****U.S. Government 2022-2023

Instructor: Mr. Dale Turner E-mail: dturner@grundyk12.com GCHS Room 27 Phone: 931-304-2333

***Course Description***

Course Description: Students will study the purposes, principles, and practices of American government as established by the United States Constitution. Students will learn the structure and processes of the government of the state of Tennessee and local governments. Students will recognize their rights and responsibilities as citizens as well as how to exercise these rights and responsibilities at the local, state, and national levels.

***Curriculum Standards***

Please refer to the Tennessee Academic Standards for Social Studies.

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/standards/ss/Social_Studies_Standards.pdf>

**I*NSTRUCTION***

**Skills Covered**

Students will read from a U.S. Government textbook. Students will also read/analyze primary source documents and other supplementary materials, complete historical outlines, research projects, practice process skills, engage in levels of questioning, improve writing skills, expand vocabulary and complete interactive notebooks.

**General Pacing**

The course will include 6 units of study.

1. Foundations of American Government
2. The Legislative Branch
3. The Executive Branch
4. The Judicial Branch
5. Tennessee State Government

**Supplies Wish List**

Disinfectant Wipes/or Spray

Paper Towels

Hand Sanitizer

Tissues

1. Participating in Government

***Materials Needed***

Loose Leaf Paper

1 Folder

Pens (Blue or Black Ink)

***Resources***

**Textbook**

Our textbook is United States Government and Civics published by McGraw Hill.

Textbooks will not be issued but will be kept in the classroom. However, if there is a need to take a textbook home, a student may check out a textbook. Students who check out a textbook will be held financially responsible if the book is not returned. We will also be using an on-line version of the textbook.

**Films for Enrichment**

Throughout the school year, students will view films, film clips, documentaries, or educational programming directly correlated to their study as time permits. All audio-visuals will comply with Grundy County guidelines. I will be using many documentary films and film clips from channels like YouTube, History Channel, etc.

**Alternate Assignment**

If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or material will be considered. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objections. If a student feels uncomfortable or doesn’t feel a video is appropriate, I will allow the student to complete an alternate assignment.

***ASSESSMENT***

**Skills Assessment**

A variety of techniques will be used to assess students. A mix of both formative assessments (i.e., quizzes, checks for understanding) and summative assessments (i.e., tests, projects,) will be utilized.

**Grading**

Projects/Tests 30%

Classwork/Quizzes/Homework 40%

Folder/Notes 15%

9 Weeks Tests 15%

\*\*Any work submitted without a name may be discarded. If a student finds that he/she is missing an assignment because it was submitted without a name, the student may be required to re-do the assignment.

***Make-Up Work/ Late Work/ Missing Work***

1. Students may make up work from any *excused* absence within three (3) days of returning to school without penalty. Work submitted later than 3 days of an excused absence will receive a zero (0).

2. Work for unexcused absences will not be given nor accepted. Work from unexcused absences will result in a grade of zero (0).

3. ***Assignments that are turned in late will not be accepted unless you have approval before the deadline/due date.***

***PowerSchool Policy***

One way in which I can communicate with the student and parents is through PowerSchool. In order to give timely feedback, I will usually update grades at least 1 time per week at a minimum.

When grades for an assignment are entered into PowerSchool *each student will receive a grade*. Generally, grades for an assignment are entered on the day an assignment is due or the next day. Students who were absent for any reason will receive a zero (0) when the grades are entered. If your absence is excused and your work is turned in within three (3) days that grade will be posted in place of the zero (0) without penalty. This informs both the student and the parent that work is missing.

***Virtual Learning/ On-line Classes***

The same expectations will be used for any Virtual Learning/ On-line Classes. You will be expected to complete all assignment in the time given. Attendance will be taken for all classes. You will have a Google Classroom for this class. Please be patient and flexible. Student e-mails will be used to communicate so make sure you check your e-mail at least daily.

***Student Handbook***

The Student Handbook has procedures and expectations for all students at Grundy County High School. We will follow these. There will be additional procedures and expectations for my classes. I will cover these in class.

***Cell Phone and Electronics Policy***

Absolutely no students’ cell phones are to be out during class unless we are using them for a specific purpose as approved by the teacher and the GCHS Administration. We will follow the Student Handbook on use and consequences regarding electronic devices. Also, no laptops/Chromebooks or tablets are to be out during class, unless we are using them as part of the lesson. Smart watches are to be used for checking the time only.

Inform family members and employers they need to call the school office (931-304-2333) if they need to communicate with you during the school day. Permission to monitor your phone for calls or messages will not be given.

***Classroom Procedures***

All handbook rules will be enforced. Any extremely disruptive or disrespectful student will be immediately removed from the classroom. Additional procedures will be covered in class.

Classroom Rules:

1. Arrive on time.
2. Be engaged.
3. Use respectful and appropriate language.
4. You are accountable for all assignments.
5. You are responsible for your behavior.
6. Bring materials (pen, folder, notes, and assignments) and have them ready.
7. Cleanup after yourselves.
8. Treat everyone with respect, including yourself.
9. Treat computers/Chromebooks and classroom furniture with care.
10. Be in your assigned classroom seat when the bell rings.
11. Never line up at the door before dismissal.
12. Turn off cell phones and electronic devices.
13. Students will need to receive a pass and sign out to leave room during class.

Consequences: (A demerit will accompany a violation of classroom rules. A writing assignment may be given on the first offense.)

1. Verbal Warning and Demerit
2. Personal conference with teacher and demerit
3. Loss of privilege and Demerit
4. Writing assignment and Demerit
5. Personal Conference, Parent Call and Demerit
6. Taken to Office

***Honor Code***

Cheating will not be tolerated. Students will be subject to the disciplinary action outlined in the student handbook. See the honor code in the handbook for details.

***Communication***

If you need to reach me for any reason, please e-mail me at dturner@grundyk12.com. Include in the body of the email your name and class period. Also make sure to fill in the subject line and do not leave it blank. I will respond as quickly as I can. Parents may also call the school at 931-304-2333 and leave me a message. To request a conference, please contact the front office and we will be more than happy to schedule one.

***Tutoring /Extra Help***

I will be more than happy to provide extra help when needed. Please contact me by e-mail to set up a date and time. I don’t mind tutoring students before or after school or during my planning. However, you must schedule an appointment prior to the tutoring session. I AM HERE TO HELP YOU. ☺

*Changes/revisions may be made at any time.*