

AMSCO®

ADVANCED PLACEMENT® EDITION

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

Topic: Balancing Minority and Majority Rights

Before you get started...

American Parliamentary Law is built upon the principle that rights must be respected: the rights of the majority, of the minority, of individuals, of absentees, and rights of all of these together.

On a practical level, the application of majority rule and minority rights relies on a set of rules agreed to by everyone in a political community. How are majorities determined? What are the limits of debate and speech? How can members in a community propose a motion or law? Should a minority be allowed to prevent the majority's will? How can minority groups be guaranteed political and social representation within a democratic framework? -- [Democracy Web: Comparative Studies in Freedom](#)

At the end you should know ...

How has the Supreme Court allowed the restriction of the civil rights of the minorities at times and at other times protected those rights?

Resources ...

Wolfford pp. 366-372, [Video Clip 3.12](#) , [Quizlet Stack 3.12](#)

Notes: