

**Plymouth Regional High School**  
**Teacher's Name: Ed Kiley**  
**Department: Social Studies**

### **Syllabus for 2025-2026**

**Course Title** American Presidency Honors Seminar  
**Length of Course** ½ year (1/2 credit)  
**Prerequisite(s)** Civics/NH History Honors (APUS recommended but not required)

**Field Trips** Washington D.C. and Boston, MA

**Course Description** **The president is the most visible and most singularly powerful figure in the American political system. This course examines, in chronological order, the personalities and the policies of the American Presidents from George Washington, John Adams, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin D. Roosevelt and John F. Kennedy. It also explores the evolution of presidential power in this country and the defining events of each president's administration.**

-----

**Text** The American Presidency:  
Charles O. Jones

**Units and Topics Covered** Presidential "Fun Facts"  
Article II of the Constitution  
Electoral College  
President's Cabinet  
Washington's administration  
Adam's administration  
Lincoln's administration  
Grant's administration  
Wilson's administration  
FDR's administration  
JFK's administration

**Skills** Students must be prepared to do a number of readings, writings, and projects.

**Writing** Students will learn how to write political and historical essays using proper MLA format

**Assessments** Students will be graded on various forms of presentations, tests, quizzes, projects and seminar presentations

**At the end of this course, students will be prepared for:** Electives

## Grading Criteria:

### *Point System*

Homework 10-100 Points  
Quizzes 10-60 Points  
Quest 65-90 Points  
Test 100 Points  
Participation 20-50 Points  
Projects 50-300 Plus Points

## PRIDE

### **P** *ractical Skills and Personal Growth*

- *Develop viable skills that support success in the workforce*
- *Become a self - directed and adaptable lifelong learner*
- *Pursue interests and passions*
- *Reflect on successes and failures with resilience, tenacity, flexibility and perseverance*

### **R** *esponsibility and Respect*

- *Demonstrate responsibility for one's own mental, physical and financial wellness*
- *Take ownership for learning and behavior*
- *Show reliability for tasks, time and ideas*
- *Exhibit honesty, integrity, empathy, fairness and respect*

### **I** *nnovation and Critical Thinking*

- *Explore and design innovative solutions to complex and authentic problems*
- *Engage in creative expression*
- *Think creatively to transfer knowledge and apply skills to new situations*
- *Critically interpret, analyze, synthesize and apply information*

### **D** *iversity and Awareness*

- *Value diverse opinions, ideas and abilities*
- *Recognize and respect other cultural perspectives*
- *Engage in new experiences to gain awareness*
- *Demonstrate civic, social, environmental and global responsibility*

### **E** *ngagement and Communication*

- *Impact the community positively through service and/or leadership*
- *Collaborate effectively to produce a unified product*
- *Speak and write for authentic purposes*
- *Listen actively for understanding*

## **CLASS EXPECTATIONS:**

1. **ATTENDANCE:** BE HERE ON TIME. IF LATE, A PASS IS NEEDED. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A PASS YOU WILL HAVE A DETENTION!  
IF ABSENT, YOU WILL HAVE TWO SCHOOL DAYS TO MAKE UP WORK.
  
2. **RESPECT:** RESPECT IS A BIG PART OF LIFE!  
I EXPECT YOU TO RESPECT:  
YOURSELF  
CLASSROOM  
CLASSMATES  
CLASSROOM  
MR. KILEY  
I WILL RESPECT YOU 100% OF THE TIME AND EXPECT RESPECT BACK. (MEET ME HALFWAY)
  
3. **HOMEWORK:** I WILL ASSIGN HOMEWORK MOST NIGHTS.
  
4. **PAPERS/PROJECTS:** YOU WILL HAVE SHORT/LONG PAPERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. ALL MUST BE TYPED IN MLA FORMAT.
  
5. **EXTRA CREDIT:** YOU WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR EXTRA CREDIT WORK. (ONLY FOR THOSE WHO DESERVE IT)
  
6. **TEACHING STYLE:** SEMINAR STYLE, GROUP WORK, PRESENTATIONS, PROJECTS CLASS WORK, FILMS/MOVIES, GOOGLE CLASSROOM, PRESIDENTIAL BOOKS
  
7. **BOOK (S)** MUST BE BROUGHT TO CLASS WHEN NEEDED.
  
8. **NOTEBOOK:** 3 RING BINDER  
MUST BE BROUGHT TO CLASS EVERYDAY  
YOU WILL HAVE NOTEBOOK CHECKS OFTEN
  
9. **PENS:** YOU MUST BRING SOMETHING TO WRITE WITH EVERYDAY AND HAVE A **RED PEN**
  
10. **CURRENT-EVENT:** SEE HANDOUT
  
11. **EXTRA HELP:** **I WILL ALWAYS OFFER EXTRA HELP AND STUDY SESSIONS. (ROOM 203)**

12. CHROMEBOOKS: MUST BE BROUGHT TO CLASS EVERYDAY!

13. CLASSROOM RULES: NO HATS, PHONES IN CLASS

14. ROOM NUMBER: 203

**\*Work Cited and Not Cited: Make sure not to abuse the use of sources (including AI generated work or other work). AI generated work is not allowed in Mr. Kiley's courses, this includes images or written work. AI generated work is not your creation and therefore shall be deemed plagiarism (see the PRHS Handbook for those consequences). If you source any AI then the assignment will not be accepted and will be treated the same as if it was not turned in.**

**I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CLASS RULES AND EXPECTATIONS.**

**STUDENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_