

## ESSENTIAL COURT CASES FOR AP GOVERNMENT



The cases below are important to any AP Government course. You should use these court cases to understand the relationships of the branches of government, the major principles of the Constitution, and the policy making process.

Foundations	<u><i>Marbury v. Madison</i></u>	Court establishes concept of "Judicial Review"
↓	<u><i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i></u>	Article I, Section 8 includes 'implied powers' for congress under the 'necessary and proper' clause, and Article VI establishes the supremacy of federal laws over state laws
Federalism	<u><i>Burlington Railway v Chicago</i></u>	The Federal Bill of Rights is incorporated (applied to the states) through the 14th and 15 <sup>th</sup> Amendments, and are supreme under Article VI.
↓	<u><i>United States v. Lopez</i></u>	
Executive Powers	<u><i>US v Nixon</i></u>	The doctrine of executive privilege only applies to matters of national security.
↓	<u><i>Clinton v Jones</i></u>	'Sovereign immunity' under the 11 <sup>th</sup> amendment does not apply to actions which are not part of the office's duties and powers.
↓	<u><i>Train v NYC</i></u>	Court held that Presidential impoundment (refusal to spend) funds allocated by congress is an unconstitutional transfer of enumerated congressional powers to the executive.
↓	<u><i>NYC v Clinton</i></u>	The President's use of a line item veto is an unconstitutional transfer of enumerated congressional powers to the executive.
Civil Liberties	<u><i>Gitlow v New York</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Citizens' United v FCC</i></u>	The First Amendment prohibits the government from restricting independent political expenditures by corporations and unions.
↓	<u><i>NY Times v Sullivan</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Miller v California</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Texas v Johnson</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Tinker v Des Moines</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Hazelwood v Kuhlmeier</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Cantwell v Connecticut</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Lemon v. Kurtzman</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Loving v Virginia</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>McDonald v Chicago</i></u>	
↓	<u><i>Griswold v. Connecticut</i></u>	

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Civil Liberties (cont.) ↓	<u><i>Roe v. Wade</i></u>		
	<u><i>Planned Parenthood v Casey</i></u>		
	<u><i>Cruzan v Missouri Health</i></u>		
Civil Rights Procedural Due Process ↓	<u><i>Mapp v Ohio</i></u>		
	<u><i>US v Leon</i></u>		
	<u><i>Maryland v King</i></u>		
	<u><i>Benton v Maryland</i></u>		
	<u><i>Kelo v City of New London</i></u>		
	<u><i>Miranda v Arizona</i></u>		
	<u><i>Gideon v Wainwright</i></u>		
	<u><i>Gregg v Georgia</i></u>		
	<u><i>Roper v Simmons</i></u>		
	Civil Rights Substantive Due Process ↓	<u><i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i></u>	
		<u><i>Brown v. Board of Education</i></u>	
		<u><i>Swann v Charlotte-Mecklenburg</i></u>	
		<u><i>California Regents v. Bakke</i></u>	
<u><i>Grutter v. Bollinger</i></u>			
<u><i>Baker v Carr</i></u>		The 14 <sup>th</sup> Amendment requirement of equal protection guarantees 'one man, one vote', and mandates that voting districts be "equal, compact, contiguous, and non-discriminatory"..	
<u><i>Lawrence v. Texas</i></u>			
<u><i>Obergefell v Hodges</i></u>			