

## AP US Government and Politics Summer Assignment

1. Purchase the AMSCO text titled: *AMSCO Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics*. ISBN: 9781531112837.
2. Read the Introduction to the AMSCO text.
3. Read Chapter 1 of the AMSCO text.
4. Read the Declaration of Independence and complete the following questions regarding the Declaration of Independence:

An argument for limited government as seen in the Declaration of Independence.

1. What is Limited Government?
2. Four major ideas of limited government are (define the terms below):
  - a. Natural Rights
  - b. Popular sovereignty
  - c. Republicanism
  - d. Social contract
3. Please read the Declaration of Independence and answer the questions below.
  - a. The major argument of the Declaration of Independence is in the second paragraph (begins with "we hold these truths"). Identify that argument and summarize it in your own words.
  - b. The longest portion of the document is the "list of usurpations". Why is this list crucial in providing legitimacy to the authors' argument?
  - c. An implication is a conclusion that can be drawn even if it is not stated directly in the document. Even though the new government was not yet formed, what implications about its political principles, behaviors, and processes does the Declaration of Independence suggest?
  - d. Are the ideas listed in Question #2 present in the Declaration of Independence? How does this document create a foundation for a democratic government and society to be built?