

Government Syllabus

Miss Johnson

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Extension: 1122

Room # A122 – planning 4th block

Credit: ½ unit

Material Covered:

Unit I. Foundations of American Government

- A. People and Government
- B. Origins of American Government

Unit II. The Constitution and the Federal System

- A. Structure and Principles
- B. Branches of Government
- C. The Amendments
- D. National and State Powers
- E. Relations Among the States

Unit III. Participating in Government

- A. Political Parties
- B. Party Organization
- C. Nominating Candidates
- D. Elections and Voting
- E. Expanding Voting Rights
- F. Interest Groups and Public Opinion
- G. Affecting Public Policy
- H. Mass Media

Unit IV. State and Local Government

- A. Structure and Function of State Government
- B. The Three Branches
- C. Structure and Function of Local Government

Unit V. The Legislative Branch

- A. Organization of Congress
- B. Development of Congressional Powers
- C. How a Bill Becomes a Law

Unit VI. The Executive Branch

- A. The Presidency
- B. Presidential Leadership

Unit VII. The Judicial Branch

- A. The Federal Court System
- B. Supreme Court

Materials required: a 1 ½ inch three ring binder, colored pencils, a highlighter, pen and pencil, and looseleaf paper.

Evaluation Criteria: Students will be evaluated by homework, class work, a class project, and unit tests. Grade is determined based on possible points earned. There will also be a comprehensive exam given to all students enrolled in this course.

Test: 45%

Quizzes: 15%

Homework: 15%

Classwork: 20%

Participation: 5%

Homework Policy: Students will be assigned homework in this course. I will limit the amount of homework that students have for my class, but the homework that I assign is important and I expect for it to be completed.

Absences: Students will adhere to the school's absentee policy. Students are responsible for all homework and tests missed due to absences. It is the student's responsibility to check for missed work.

Classroom Expectations: I have three simple expectations but these will be strictly enforced and failure to meet these expectations will result first in a conference with the student or possible change of seating. Any further will result in a conference with or phone call to parents. Third offenses will result in a teacher detention. Fourth offenses will merit a referral to an administrator. I do not anticipate having to send any referrals this year.

1. Be prepared.
2. Be productive.
3. Be positive.