**C&E STUDY GUIDE – Unit 4:**

**American Politics: Connecting Citizens and Government**

**THIS STUDY GUIDE is REQUIRED NIGHTLY HOMEWORK:**

1. Complete this study guide each night at home. Use your notes, classwork, and class website.
   * Use each Civics Vocab term in a sentence to show your understanding. You may use more than one term in the same sentence. All sentences must be original. D**efinitions are not enough.**
   * Answer **each** question in 1-2 complete sentences.

* **Students who complete the Study Guide before the Unit test and have at least 90% attendance are guaranteed not to fail the test.**

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS TO ANSWER in ACES paragraph format:**

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| 1. **Due Fri, Nov. 22nd: What are the ideological and policy differences between the major political parties? (Suggestion: start by describing one political party; then describe the other.)** 2. **Due Thursday, Dec. 5th: How does the two-party system affect American politics?** |

**Deadlines & Assessments:**

* **Study Guide: COMPLETE DAILY FOR FULL CREDIT!!!!!!!!**
* **Friday Quizzes: November 22, December 6**
* **ACES : Nov. 22nd & Dec. 5th**
* **Political Party Project Presentation: Monday, December 9th**
* **EXAM: Tuesday, December 10th**
* **2nd Quarter In the News Persuasive Essay:** 
  + **DRAFT DUE Dec. 13th; FINAL DUE Dec. 20th (10% of Grade)**

**Day 1: \_\_\_\_\_\_ – Government & The Economy: Public & Private Sectors**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   * Limited Government * Private Property Rights * Public Sector * Private Sector | **Thought Questions**   1. Give some examples of things that Americans usually consider private property. 2. Why are places like malls and movie theaters a part of the private sector even though anyone can go there? 3. What is the purpose of the public sector? |

**Day 2: \_\_\_\_\_\_ – The “Free” Market & Wealth Distribution**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   * Producer * Consumer * Market economy * Laissez faire * Capitalism * Government Regulations | **Thought Questions**   1. How are prices set and decisions made in a free market economy? 2. How does market competition affect the behavior of producers? 3. What causes wealth inequality in a market economy? 4. What problems (if any) do you see with laissez faire economics? 5. What role (if any) do you think government should have in the economy? |

**Day 3: \_\_\_\_\_\_-- Political Theory & the Rise of the Two Party System**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   * Ideology * Federalists/Anti-Federalists * Factions * Political Party * Partisanship | **Thought Questions**   1. Jefferson and the Democratic republicans preferred small, limited government. Why? 2. Hamilton and the Federalists preferred a more powerful national government. Why? 3. Why did George Washington warn against the development of “factions”? 4. How do political parties compete for power? |

**Day 4: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Donkeys & Elephants: Modern Political Parties**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   * Political Spectrum * Liberal/Conservative/Independent * Libertarian * Authoritarian * Republican Party * Democratic Party * Party platform | **Thought Questions**   1. Why do people organize political parties? 2. What advantages to political parties provide to candidates? 3. What are the basic Republican beliefs about government? 4. What are the basic Democratic beliefs about government? 5. How does partisanship sometimes prevent cooperation between Rs and Ds even when they agree? |

**Day 5: \_\_\_\_\_\_ – Political Districts & Representation**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   * Political Districts * At-large election * Single member districts * Census | **Thought Questions**   1. Name and identify the party affiliation for your U.S. Senators, U.S. Rep, State Senator, and State House Rep. 2. Why are members of the House of Representatives more likely to be ideologically partisan than members of the Senate? |

**Day 6: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Partisan Gerrymandering, Safe Seats, and a Crisis for democracy**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   * Redistricting * Gerrymandering * Demographic trends in voting | **Thought Questions**   1. Why are so many congressional seats considered “safe” Democratic or Republican districts? 2. Does having “safe” seats make members of congress more or less likely to compromise? Why? 3. Why are members of the House of Representatives more likely to be ideologically partisan than members of the Senate? 4. Which political parties are the following groups of voters most likely to support: white men, latino’s, African-americans, women, young voters, voters with a college degree. |

**Day 7: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Suffrage, Citizens, and Responsive Politics**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   1. Suffrage 2. Public Pressure 3. Picketing 4. Grassroots campaign 5. 15th & 19th Amendments 6. Voting Rights Act of 1965 7. Referendum 8. Ballot Initiative | **Thought Questions**   1. What groups of people had the right to vote for George Washington in 1792? 2. When and how did black men gain the right to vote? 3. When and how did women gain the right to vote? 4. Name at least 3 ways that you can impact politics and government. 5. Give an example of how citizens might use a petition, public hearing, or referendum to put pressure on elected officials. 6. Why do individuals sometimes risk arrest through civil disobedience? |

**Day 8: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – The Two Party System: Primaries and General Elections**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   1. Major Party 2. Two Party System 3. Party Primary 4. Candidate nomination process 5. Third Party 6. Voter apathy 7. Voter Turnout | **Thought Questions**   1. What effect does a two party system have on campaigns? 2. Why are 3rd parties rarely effective? 3. How does incumbency strengthen a candidate’s chances of election? 4. How does canvassing improve a candidate’s chance of being elected? 5. Why do so many eligible voters not bother to vote? 6. What groups are most likely to turn out to vote? Least likely? |

**Day 9: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Picking a President: National Conventions and the Electoral College**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   1. Candidate 2. Incumbent 3. National Convention 4. Electoral college 5. Swing States 6. Stump Speech | **Thought Questions**   1. What must a presidential candidate do in order to become his/her party’s nominee for president? 2. How does incumbency strengthen a candidate’s chances of election? 3. How does canvassing improve a candidates chance of being elected? 4. Why do so many eligible voters not bother to vote? 5. What groups are most likely to turn out to vote? Least likely? 6. In your opinion, should people be required to show a photo ID matching their voter registration information in order to vote? |

**Day 10: \_\_\_\_\_ $pecial Intere$t$, PAC$, and $$$$$ in Politic$**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   1. Political Action Committee 2. Campaign Finance 3. Citizens United v. FEC 4. Lobbying 5. Special Interest Groups | Thought Questions   1. What are Political Action Committees? 2. How has the Citizens United Supreme Court opinion affected recent campaigns? 3. Who do lobbyists usually work for, and what effect do lobbyists have on law making? |

**Day 11: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Polls, Propaganda, Messaging, and the News Media**

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| **Civics Vocab: *Use in a sentence:***   1. Mass media 2. Public opinion poll 3. Exit polling 4. Propaganda 5. Soundbite | **Thought Questions**   1. How do candidates use opinion polls? 2. In the internet age, why are politicians so focused on “staying on message?” 3. What is the difference between news coverage of a campaign and opinion news shows, such as Rachel Madow and Bill O’Reilly? |

**Days 12-13: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – Election Project & Unit Assessment**