

Course Overview

The American Government course provides students with a background in the philosophy, functions, and structure of the United States government. Students examine the philosophical foundations of the United States government and how that philosophy developed. They also explore the structure and function of the United States government and its relationship to states and citizens.

Course Objectives

The objective of the American Government course is to equip students with a deep understanding of the principles, structures, and functions of the United States government.

Throughout this course, students will:

- Develop knowledge necessary for informed and engaged citizenship.
- Critically analyze the historical and philosophical foundations of American democracy.
- Evaluate the workings of federal, state, and local governments.
- Understand the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic society.

Grading

Your attendance and attitude will determine your success.

Formative (daily work, checks for understanding, low level homework)- 40%

Summative (quizzes, tests, unit projects, high level homework)- 60%

Missed Classes and Late Work:

If absent on a due date the assignment will be due at the beginning of the next class period.

- If an assignment is put into IC while a student is absent and they have not had an opportunity to complete the work/turn it in, it will go into IC as “missing”. This is a PLACEHOLDER that does calculate as a zero. The student will be allowed to turn in the work and have the grade updated for full credit (as long as it is turned in on time upon their return).

Late Work: Assignments will have 10 points deducted per day until it is turned in.

Plagiarism/ Cheating:

First time: points deducted will be at the discretion of the teacher

Any and all other times: student will receive a zero for the assignment and parents contacted

Classroom Rules

1. Be respectful of your peers and the teacher.
2. When arriving to class, be seated and begin working on the Warm-Up.
3. **No Cell Phone use during instruction/ work times.**
 - There will be opportunities to use your phone in class. Phones should be completely put away when it is instructional time. Phones out during non approved times will be collected and returned at the end of class. On the third collection, and all subsequent collections, phones will be turned into the front office to be returned at the end of the school day.
4. Stay seated until the dismissal bell rings.
5. Be on time and come prepared to learn every day.
6. Don't let food/ drink be distracting and be sure to throw away all trash.