

U.S. Government

Chapters 5, 7, 8 & 9: Campaigns & Elections

Guiding Questions

1. Why does the U.S. have a two-party system and why are there minor parties as well?
2. What are the various roles that political parties play in the nomination, election, and governing functions of our system?
3. How are candidates nominated to run for office and how are they elected?
4. What role do interest groups, money, and media play in elections?

Reading Schedule

4/26 Thursday: Chapter 5.1

4/30 Monday: Chapter 7.1

5/1 Tuesday: Chapter 7.2

5/2 Wednesday: Chapter 9.2

5/3 Thursday: Chapter 8.3

Quiz: Tuesday, May 8th (JUNIORS ONLY!)

Be familiar with the following terms, their importance and their use: Political spectrum, partisanship, single-member district, plurality, bipartisan, consensus, watchdog, bonding agent, ideological party, single-issue party, economic protest party, splinter party, nomination, general election, caucus, direct primary, closed primary, open primary, run-off primary, ballot, coattail effect, early voting, vote-by-mail, trade associations, labor groups, agricultural groups, professional associations, issue-oriented groups, religious organizations, public-interest groups, public agenda, sound-bites

Be able to answer the guiding questions