

United States Government

Length: Year Course Credit: 1.0 Social Studies Credit Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Students will examine the foundations of government in the United States of America, the State of Missouri, and our local governments. They will participate in learning activities that will help them to understand our three branches of government and how they work. Included in their learning experiences are in-depth study of our political system and the roles of citizens in this process. This Government course meets the state of Missouri's requirement Civics credit.

Course Objective: Students will compare other political systems and philosophies with the democratic republic of our nation. A major goal will be to educate students into well informed citizens who understand the political processes that operate around them locally, statewide, and nationally.

Schedule of Topics: Semester 1 - Origins of United States

Government - Constitutional Structure and Principles - Amendments
to the Constitution / The Constitution as a Living Document -
Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Powers

Semester 2 - Rights, Duties, and

Responsibilities of Citizenship - The Election
Process - The Missouri Constitution -
Participating in the Government

Classroom Policies and Procedures Textbook: McClenaghan, William A. *Magruder's American Government*. Upper Saddle River, NJ. Pearson-Prentice Hall, 2011

- Other textbooks, publications, periodicals, and books will be used to supplement the textbook materials on as need basis. **Students**

are responsible for the quality of the text and are required to return any book/s. Any lost or damaged books will result in fines.

Required Materials: - Chrome Book (Must have in class every day with a charger) - Pen/Pencil (Must be brought everyday)

All other materials will be provided by teacher when necessary.

Rules and Expectations All students are expected to display the following traits: We are one class and we will need to work together to succeed. This includes displaying an open mind to your fellow students' opinions and respecting their diversity. We must respect each other's personal space, beliefs, and right to learn. This includes respecting yourself,

fellow classmates, teachers and administrators. We should be in our seats and ready to learn when the bell stops ringing.

Be doing what is asked of you, when you are asked to do it. We must prepare ourselves to achieve more by aiding others in their pursuit of education and by challenging ourselves. Never quit on yourself. Take ownership of your actions. Bring the materials you need in order to learn!

Attendance and Tardiness:

Students will be considered tardy if

they:

1. Are not completely in the room when the bell rings.
2. Arrive to class late without a pass.
3. The state of Missouri has set instructional minutes minimum requirements for a passing grade. Students failing to meet the minimum number of in class minutes will not pass the course.

Excused Absence (Verified through SIS): If a student has an Excused Absence, he/she will be subject to the last work policy instituted by building administration. Policy will be reviewed during the grade level assembly with Mr. Peoples.

Unexcused Absence: If a student has an Unexcused Absence for any reason, work will be counted as Unexcused. As a rule, you will have until the End of the Term for 50% Credit.* **Teacher reserves the right to grant up to five (5) school days for extenuating circumstances. These will be dealt with on a case by case basis.***

Hall Passes: Hall Passes will not be issued the first 10 minutes of class or the last 10 minutes of class. **This includes trips to lockers or other rooms for materials not brought to class.**

Dress Code: Students will follow the district policy regarding student dress. Clothing or accessories that are distracting to the classroom environment are not appropriate. **Electronic Devices are not allowed in the classroom.** Items that are distracting to the Learning Environment will not be tolerated. ***I.D.s must be worn around the neck at all times!***

Food and Beverage: Refrain from consuming food during class time. Water and other beverages with caps are permitted provided they are not a distraction to the learning environment.

Classroom Cleanliness: The expectation is for all students to refrain from littering, vandalizing, or other wise creating a mess.

Plagiarism and Cheating: Plagiarism will not be tolerated in our class. Plagiarism is taking anyone's ideas or work and presenting them as your own. **This includes copying another student's homework assignments, copying information from the internet, sharing independent assignments via Google Docs or cheating on any assignment in/out of class.** Plagiarized assignments will result in a grade of 0. Academic dishonesty such as cheating will not be tolerated and students will receive a grade of 0 for the assignment.

Grading: The grading scale for this

course is below: A 90-100%

B 80-89% C 70-79%

D 60-69% F 59% or
below

The state of Missouri requires an End of Course Exam for US Government classes. The exam will count heavily towards your final grade. (Exact percentage will be determined by building administration.)

****Teacher reserves the right to change any of the information in this syllabus****

Parents, sign below indicating that you have read the syllabus above. If you would like to include any additional contact information below, please feel free. You may contact me at any time by the email listed on the first page of the syllabus.

***Students, please sign and keep in your binder/notebook at all times.**

Student Printed

Name:

Student

Signature:

Parent/ Guardian Printed

Name:

Parent/Guardian

Signature: