Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period:\_\_\_

Part. in Gov’t – Homework – 60pts

**Homework Outline UNIT I**

*You are responsible for reading and taking notes from the textbook. Below are the chapters and page numbers you need to review. You may answer the questions as they are presented in the outline below, use one of the note taking methods presented in class, or your own system of note taking. You may do this by hand or on the computer.*

**Unit 1:**

**2.1 The Roots of American Democracy (pgs. 32-36)**

1. English Political Heritage
   1. Describe the influence of the following documents on the U.S. Constitution
      1. Magna Carta
      2. Petition of Right
      3. English Bill of Rights
2. Intellectual Influences
   1. How did each of the following influence the Framers of the Constitution?
      1. Republicanism
      2. Judeo-Christian teachings
      3. Enlightenment thinkers

**3.1 A Blueprint for Government (pgs 68-76)**

1. Goals of the Constitution
   1. What were the main goals of the Constitution?
2. Principles of Government in the Constitution
   1. What is included in the “blueprint for government?
3. What is Popular Sovereignty and why is it important to our government?
   1. What does it look like in our government?
4. Why is a limited government important and what does it look like?
   1. Why is an informed civil society important to a limited government?
5. Describe the separation of powers and how it works to check and limit the power of the government
6. Why are Checks and Balances important to how our government functions?
   1. Give the main power/purpose of each branch, then provide an example of how that branch checks the other two:
      1. Executive Branch
         1. Legislative check:
         2. Judicial check:
      2. Legislative Branch
         1. Executive check:
         2. Judicial check:
      3. Judicial Branch
         1. Executive check:
         2. Legislative check:
7. What is Judicial Review?
   1. How was it established?
   2. Why are Supreme Court Justices elected for life?
8. What is Federalism?
   1. How does Federalism differ from Separation of Powers?
   2. What is the Supremacy Clause and how is it affected by the 10th Amendment?

**2.3 Applying the Constitution (pgs 85-89)**

1. The Federal Government Applies the Constitution
   1. What was the role of Congress in shaping the Constitution?
   2. How can the application of the Constitution change?
   3. What are the inherent executive powers?
      1. What is an Executive Agreement?
      2. Does the executive branch have any law-making abilities? If so, how?
   4. What is Judicial Interpretation?
   5. What effects can the courts have on government and the people?
   6. What is a strict versus a loose construction of the Constitution?
2. Political Parties, Customs & Traditions
   1. What are Political Parties?
   2. How do the parties shape the interpretation of Constitution?
   3. What is a PAC (Political Action Committee?
   4. How do customs and traditions affect and guide the government?
3. Criticisms of the Constitution
   1. How does the system create gridlock and what is the concern with this?
   2. What are the critiques about representation?
   3. What is the Electoral College?
      1. How does it work?
   4. What is your opinion on winner-take-all elections vs. proportional representation?

4.3 **Federalism Today** (pgs. 112-115)

1. What is Fiscal Federalism?
   1. Define: Grants-in-aid
2. Grants & Mandates
   1. What are Categorical grants?
   2. What are block grants?
      1. How do they differ from categorical grants?
   3. What is a federal mandate?
      1. How have federal mandates been used?
      2. Are there concerns with Federal Mandates? Explain
3. Issues in Federalism Today
   1. Poverty
      1. Describe the issues:
      2. Is this a matter for State or Federal Government? Why?
   2. Homeland Security
      1. Describe the issues.
      2. Is this a matter for the states or Federal government? Why?
   3. The Environment
      1. Describe the issues:
      2. Is this a matter for State or Federal Government? Why?
   4. Immigration
      1. Describe the issues:
      2. Is this a matter for State or Federal Government? Why?
   5. Health Care
      1. Describe the issues:
      2. Is this a matter for State or Federal Government? Why?