

CP Civics and Government Course Syllabus: 2025-2026

Instructor: Mr. Christopher Kindred

- **Email:** ckindred@warwicksd.org
 - Please keep in mind that emails sent after 3:20 PM may not be returned until the following day.

Course Synopsis

During this course of study students will be instructed in content that is aligned with the Pennsylvania Department of Education academic standards for Civics and Government. A variety of instructional methods will be utilized to meet the state requirement which may include lecture, guided note taking, group discussions, debates, research projects, presentations, small group/team work, and simulations. Materials from an array of sources will be utilized- books, video clips, primary and secondary sources, articles, and mixed media that all contribute to making the course engaging, enlightening, and fun.

Units We Will Be Covering

1. Introduction: The Foundations of Citizenship
2. The Historical Origins of American Political Ideals and Democratic Rule
3. The U.S. Constitution
4. The Legislative Branch
5. The Executive Branch & International Politics
6. The Federal Judiciary & U.S. Supreme Court
7. Political Parties, Elections, Interest Groups and Public Opinion
8. Public Policies and Services: Economic Policy
9. Public Policies and Services: Social and Domestic Policy
 - Due to time constraints, key elements of Units 8 and 9 will be incorporated into other units
10. Pennsylvania Government
 - Aspects of this unit will be integrated into the previously listed units

Skills We will be Practicing

- Research
- Critical Thinking/ Analysis
- Writing
- Synthesis of Ideas and Events

Google Classroom

This course will be based out of Google Classroom. Most of your work will be submitted, graded and returned via Google Classroom.

Grading Policy

- Exams and Projects: 40%
- Quizzes: 20%
- Classwork & Homework: 40%
 - Classwork may become work that you need to complete at home if you do not complete it in class before the due date
 - True Homework will be rare and not exceed 15% of your grade.

Late Work Policy

All WSD policies addressing extended absences will be followed as outlined in the student handbook. Any assignment turned in late (not due to absence) after the due date in Google Classroom will have 10% taken off per day. If you need an extension for a viable reason (illness, injury, etc.), you must speak to me before the deadline when possible. All late work must be completed by the end of a unit unless a marking period ends during a unit, in which case the end of the marking period is the deadline.

General Expectations

1. Please be in your assigned seats by the bell. Do not loiter around the class waiting for me to get started.
2. After getting to your assigned seat you are expected to remove your earbuds and put away your cell phone in your bag or purse.
3. If you need to leave the classroom, you must have permission and sign out.
4. Please have your computers charged before class. If you absolutely need to charge your computer, you may use one of the wall units. Your computer should only be open when being used for class.
5. Please be respectful of your peers and please refrain from using foul language.
6. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in a zero for the assignment. The use of AI to assist in completing assignments (unless directed to do so by the teacher) constitutes cheating/plagiarism.

Behavior Consequences

- Non-verbal and/or verbal redirection
- 1:1 Discussion
- Contact home
- Detention
- Administrative referral
 - Note that consequences are applied based upon severity of the behavior displayed

Closing thoughts

If you have any questions or concerns about class, you can always contact me by email or set up a time to meet. I'm excited for a great year!