

AP U.S. Government & Politics Summer Assignment 2: 15 SCOTUS Cases

You are required to know fifteen (see below) U.S. Supreme Court (SCOTUS) cases for this course, including (1) background information in each case, (2) the constitutional question and applicable constitutional amendment(s) in each case, (3) how the Court ruled in each case and the Court's reasoning in each decision, and (4) the precedent (look it up) set by each decision. Additionally, you must be familiar with related cases that are mentioned in the research, e.g. Plessy in the Brown case and Heller in the McDonald case. You will not turn in your research, but be prepared for a quiz on day one and any day thereafter.

Example of background information:

The case _____ v _____ involved a man accused and convicted of breaking and entering a Florida pool room with the intent to commit petty larceny. A lawyer was not provided.

Example of a constitutional question and applicable constitutional amendment(s):

In the case _____ v _____, did the person's initial conviction under the Espionage Act violate his First Amendment right to criticize the U.S. draft in World War I?

Example of the Court's reasoning:

The North Carolina case _____ v _____ was a clear example of racially motivated gerrymandering (look it up), thus unconstitutional under the Fourteenth Amendment.

Example of a precedent set:

The case _____ v _____ set the precedent that the federal government does not have the authority to implement gun policy in state-run public schools because it is unrelated to interstate commerce (look it up).

1. Marbury v Madison (1803)
2. McCulloch v Maryland (1819)
3. Schenck v United States (1919)
4. Brown v Board of Education of Topeka (1954)
5. Baker v Carr (1962)
6. Engel v Vitale (1962)
7. Gideon v Wainwright (1963)
8. Tinker v Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)
9. New York Times Company v United States (1971)
10. Wisconsin v Yoder (1972)
11. Roe v Wade (1973)
12. Shaw v Reno (1993)
13. United States v Lopez (1995) [NOT Lopez v U.S.]
14. Citizens United v Federal Election Commission (2010)
15. McDonald v Chicago (2010)

Use books and/or the following reliable websites for your research:

oyez.org	uscourts.gov	britannica.com
thirteen.org	landmarkcases.org	scotusblog.com

