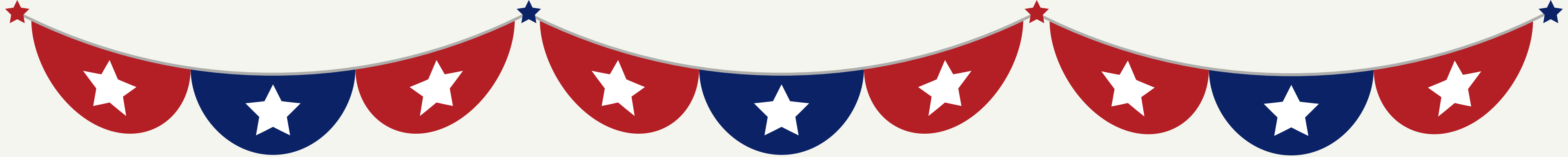




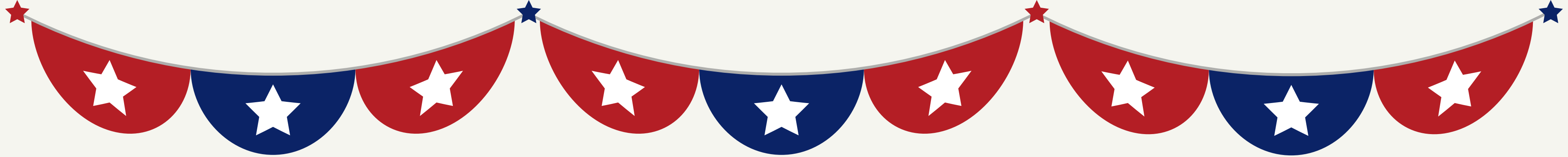
AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

MS. GREENWAY
FIVAY HIGH SCHOOL



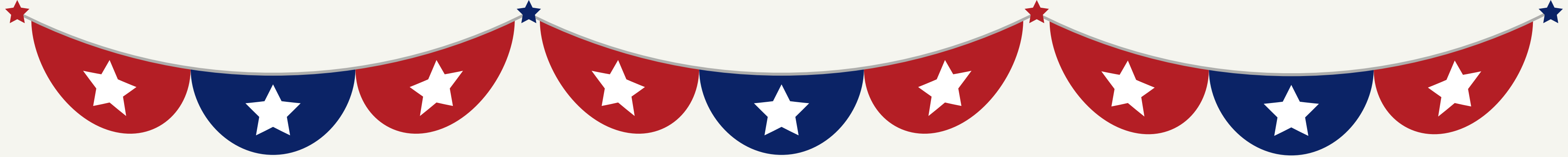
GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- High grades in the subject area under consideration
- Teacher recommendation is highly recommended
- The ability to work hard
- A commitment to take the AP Exam



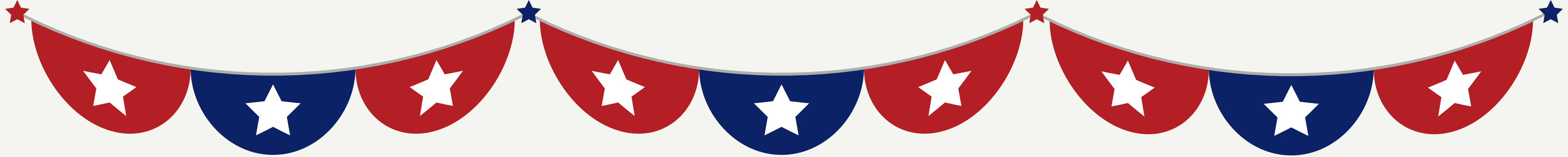
GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- Outside reading and written work over the summer
- Maintaining a schedule and submitting work on time
- Nightly studying (1 hr. per day)
- Open communication to seek help, review, and learn the material



THE SUCCESSFUL AP STUDENT

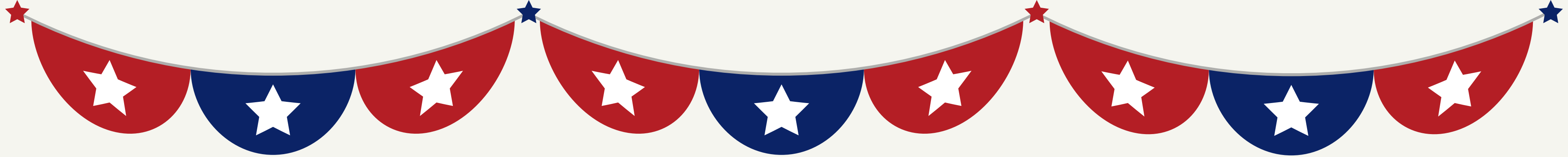
- Is able to prioritize items of importance in the schedule
- Makes and honors commitments
- Seeks help when needed
- Works well in groups both in and out of class
- Knows their limits
- Reads regularly
- Is motivated



WHY TAKE AN AP CLASS?

Stand Out in College Admissions

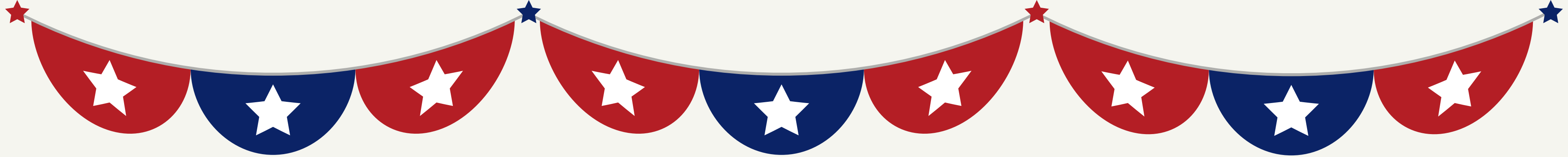
- Deciding to take an AP course lets colleges and universities know that you have what it takes to succeed in an undergraduate environment.



WHY TAKE AN AP CLASS?

Earn College Credits

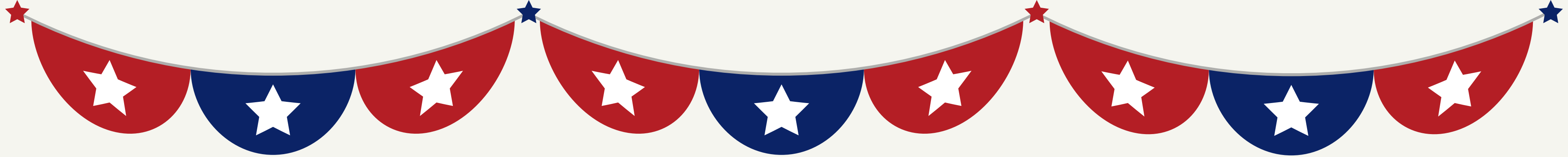
- By taking an AP course and scoring successfully on the related AP Exam, you can save on college expenses: most colleges and universities nationwide offer college credit, advanced placement, or both, for qualifying AP Exam scores.



WHY TAKE AN AP CLASS?

Skip Introductory Classes

- This opens up additional time on your schedule, enabling you to do a second major or minor, take exciting electives, or pursue additional interests.



WHY TAKE AN AP CLASS?

Build College Skills

- Taking an AP course builds the skills you'll need throughout your college years. You give your mind a rigorous workout while polishing up your time management and study skills. You also get better at handling challenging issues and problems, with the support of your AP teachers.

WHAT IS AP GOVERNMENT?

AP U.S. Government and Politics is a college-level semester-long course that not only seeks to prepare you for success on the AP Exam in May, but also provide you with the political knowledge and reasoning processes to participate meaningfully and thoughtfully in discussions and debates that are currently shaping American politics and society. It is important to note that this course is not a history course; it is a political science course that studies the interconnectedness of the different parts of the American political system and the behaviors and attitudes that shape this system and are the byproduct thereof.





WHAT DO WE LEARN?

Five Units!

Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy

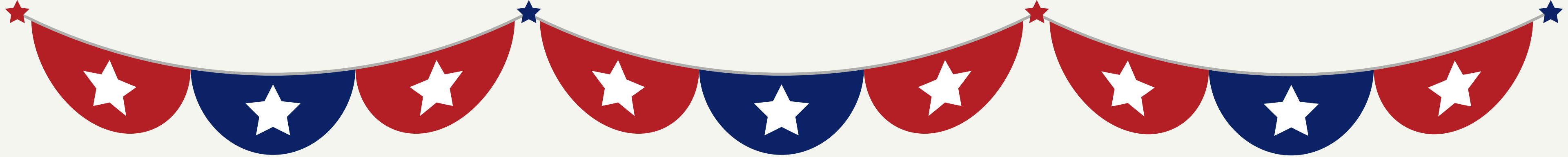
Unit 2: Interactions Among Branches of Government

Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

Unit 4: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs

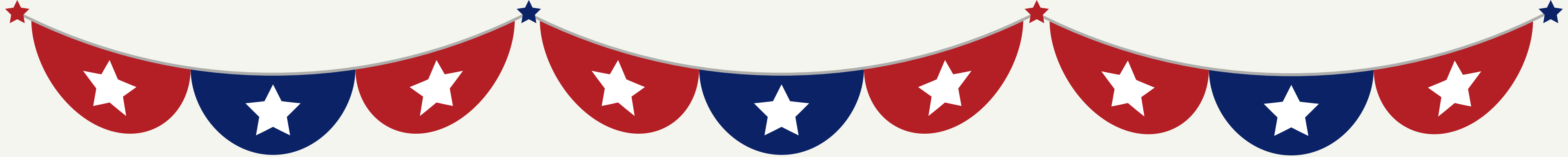
Unit 5: Political Participation





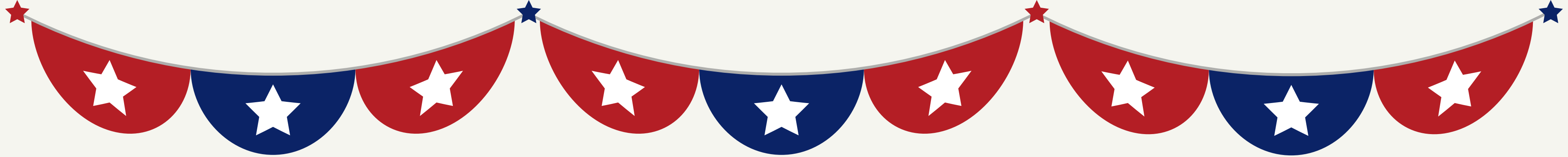
FOUNDATIONS OF DEMOCRACY

The U.S. Constitution arose out of important historical and philosophical ideas and preferences regarding popular sovereignty and limited government. To address competing states' visions for all the allocation of governmental authority, compromises were made during the Constitutional Convention and ratification debates, and these compromises have frequently been the source of debate and negotiation in U.S. politics over checks and balances, the proper balance between federal and state power (Federalism) and between liberty and social order (Civil Rights and Civil Liberties).



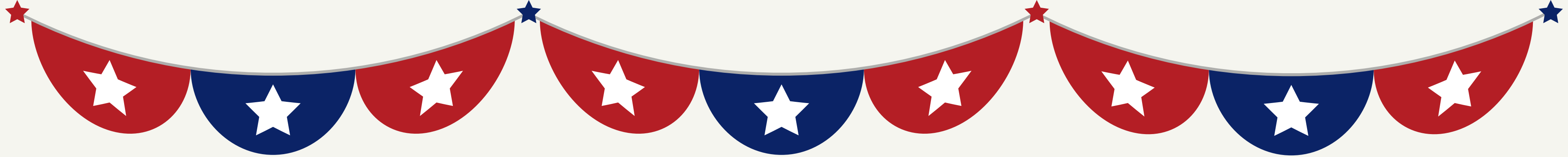
INTERACTIONS AMONG BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

Because power is widely distributed and checks prevent one branch from usurping powers from the others, institutional actors are in the position where they must both compete and cooperate in order to govern. In this unit, you will study the structures and politics of Congress, bureaucracy, the presidency and executive branch, and the federal court system. You will analyze the major formal and informal arrangements of power and the relationships among the four institutions. With each subtopic, you will discuss who holds the power and the struggles for varying balances of power. There will be a study on how different national institutions have evolved to possess power and how crises can dramatically change the balance of power within the government.



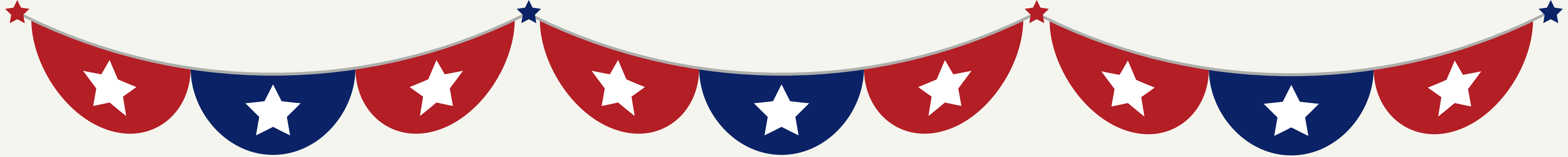
CIVIL LIBERTIES AND CIVIL RIGHTS

Through the U.S. Constitution, but primarily through the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment, citizens and groups have attempted to restrict national and state governments from unduly infringing upon individual rights and from denying equal protection under the law. Sometimes the Court has handed down decisions that protect both public order and individual freedom, and at other times the Court has set precedents protecting one at the expense of the other.



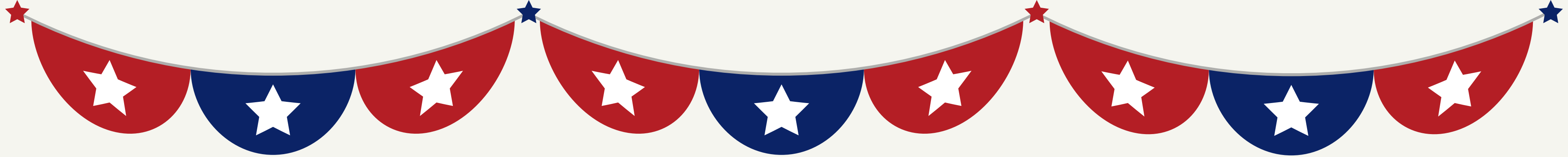
AMERICAN POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES AND BELIEFS

American political beliefs are shaped by founding ideals, core values, and the changing demographics of the citizenry. These beliefs about government, politics and the individual's role in the political system influence the creation of ideological trends that span decades impacting public policies. The measurement of public opinion and beliefs can be instrumental in understanding political outcomes.



POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Governing is achieved directly through citizen participation and indirectly through linkage institutions (political parties, interest groups, mass media, elections and campaigns) that inform, organize and mobilize support to influence government and politics, resulting in many venues for citizen influence on policy making. Election rules and campaign laws, institutional barriers, and demographics of the citizenry all influence participation.



**LET'S SEE
WHAT YOU
ALREADY
KNOW!**