia >>
Mapp v Ohio (1961)
Marbury v Madison (1803)
McCulloch v Maryland (1819)
Miller v California (1973)
Miranda v Arizona (1966)
Muller v Oregon (1908)

Munn v Illinois (1876)
New Jersey v T.L.O. (1985)
New York Times v Sullivan (1964)
New York Times v U.S. (1971)
Northern Securities Co. v U. S. (1904)
Planned Parenthood v Casey (1992)
Plessy v Ferguson (1896)
Pollock v The Farmers' Loan and Trust Co. (1895)
Regents v Bakke (1978)
Regents of CA v Bakke (1978)
Roe v Wade (1973)
Roper v Simmons (2005)
Schenck v US (1919)
Schechter v U. S. (1936)
Scott v Sanford (1857)
Shaw v Reno (1993)
Shenck v United States (1919) / Clear & Present Danger
Texas v Johnson (1989)
Tinker v Des Moines (1969)
U.S. v American Library Association (2003)
U. S. v E. C. Knight Co. (1895)
U.S. v Nixon (1974)
Van Order v Perry (2005)
Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Railway Co. v Illinois (1886)

Important Laws

(incomplete, names as commonly known, not the actual legislative name)

Aid to Dependent Children
Americans with Disabilities Act (1991)
Brady handgun Violence Protection Act (1993)
Civil Service Reform Act (1978)
Civil Rights Act of 1964
Clean Water Act (1987)
Clean Air Act (1970)
Dodd-Frank (2010)
Endangered Species Act (1973)
Fair Housing Act (1968)
Family Medical Leave Act (1993)
Federal Election Campaign Acts (FECA, 1971)
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA, 1966)
Hatch Act (1939)

Immigration Act of 1991
Judiciary Act (1789)
McCain Feingold (2002)
Motor Voter Act of 1993
National Security Act of 1947
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 1969)
Norris-LaGuardia Act (1932)
Pendleton Act (or "Civil Service Act of 1883")
Simpson-Marzzoli Act (1987)
Taft-Hartley Act (1947)
U.S. Patriot Act of 2001
Voting Rights Act of 1965
Wagner Act (1935)
War Powers Act (1973)