

Civics and Government
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AP U.S Gov't and Politics
Syllabus

Welcome to AP U.S GOV'T and Politics

- In this class we will cover 5 units
 - Foundations of American Democracy (15-22%)
 - Interactions Among Branches of Government (25-35%)
 - Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (15-20%)
 - American Political Ideologies and Beliefs (20-30%)
 - Political Participation (25-35%)
 - Punishment: The American Story

U.S Gov't and Politics AP Exam-May 6th-2025

- 55 Multiple Choice Questions in 80 minutes
- 4 FRQs(Free Response Questions) in 100 minutes
 - Argumentation Question- Where you create an argument and counter argument utilizing foundational documents
 - SCOTUS Case Question-Supreme Court of the United States Case
 - Concept Application- real-world situation where you apply course concepts.
 - Quantitative-Analyze and interpret data related to gov't.

Welcome to Civics

- In this class we will...
 - Identify the powers of the American Government
 - Learn similarities and differences between political parties
 - Identify outside groups that can affect government.
 - Identify America's interactions with the world
 - Explore themes of Social Justice

Grades

You may earn up to 1200 points this quarter.

40%=Assessments-Tests, Projects, Socratic Seminars (480 points)

10%=Participation-Given each week based on class participation + overall classroom attitude. (120 points)

50%=Classwork-Day to day assignments. Worksheets, gallery walk check ins, homework, exit tickets, basically whatever we are working on that day. (600 points)

Grade Breakdown/Quarter Exams

- Each quarter is worth 20% of your yearly grade.
- At the end of each quarter you will have a Quarter Exam which is worth 5% of your yearly grade.

Homework Options

- Each quarter you will have four assignments to complete for homework.
- Most homework will appear and be due virtually through Google Classroom.
- I will introduce you to your first homework assignment and help you join our classroom.

Homework May Include...

- Candidate/Political Race Biography: Complete a report on a current candidate or political race explaining backstories and key issues.
- Blackout Poetry: Take a historical document and black out certain words until the poem reflects your life.
- Crash Course U.S History WS: -Watch videos about American history and answer questions.
- Hero or Hack: Research any political figure in history and explain whether they are a hero or hack
- News Blog Comparison Activity: Look at two news stories from different papers and complete a three paragraph write up. Done online.
- Sound of Politics: Research and complete a write up on a song or album that discusses political issues.
- Article Analysis: You will complete a reading then answer assigned questions.
- Video Game: Play a Civics oriented video game of Sal's choice and complete questions.
- Register to vote. Any student who registers to vote or shows proof of a parent/guardian is registered will earn a 5% average GPA bump.

AP EXCULSIVES!

- AMSCO/Green Book Reviews- You will be assigned a chapter of the book to read and complete a worksheet due before we complete the correlated reading in class.
- AP Exam Study Guides-Answer questions within guide. Some we will do in class!
- Expect to read nightly.

Expectations

- Show caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility to each other
- Do work in class
- Be on time: You must have a pass to enter late without loss of points.
- Allow me to talk during instruction (DN, DI, CFU)
- Wear hoodies outside of my classroom
- You may use the bathroom during the middle 70 minutes of class. BRING BACK THE PASS
- Cell phone/ear bud use ONLY when I give the okay.

- HORSE PLAY IS NOT TOLERATED IN THIS ROOM

Some Quick Items I forgot...

- Garbage cans/tissues in two separate locations. Use them before class or during GP
- Use the pencil sharpener when Sal isn't talking.

Turning in Assignments

- At the end of each class place your work in your folders.
- I or a volunteer will hand out folders every day.
- On dates when homework is due, I will typically collect during DN or GP.
- When class is over put folders in your bin in the back of the room
- If you miss a day you'll find it on google classroom.