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# OpenStax American Government 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

## Transition Guide



### Overview

*American Government 3e* was revised to increase currency, inclusion, accuracy, and relevance. Based on extensive feedback from the political science community, the team retained the book structure and sequence while improving the narrative, providing numerous examples and discussion starting points, and updating dozens of illustrations and data references.

This revision reflects events, political developments, and social changes that have taken place since 2019. With the COVID-19 pandemic, social justice efforts, and the 2020 election, many students will enter the American Government course with extensive firsthand experience of the impact of government in their lives and their communities. The tone and references to these events is therefore informed and factual but also relatively conversational, in a manner intended to relate to students' own experiences and hopefully draw out their perspectives.

The authors, reviewers, and the entire team worked to build understanding of the causes and impacts of discrimination, as well as their manifestations and integration into political structures and practices. *American Government 3e* contains dozens of examples of discrimination and its outcomes regarding laws, policies, priorities, institutions, and individuals. The book also features data and narratives offering the perspectives of people from different groups, and centers diverse experiences in examples of policies and their purposes and outcomes.

Fundamentally, the team worked to achieve a balance between the material's confrontation of negative aspects of American government and its acknowledgement of American progress in these areas. While the text covers a wide range of issues and challenges facing the people and governments within the nation, it also showcases those organizations and individuals seeking to improve outcomes and realize the ideals of the country.

Finally, *American Government 3e* will be supported by **OpenStax Tutor**, an adaptive formative assessment, reading, and quizzing system. Tutor integrates the textbook with dozens of multiple choice, true-false, and short-answer questions for each chapter. The questions include informative feedback and provide insight to students and instructors regarding student understanding. In particular, OpenStax Tutor contains questions that extend and enrich the text material in ways designed to engage students.

## Revision Changes

This table includes the major content updates. In addition to these changes, verbiage, phrasing, and ordering were improved, and more inclusive and people-first language was implemented.

Note that the second edition remains available for use, and is also included in our Google Docs formats, so if you prefer to use or adapt material from that edition, you will still have the option to do so. We will also be providing a cross-walk document of relevant material in OpenStax *U.S History* and *OpenStax Sociology*, in case those offerings provide any supportive enrichment or expansion.

Section 1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updated statistics regarding makeup of Congress and the general population.</li><li>• Added example of COVID-19 masks/social distancing to illustrate tradeoffs</li></ul>
Section 1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updated graphic on political affiliation</li><li>• Updated discussion on ideology to reflect 2020 election</li></ul>
Section 2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Added feature box on Suffragist and Poet Charlotte Forten Grimké</li></ul>
Section 3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Updated figures 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, and 3.7 to reflect more current data on government revenue sources, spending, and so on.</li><li>• Updated status of examples such as the ERA and marijuana legalization.</li><li>• Added information on government spending for COVID-19 to exemplify spending decisions and outcomes</li></ul>
Section 3.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Added example of the founding of Iowa State University to illustrate types of grants, and expanded on land grant example to include HBCUs.</li></ul>
Section 3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Added information on recent election and related voting laws.</li></ul>
Chapter 4 Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Replaced introduction with discussion of Black Lives Matter and COVID-19 in relation to civil liberties.</li></ul>
Section 4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minor additions to provide more recent and diverse examples of civil rights and civil liberties issues or actions. These include 2017 family separation at the border, 1919 Abrams case regarding free speech, etc.</li></ul>
Section 4.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarified and expanded discussion and examples of organizations/religions related to RFRA laws.</li><li>• Added example of Bergen County NJ to discussion of blue laws.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added context of anthem protests to discussion of flag burning to provide a potentially more familiar example and provide a discussion starting point.</li> <li>• Added context of no-knock warrants to discussion of 4th Amendment.</li> </ul>
Section 4.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added discussion of civil forfeiture and laws to eliminate it.</li> <li>• Expanded and updated discussion of capital punishment and debates regarding methods; updated figure regarding rate of executions by nation.</li> </ul>
Section 5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanded coverage of segregation after Brown v. Board of Education, including redlining and Northern educational segregation.</li> <li>• Expanded and clarified position and approach of Malcolm X</li> </ul>
Section 5.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated recent court decisions, including McGirt v. Oklahoma.</li> <li>• Added discussion of Native American gains, including appointment of Secretary Deb Haaland.</li> </ul>
Section 5.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added recent context to discussion of Asian American Civil Rights, including the increase in hate crimes in 2020.</li> <li>• Added recent history and current status of Transgender people in regard to military service.</li> <li>• Added descriptions of the frequency of hate crimes and discrimination directed against Jewish people and Muslim people.</li> </ul>
Section 6.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within Problems in Polling section, expanded and updated coverage and examples, including the MoveOn leading poll regarding Elizabeth Warren and Hillary Clinton.</li> <li>• Note that <b>OpenStax Tutor</b> for this section includes a number of questions related to polling problems, leading questions, and so on.</li> </ul>
Section 6.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised discussion and illustration regarding demographic voting patterns to reflect 2020 Presidential election.</li> <li>• Updated information on political viewpoints and party affiliation to reflect 2019 and 2020 data, respectively.</li> <li>• Updates to social and political issue polling data to reflect mostly 2020 and 2021 data, including polling on marriage equality, budget deficits, COVID-19 responses, gun rights, and so on. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Includes revision of graphs on public opinion regarding same-sex marriage and immigration.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Updated Congressional approval rating graph and discussion.</li> </ul>
Chapter 7 Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replaced introductory narrative with discussion of Pete Buttigieg.</li> </ul>
Section 7.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Added information about recent voting restriction laws being passed after Supreme Court ruling on VRA.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added information regarding felony disenfranchisement.</li> </ul>
Section 7.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarified voting-eligible population considerations related to mental illness and intellectual disabilities.</li> <li>Added depth to discussion of voting registration outcomes, comparing registered citizens in 2012 o 2020.</li> <li>Updated Figures 7.6, 7.7, and 7.8 on voter turnout and voting rates.</li> <li>Added several examples of voter registration and turnout initiatives.</li> <li>Added recent data regarding turnout outcomes in terms of gender, race, and so on.</li> </ul>
Section 7.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added and updated information about demographics of Congress and other representation.</li> <li>Updated data regarding fundraising and campaign contributions, including illustration of 2021-22 contribution limits.</li> <li>Within electoral college section, described events of January 6, 2021 as they related to certifying the election.</li> </ul>
Section 7.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added discussion of social media in campaigns</li> <li>Added a description of the field in the 2020 election</li> </ul>
Section 7.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated graphic of voter referendums</li> <li>Updated and replaced data and examples of direct democracy issues and approaches.</li> </ul>
Section 8.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates to data regarding media channels and networks, including Figure 8.3 on media consolidation.</li> </ul>
Section 8.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minor data updates, as well as an added description of the Twitter and social media company response to President Trump.</li> </ul>
Section 8.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated coverage of U.S. government actions regarding net neutrality, FOIA, and press relationships with different administrations. (Note that the very first release of the textbook did not have an update regarding the Biden administration, which will be added subsequently.)</li> </ul>
Section 9.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated data on membership and Figure 9.4 on minor parties</li> </ul>
Section 9.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant updates and context regarding political polarization, including recent outcomes and impacts.</li> <li>Added material related to activities and perspectives related to social justice efforts.</li> </ul>
Section 10.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added more recent material regarding current events and social justice efforts in response to crimes or oppression, including action resulting from the murder of George Floyd. Additional examples of</li> </ul>

	<p>student activism were also added to the feature at the end of the section.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated and reframed figure 10.7 on views regarding immigrants, including a more historical presentation of the changes in opinion.</li> </ul>
Section 10.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Table 10.1 on the Top 20 lobbying firms, as well as figure 10.12 on business sector political contributions.</li> <li>Added a brief discussion of hashtag activism.</li> </ul>
Section 10.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Figure 10.13 on PAC fundraising</li> <li>Added material on model legislation and its impact on laws.</li> </ul>
Section 10.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Biden administration and other recent policies and developments on lobbying.</li> <li>Added paragraph regarding lobbying by foreign entities, including mention of the need to register as a foreign agent.</li> </ul>
Section 11.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated data and figures regarding Congressional representation in Figure 11.3, as well as tax revenue in Figure 11.5.</li> <li>Brief addition regarding executive orders at end of section.</li> </ul>
Section 11.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated data and figures regarding contribution limits in Figure 11.8, as well as Congressional reelection rates in Figure 11.9</li> </ul>
Section 11.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated data and figures to reflect recent elections and opinion polling, including Figure 11.13 on diversity in Congressional representation and 11.15 on Congressional job approval.</li> </ul>
Section 11.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added recent examples of usage of filibuster (Ted Cruz regarding ACA) and budget reconciliation (COVID relief package).</li> </ul>
Section 12.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated information related to the election process, including Figure 12.3 on Electoral College allocations by state.</li> <li>Added more context and recent information regarding presidential impeachment.</li> </ul>
Sections 12.2 - 12.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Similar updates to relevant information, and examples of approaches or people related to concept.</li> <li>Section 12.2 discusses the Supreme Court nominations at end of presidential terms.</li> <li>Section 12.4 discusses the Vice Presidencies of Mike Pence and Kamala Harris</li> </ul>
Section 12.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated data regarding pardons and executive orders by Presidents, including revising figure on Presidential Executive Actions by Year.</li> </ul>

Chapter 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throughout the chapter, updates to makeup of courts.</li> <li>13.1: At end of section, added reference to <i>Bucklew v. Precythe</i> (2019) case regarding death penalty.</li> <li>13.2: Updated information on marijuana legalization, including update to national map regarding legalization status.</li> <li>13.3-13.4: Updates to makeup of Supreme Court and demographic information on makeup of other courts.</li> </ul>
Section 14.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates to state funding and revenue data, including revisions of Figures 14.4 on Federal/State/Local Spending and Figure 14.5 on Local Revenue Funding sources.</li> </ul>
Section 14.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated material on Oregon voting registration initiatives</li> <li>Added brief example of Tulsa incentives to drive relocation to the city.</li> </ul>
Section 14.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added context of gubernatorial actions and public reactions regarding COVID-19, as well as example of 2021 winter storm and power grid outcomes in Texas.</li> <li>Revised figures and discussions of women's representation in state legislatures as well as party control by state.</li> </ul>
Section 14.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated graph of term limits by state.</li> </ul>
Section 15.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided additional context regarding the persistence of large defense bureaucracy and spending after the Cold War through the 2021 pullout of Afghanistan.</li> </ul>
Section 15.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised Figure 15.8 on Civil Service pay scale</li> </ul>
Section 15.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated table listing cabinet secretaries</li> <li>Added example of recent government corporation issues with U.S. Postal Service and Louis DeJoy.</li> </ul>
Section 15.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided different example of whistleblower, regarding the identity of the whistleblower in President Trump's first impeachment.</li> </ul>
Chapter 16 Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replaced previous opening narrative with account of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe lawsuits and protests regarding pipeline construction within their sovereign nation.</li> </ul>
Section 16.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added development of rural Internet infrastructure as an example of a distributed project.</li> </ul>
Section 16.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated information regarding aging population of U.S.</li> <li>Added context regarding U.S. education system goals and outcomes.</li> </ul>

Section 16.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated Figure 16.3 on publicly held federal debt.</li> <li>• Removed feature on preparing to be a policy maker</li> <li>• Added example of DARE efficacy</li> <li>• Added new figure illustrating four steps of the policy process</li> </ul>
Section 16.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated figure on federal spending breakdown</li> <li>• Updated figure on government funding as percent of total revenue</li> <li>• General updates to data on government revenue and spending</li> </ul>
Chapter 17	<p>General updates to foreign policy decisions, events, and approaches, including the status status of the Paris Climate agreement, the U.S. relationships with Russia and China, and so on.</p>