

Law Studies/World Geography/Civics
Edward W. Bok Academy North
Instructor

Course Description: Law Studies is an introduction to **Civics**. It will help scholars to understand the role and function of government at the local, state, and federal levels. We will examine the foundations of our own constitutional government, the process of voting, and our roles as citizens. Cases that reach the Florida Supreme Court and Supreme Court of the United States will be discussed in class as per the state benchmarks. As many reflect current issues, they are by definition somewhat controversial. All topics will be approached tastefully and in a balanced manner! If you want your child to opt out of anything pertaining to any court cases, please email me and I will be happy to provide an alternative assignment. State Standards for this course can be found at the following link:

<https://www.cpalms.org/PreviewCourse/Preview/566>

Course Description: In World Geography scholars will focus on the beginnings of civilization to the contemporary world. Scholars will study the rise of the nation state in Europe, the French Revolution, and the economic and political roots of the modern world. Scholars will also study the origins and consequences of the Industrial Revolution, nineteenth century political reform in Western Europe, and imperialism in Africa, Asia, and South America. Special emphasis will be placed on the causes and consequences of the World Wars, the Great Depression, the Cold War, and the Russian and Chinese Revolutions. Relevant Florida connections will be part of the curriculum, as well as appropriate primary source documents. Scholars will also explore geographic influences on history.

Course Description: Civics/American Government is a required course for middle school. The focus of this course is to prepare scholars to participate in exercising their political responsibilities as thoughtful and informed citizens. Civics provides a basis for understanding the rights and responsibilities for being an American citizen and a framework for competent and responsible participation. Emphasis is placed on the historical development of government and political systems, and the importance of the rule of law; the United States Constitution; Federal, State and local government structure; and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Scholars will actively investigate local, state and national issues, read and participate in discussions, and develop informed arguments using a variety of writing forms.

Specifically, the course aims to develop knowledge and understanding of the following:

- The ideals and beliefs shared by Americans and the meaning of citizenship.
- The historical, cultural, and philosophical foundations of the U.S. government system.
- The U.S. Constitution and the components and balances of the federal government.
- The importance and relevance of the Bill of Rights and amendments in the past and today
- The role and development of political parties and the election process in our two-party system.
- State and local government in order to understand how public policy is formed and why it is important to participate in local government.

State Standards for civics can be found at the following link:

<https://www.cpalms.org/PreviewCourse/Preview/4504>

Only Items needed for class:

- Folder or 3-ring Binder
- Loose leaf paper
- Pencils, Pens, and Colored Markers/Highlighters
- Your school laptop and a great attitude and work ethic

Grading:

Graded Tests, Quizzes, and Projects = 80%

Homework/Practice = 10%

Participation and Practice Quizzes = 10%

Grades will vary, based on points per assignment and will consist of the following types of assignments: classwork, projects, quizzes, and tests.

Expectations for class:

- Come to school and be on time – (I record tardies)
- Bring materials to class – notebook, pencils, and laptop (charge your laptops at home)
- Report to your assigned seat
- Come prepared, ready to learn, and to participate in class.
- Listen to others while they are speaking – be respectful of others opinions and ideas.
- Be respectful with technology – your phones, laptops, etc. Check Schoology every day.
- Cell phones will be put in class storage daily
- Come prepared to learn, ask questions, and enjoy the class. This class offers something for everyone. Let us begin the journey!

Discipline and classroom rules. I look forward to helping your student be a critical thinker, have proficiency in the subjects, and familiarity with the world around them. He or she will develop leadership, responsibility, and intellectual curiosity. Therefore, in my classroom, I do not tolerate disrespect towards me, or towards each other. I treat the students with respect and I expect the students to come to class with an intellectual frame of mind, prepared to work and learn, and participate without disrupting. I am not a babysitter, I am a professional educator and in order to honor your hard earned tax money, I need to ensure I am delivering a return on your investment in the form of an education for your student.

Return signed document the first week of school

I have read and understand what is expected for a successful year in Instructor Arguello's Class.

Student print and sign

Parent/Guardian print and sign

Email _____ ***Cell #*** _____