

**Due Dates:**  
Your assignment will be due the second day of class which is either:  
8/26 Thursday or  
8/27 Friday

## Broadneck High School Social Studies



May 26, 2010

Dear Student:

WELCOME TO BROADNECK HIGH SCHOOL!

As part of the Honors U.S. Government Program, you are required to complete a pre-course assignment, which is to be done over the summer. This project will be incorporated into the first unit of study during the Fall of 2010, which is *Nature and Purpose of Government*. Please read the directions listed below and complete the assignment. It is in your best interest not to wait until the middle of August to begin.

You will submit:

- a title page including your name, date, and class;
- a printed/cut out copy of each article (articles need to be from 2010);
- a summary and analysis of each article as per the attached directions;
- and the copy of the rubric located at the end of the assignment.

If you have any additional questions regarding this project, you may contact me via my e-mail address or the contact person listed below. Have a great summer!!

Sincerely,

*Christina Houstian*

Christina Houstian  
Social Studies Chairperson  
(410)757-1300 ex. 311  
e-mail: [choustian@aacps.org](mailto:choustian@aacps.org)

Leslie Agre  
e-mail: [lagre@aacps.org](mailto:lagre@aacps.org)

Larry Block  
e-mail: [lblock@aacps.org](mailto:lblock@aacps.org)

Josh Cartwright  
e-mail: [jcartwright@aacps.org](mailto:jcartwright@aacps.org)

Christina Olson  
e-mail: [colson@aacps.org](mailto:colson@aacps.org)

Broadneck High School  
Honors Government: Pre-Course Assignment

**The Nature and Purpose of Government  
Program Goal:**

**1.1.2: The student will evaluate how the principles of government assist or impede the functioning of government.**

No matter the government in place or time, each has a responsibility to its people. Every government that exists, or has existed, in order to succeed has had to provide and maintain four responsibilities or purposes. These four purposes of government are:

1. Maintain Social Order
2. Provide Public Services
3. Provide for National Security
4. Provide for, and control, the economic system

**Maintaining Order** ensures that there is peace within a country or the area of the government's control. Things like laws or rules and the enforcement of these laws keep peace within a nation's area of control.

**Provide Public Services** is the purpose of government that assists the people living under its control. Services like food, water, protection, jobs, and creation of laws and other public facilities are critical to keeping order and assisting people.

**Provide for National Security** ensures that the orderly, well taken care of population under a government is protected from other governments, invaders, or other external threats.

**Provide for, and control the economic system** allows a government to protect the employment and needs of its people. The three previous purposes require some level of funding to be successful; a controlled economic system ensures that funding is available for the government to function.

**Assignment**

In order to complete your pre-course assignment, you will need access to a widely distributed newspaper or periodical (Ex: *The Capital*, *The Baltimore Sun*, *The Washington Post*, or *Times*, *Newsweek*, *Time Magazine*, etc).

On-line articles from these sources are acceptable provided the original website printable version is provided – you MAY NOT copy and paste an article from an on-line source and print it with a word processing program. Most on-line articles have a “Print this Page” option, use it.

A copy of each article must be provided and stapled to its analysis paper. If/when cutting articles from the newspaper, **cut enough of the paper out to include the periodical/newspaper name, published date, the article's author, and title of the article.** Failure to provide this information is a violation of copyright law and could result in a failing grade for the assignment for violating the AACPS Academic Integrity Policy.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are expected to exhibit academic integrity with regard to all assignments as communicated by teachers and school staff. Academic integrity is defined as exhibiting honesty in all academic exercises and assignments. Violations may result in a failing grade for the activity or the course, as well as a referral to an administrator.

Please read the academic integrity policy as defined in the Anne Arundel County Public Schools student handbook; may be found at:

<http://www.aacps.org/aacps/boe/board/newpolicy/tableofcontents600.htm>

### **Part 1:**

You will need to acquire an article that exemplifies a government succeeding at each purpose of government. The examples do not have to be the same government in each article. For example, you may have an article showing China succeeding at maintaining order and an article about the U.S. providing national security.

You will need to type a ½ page summary of each article in 12 point, double spaced, Times New Roman or Arial font, and 1 inch margins. These are universal sizes, spacing and fonts – any papers that are not typed in this size, space, or font style will not be accepted and thus become subject to late penalties. If there are issues with accessing a word processor, type writer, or printer, please contact the government teacher **BEFORE** the beginning of school. The summary should:

- Include a brief recount of the important events, places, and names from the article.
- Include an explanation of why the article is an example of a (the) purpose of government and identify the purpose of government the article exemplifies.
- The summary should be written in the student's own words and should not be a shorter rewrite of the original article.

### **Part 2:**

Students will also need to write a ½ page reflection on each article (also 12pt font, double spaced, in Times New Roman or Arial font) explaining why the government succeeded, in fulfilling the purpose of government. The paragraph should:

- Identify the purpose of government exemplified in the article
- Explain why the contents of the article are an example of why the government succeeded in fulfilling the purpose.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Grading Rubric**

<b>Description</b>	<b>5 points Meets all requirements</b>	<b>4 Points Meets most requirements</b>	<b>3 points Meets some requirements</b>	<b>2 points Meets few requirements</b>
The student has included and properly documented an article for each purpose of government.				
The student has included and properly written a ½ page summary of each article.				
The student has included and properly written a ½ page reflection on each article.				
The student has used the proper format for each summary and reflection written.				
The summaries and reflections are proofread and free of any spelling and grammar errors.				
The chosen articles clearly exemplify their matching purposes of government.				
The article summaries show critical thinking and connection to the purposes of government.				
The articles, summaries, and reflections are organized neatly and compactly.				