**RELEASED AP GOV FRQ TOPICS BY UNIT**

*Please note:*

*Since FRQs have multiple parts, many FRQs touch on several different topics. Those topics without question numbers next to them have not been tested explicitly in FRQs over the past decade or so however, all topics are fair game. The College Board site currently has released FRQs, Scoring Guideline, and Sample Responses dating back to 2003.*

[*http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam\_information/2086.html*](http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/members/exam/exam_information/2086.html)

**UNIT 1 (Ch. 1-3):**

**Constitutional Underpinnings (5-15%)**

Federalism (2003 #3, 2005 #2, 2007 #4, 2014 #1, 2015 #2)

Separation of Powers (reference Unit 5 and 6 FRQs on various Institutions and their powers)

Considerations that influenced the formulation and adoption of the Constitution (2000 #1, 2006 #4, 2009 #1, 2014 #1)

Theories of democratic government

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**UNIT 2 (Ch. 6, 8, 11):**

**Political Beliefs and Behaviors, Political Parties, & Interest Groups (15-25%)**

Beliefs that citizens hold about their government and leaders (2004 #4)

Processes by which citizens learn about politics

Nature, sources, and consequences of public opinion (2003 #1, 2011 #2)

Ways in which citizens vote and otherwise participate in political life (2000 #3, 2002 #4, 2003 #2, 2004 #4,

 2007 #1, 2008 #4, 2009 #1, 2014 #1)

The variety of factors that influence citizens to differ in political beliefs and behaviors (2000 #3, 2009 #2,4)

Political parties: functions, organization, development, effects, electoral laws and systems (2004 #3, 2006 #1,

 2009 #2, 2013 #2, 2014 #4)

Interest groups (2009 #2):

Range of interests that are or are not represented

Activities of interest groups (2004 #2, 2006 #1, 2010 #1)

Effects of interest groups on the political process (2006 #1, 2012 #4)

 Unique characteristics and roles of PACs (2001 #4)

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**UNIT 3 (Ch. 7, 9, and 10):**

 **Mass Media, Primaries, and Elections (5-15%)**

Mass media: functions, structures, impact on politics (1999 #1, 2009 #2,4)

Elections:functions, organization, development, effects, electoral laws and systems (2002 #4, #3 (review of

 Federalism, parties, and elections), 2005 #4, 2007 #1,

 2015 #3)

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**UNIT 4 (Ch. 16, 4, 5):**

**Judiciary and Civil Liberties/Civil Rights (15-30%)**

The federal courts (2000 #2, 2005 #1, 2012 #3, 2011 #1)

Development of civil liberties and rights by judicial interpretation (2005 #3, 2007 #2, 2015 #4)

Knowledge of substantive rights and liberties (2005 #3, 2007 #2, 2010 #4, includes review of federalism and checks and balances)

Impact of 14th Amendment on rights and liberties (1998 #2, 2001 #3, 2005 #3, 2015 #4)

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**UNITS 5 and 6 (Ch. 12, 13, 14, 15):**

**Presidency, Bureaucracy, Congress (25%-35%)**

The Presidency (2002 #1, 2002 #1, 2003 #1, 2007 #3, 2008 #2, 2009 #4, 2015 #1, 2014 #3)

The Bureaucracy (1999 #3, 2003 #3, 2006 #3, 2010 #2)

Congress (2001 #2, 2002 #1, 2003 #4, 2004 #1, 2005 #2, 2006 #3, 2007 #3, 2008 #1, 2009 #1,3, 2010 #3,

 2011 #2, 2012 #1, 2012 #2, 2013 #1, 2014 #4)

The major formal and informal institutional arrangement of powers (2006 #3, 2007 #3, 2011 #4)

Relationships among these four institutions, and varying balances (2006 #3, 2007 #2, 2011 #4, 2012 #3, 2013 #3, 2015 #1)

Links between these institutions and political parties, interest groups, the media, subnational governments, and public opinion (1999 #2, 2001 #4, 2003 #4, 2004 #4, 2008 #2, 2009 #3, 2011 #2, 2014 #3, 2014 #4) – Use for finals and AP exam prep?

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**UNIT 7 (Ch. 17-20):**

 **Public Policy (5-15%)**

Policies: (2002 #2, 2006 #2, 2008 #3, 2012 #2)

Policymaking in a federal system (2002 #3)

Formulation of policy agendas (2008 #4, 2013 #4)

Role of institutions in enactment of policy (2004 #1, 2008 #2,3, 2013 #4, 2014 #3, 2015 #1)

Role of bureaucracy and courts in policy implementation and interpretation (2013 #4)

Links between policy processes and federalism, parties, groups, public opinion, elections, policy networks (2014 #3, 2014 #4)

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