***AP GoPo Final Exam Study Guide***

***Concepts/Processes/Ideas***

* Weaknesses of Articles of Confederation leading to drafting Constitution; Shay’s Rebellion
* Citizen participation in elections
* Veto power; how and when overturned/upheld
* Voter behavior by group (i.e., gender, race, income level, education, etc.)
* Significance of the 10th Amendment to states.
* Grants-in-aid; block vs. categorical; how used alternately.
* Federal court appeals process
* Supreme Court acceptance of cases.
* Amicus curiae briefs
* Fiscal federalism; cooperative federalism; dual federalism
* Electoral College/effects of
* Committee system function/significance; standing, conference, & joint committees
* Powerful House Committees (Rules, Ways/Means, Appropriations)
* Commerce Clause; Necessary and Proper Clause in expanding federal government power
* Overall structure/function of the party system (local, state, national)
* Significance of the 14th Amendment
* Incorporation doctrine
* Significance of presidential appointment to federal judiciary, especially the SCOTUS
* Party identification in voting behavior
* Function and importance of White House Office staff and Executive Office of the President key advisors
* Census & Redistricting; gerrymandering
* Types of primaries; caucuses
* Plurality wins in presidential elections
* Pinpointing fundamental rights/freedoms in the Bill of Rights (especially 1st , 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, and 10th)
* Role/function of lobbyists (non-cynical interpretation)
* Civil Rights Act 1964 (significance/stipulations)
* Voting Rights Act 1965 (significance/stipulation)
* The War Powers Act 1973
* Budget and Impoundment Control Act 1974
* The overall budgetary process of the President and Congress
* Impact of presidential approval ratings
* Impact of 3rd Parties on elections; historical examples
* Inherent powers (informal/not enumerated in the Constitution) and Formal (enumerated) powers of the President
* Consequences of winner-take-all & single-member districts in electoral process (Presidential and Congressional elections; maintenance of the two-party system)
* Incumbency effect; factors of, advantages of, limitations, etc.
* Separation of powers (description of/examples of)
* Checks and balances in action (description of/examples of)
* Constitutionality of the legislative veto
* Constitutionality of the line-item veto
* Main points and philosophy in Federalist 10 and 51
* Funded/unfunded mandates
* Fiscal impact of entitlement programs (mandatory social service spending) on federal budget (Chapter 14 and 18)
* Political socialization process and impact on development of political ideology
* Differences between the House and Senate
* Senate confirmation of certain presidential appointments
* Growth of PACs within which groups/industries in society
* Executive orders and agreements; advantages of
* Critical elections; realignments