

American Government

Institutions & Policies

By Dr. Telly Kamelia

If you only need the buying answer

The lowest short-term route for **American Government: Institutions & Policies** is the eBook, not the print copy. MindTap also sits below the current print listing. So if your course is clearly tied to digital access and you only want the cheapest short-term path, digital wins. The reason the current print listing still matters is that it sits far below the broader paperback market around it, which makes it a strong ownership option for students who want a standalone book rather than a temporary access product.

Format	Source	Price
Print	Merybook	\$126.59 Check price
eBook	Cengage market	\$58.99 Check price
MindTap	Cengage market	\$112.00 Check price
Paperback list	Publisher / bookstore market	\$323.95 Check price

This makes the verdict split rather than one-note. Digital wins on immediate cost. Print wins on ownership value relative to the paperback market. The important thing is not to confuse those two questions.

What this book actually teaches

An American government text matters when it helps students move beyond memorizing institutions toward understanding how constitutional structure, political behavior, elections, federalism, civil liberties, policymaking, and public debate actually connect. Good government texts give students a framework for reading current events with more discipline, not just a list of chapter facts.

That is one reason some students still prefer print. A book that deals with institutions, case examples, and public issues often rewards slower reading, annotation, and

revisiting. But for courses built directly around digital homework or embedded assignments, the practical answer can still lean toward the platform route.

Who should choose digital and who should buy print

Choose digital if your section clearly requires the Cengage platform or if your goal is the lowest short-term cost. Choose print if you want a keepable government text and the course allows a standalone book. In the current market, print is not the cheapest route, but it is still a strong ownership-value route.

Sources checked

- [Merybook print listing search](#)
- [Cengage search for ISBN 9798214146225](#)