**APGOV Semester Exam Review**

Be sure that you know the following topics for your semester exam.

This covers most, but not everything that you will see on the exam.

**Foundations and Underpinnings**

Articles of Confederation – intent, successes/failures

Founding Fathers – original intent of the 3 branches of government, views on factions

Establishment, elastic, and supremacy clauses

Federalism

John Locke’s “social contract theory”

Rationale for the Bill of Rights

**Political Behavior, Socialization, and Political Parties**

Methods of political socialization

Voter turnout rates and reason for; who votes often, who doesn’t

Characteristics of Republicans/conservatives and Democrats/liberals

Political participation – ways to participate, most common way people participate

History of political parties, particularly in the late 20th century

Traditionally American values

**Elections, Interest Groups and Media**

Role the media plays in elections

PACs – what are they, what do they do, what are the criticisms

*Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission* (2010)

Types and strategies of interest groups

**Legislative Branch**

powers

Influence on the other branches

Types of assistance given to states

Reason for, positives and negatives of gerrymandering

Federalism

“pork barrel”

Checks and balances

Congressional oversight

Different types of committees, and what they are responsible for

Amendment process

Bill passage process

**Executive Branch and the Bureaucracy**

Influence on the other branches

President’s role in legislation

Executive agreements vs treaties

Checks and balances

Linkage institutions

Types, and examples of executive agencies

**\*Public Policy (you’ll need to look for this in the textbook, we did not cover in class)**

Stages of policy making

Who creates monetary policy for the U.S.

**Judicial Branch, Civil Liberties and Civil Rights**

Influence on the other branches

Voting Rights Act of 1965

Limits to the first amendment

*Roe v. Wade*

Checks and balances

Grandfather clause – what is it, how has it been used

“rule of four”

*Brown v. Board of Education….*