

Mr. Matthew Fortson
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Veterans High School
2024-2025

American Government/Civics

Course Description

The 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. Students also examine the structure and function of the United States government and its relationship to states and citizens.

Individual standards for the course are accessible online at www.georgiastandards.org.

Text

As a student of this course, you will be required to complete assigned reading and tasks from the text *Magruder's American Government*. These are available in class as a class set. Students should not take these home without authorization from me.

School Supplies for Social Studies

Note: All of these are for personal use. Some things are only required on a student to student basis.

Students will need the following supplies for class:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| -Single 1 inch binder | -Reinforcements for papers |
| -Pencils/Black and Red Pens | -Notebook Paper |
| -Colored Pencils | -Tape (Scotch, Invisible, Transparent, etc.) |
| -Erasers | -Personal Pencil Sharpener |
| -Highlighters | |

Items in bold are required items

Grades

Grade weights are listed in the chart below. Assignments will vary in point value depending on the length, breadth, and depth of the topic at hand. Periodic progress reports will be issued, but students are responsible for keeping up with their grades and can track them via *Infinite Campus*. Assignments will be returned to students after grading is completed.

-Major Assignments (Tests, Projects, Essays)	45%
-Minor Assignments (Quizzes, DBQs, Notebook Checks)	20%
-Daily Assignments (Classwork, Warmups, Homework)	15%
-Final Exam	20%

Note: This course includes a cumulative exam at the end of the semester.

Technology

All students are issued a district-provided chrome book for instructional purposes, student engagement, and student learning. Chromebook use is at the direction and discretion of the classroom teacher. Also, it is expected that students will bring the Chromebook to class everyday. Students will not be allowed to use class chargers.

We will be using Canvas Learning Management System and it will serve as an out of class tool that will allow the students to remain in contact with the class and necessary material. Canvas will also serve as the repository for notes, handouts, study guides, and other materials that are a part of the course. Canvas can be accessed through the student chromebook.

Cell phones are strictly forbidden. If you have one out, even to check the time, I will confiscate it. Failure to give up a cell phone when directed will result in an office referral.

Make-Up Work, Remediation, and Extra Help (Tutoring)

Students are responsible for all work, notes, handouts, etc when they are absent from class. Assignments that are turned in by the class when a student is absent are due the day the student returns. If you need an additional copy of something, check the 'stacks' (located by my closet)

NIs and Instructional absences do **NOT** negate student responsibility. You must makeup missing work.

ISS work must be completed and turned in to the ISS teacher correctly and responsibly.

Tutoring will take place on Tuesdays and Thursday from 7:30-8:00 AM. I'm available other times, but you have to let me know ahead of time.

My Expectations

1. Have Respect
 - a. For each other, school property, classroom rules, etc.
2. Do Your Job
 - a. This is your job. You get paid in grades.
3. Show Up Prepared
 - a. Have your notebook, pencils/pens, charged chromebook
4. Be Attentive
 - a. Dial in. Try to keep from being off task and daydreaming.
5. Use Tech Appropriately
 - a. Don't abuse the tech you have access to. Use it for school related things, not for Youtube!

Expectations and Class Procedures

For a full explanation see document on Canvas.

Discipline Procedures

If any of the classroom rules are broken or if the student engages in any other behavior that is deemed inappropriate, the student will be given:

1. Redirect
2. Parent Contact
3. Teacher Detention, Writing Assignment
4. Office Referral

Parent Syllabus Page – Please detach and turn in ASAP (Due by 8-5) . This is your very first grade!

I have read this syllabus and understand the standards, requirements, and expectations for Mr. Fortson’s Government class.

Student Name (Printed) _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian
Signature _____

Parent/Guardian
Email _____

Best Phone number to
contact _____

Additional Notes for Mr. Fortson:

