AP US Government & Politics – Required Foundational Documents

1. The Declaration of Independence
2. The Articles of Confederation
3. The Constitution
4. Federalist # 10
5. Brutus # 1
6. Federalist # 51
7. Federalist # 70
8. Federalist # 78
9. Letter From a Birmingham Jail

Required Court Cases

1. Marbury vs Madison, 1803 - judicial review
2. McCulloch vs Maryland, 1819 - Does the federal government have implied powers and supremacy under the necessary & proper (elastic) clause and the supremacy clause?
3. United States vs Lopez, 1995 - Does Congress have the authority under the commerce clause to outlaw guns near schools?
4. Baker vs Carr, 1962 - Can the Supreme Court render judgment on the constitutionality of legislative districts? - established one person, one vote
5. Shaw vs Reno, 1993 – Does a congressional district, designed for the purpose of assuring a majority black population, violate the 14th Amendment’s equal protection clause; yes, redistricting based on race had to meet a strict scrutiny test
7. Gideon v Wainwright, 1963
8. Tinker v Des Moines, 1969
10. Wisconsin v Yoder, 1972
11. Schenck v US, 1919
12. McDonald v Chicago, 2010
13. Citizens United v FEC, 2010
14. NY Times v US, 1971
15. Roe v Wade, 1973

( limited number of copies available to borrow ) See Mr. Skeen