



How CAP Core Lessons Align with AP U.S. GoPo

	Topic/Content	Activities	AP U.S. GoPo Learning Objective(s) <i>(Students will be able to. . .)</i>	AP U.S. GoPo Essential Knowledge <i>(Students will know that. . .)</i>
Lesson 1: A Different Kind of Government Course	Identifying and prioritizing traits of effective citizens. Defining public policy.	Citizenship Brainstorm and discussion (small groups, followed by whole-class). Reading & discussion: What is public policy?	PMI-4.B: Explain how U.S. political culture (e.g., values, attitudes, and beliefs) influences the formation, goals, and implementation of public policy over time.	PMI-4.B.1: Because the U.S. is a democracy with a diverse society, public policies generated at any given time reflect the attitudes and beliefs of citizens who choose to participate in politics at that time.
Lesson 2: Exploring How Public Policy Connects to Current Problems and Issues	Connecting public policy to issues and problems facing society by examining media coverage.	News Search: small group work to find examples in the press of problems/issues, policies, and connections to government.	CON-2.C: Explain how the distribution of powers among three federal branches and between national and state governments impacts policy making. PMI-5.A: Describe linkage institutions.	CON-2.C.1: Multiple access points for stakeholders and institutions to influence public policy flows from the allocation of powers between national and state governments. PMI-5.A.1: Linkage institutions are channels, such as the following, that allow individuals to communicate their preferences to policy-makers: - Parties - Interest Groups - Elections - Media

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Lesson 3: Problems, Policy, and Civic Actions	<p>Analyzing causes and effects of problems/ issues facing society.</p> <p>Identifying issue they want to work on for CAP.</p>	<p>Exploring problems and issues found in News Search to narrow down to an issue for CAP.</p> <p>Whole-class modeling, then small group work to analyze causes and effects of issue identified in Lesson 2.</p> <p>Reading and optional six-minute animated video (“Connecting Issues and Problems to Policy”).</p> <p>Draft focus statement for CAP and begin work on Proposal Planner.</p>	PMI-5.G: Explain how various political actors influence public policy outcomes.	PMI-5.G.2: Competing actors such as interest groups, professional organizations, social movements, the military, and bureaucratic agencies influence policy making, such as the federal budget process, at key stages and to varying degrees.

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Lesson 4: Polling and Surveys as Civic Action	<p>Examining the importance and meaning of survey and opinion polls.</p> <p>Considering challenges of and applying sound methodology to polling.</p>	<p>Work in pairs to conduct and respond to a sample survey.</p> <p>Reading and discussion to identify how to develop a high-quality survey, including how best to ask questions.</p> <p>Work in CAP groups to draft, receive feedback on, and refine a survey on their CAP issue — to be used as part of their CAP.</p>	<p>MPA-2.A: Describe the elements of a scientific poll.</p> <p>MPA-2.B: Explain the quality and credibility of claims based on public opinion data.</p>	<p>MPA-2.A.1: Public opinion data that can impact elections and policy debates is affected by such scientific polling types and methods as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Type of poll (opinion polls, benchmark or tracking polls, entrance and exit polls) - Sampling techniques, identification of respondents, mass survey or focus group, sampling error - Type and format of questions <p>MPA-2.B.1: The relationship between scientific polling and elections and policy debates is affected by the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Importance of public opinion as a source of political influence in a given election or policy debate - Reliability and veracity of public opinion data

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Lesson 5: Introducing Policy Analysis	Introducing policy analysis through case studies.	<p>Examine various case studies and apply the GRADE policy analysis tool.</p> <p>Discussion to further explore why public policy is made, how it's made, which level(s) of government are involved, and how citizens and other stakeholders can be involved.</p>	<p>CON-2.C: Explain how the distribution of powers among three federal branches and between national and state governments impacts policy making.</p> <p>PMI-4.B: Explain how U.S. political culture (e.g., values, attitudes, and beliefs) influences the formation, goals, and implementation of public policy over time.</p>	<p>CON-2.C.1: Multiple access points for stakeholders and institutions to influence public policy flows from the allocation of powers between national and state governments.</p> <p>CON-2.C.2: National policymaking is constrained by the sharing of power between and among the three branches and state governments.</p> <p>PMI-4.B.1: Because the U.S. is a democracy with a diverse society, public policies generated at any given time reflect the attitudes and beliefs of citizens who choose to participate in politics at that time.</p>