

12th Gov't & Econ

Classroom: 251



Teacher: Mr. Seth O'Neal

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Course Description:

Students will examine the historical forces that influenced the American governments and the forms of government created. They will also investigate the way the government functions and learn about the US Constitution. The final part of the course centers on citizenship and the election process.

In the second part of the course, students explore economics. The course covers basic market concepts such as scarcity, supply and demand, government regulation, and trade. Students will examine modern issues in economics such as poverty, modern labor, and the complicated problems faced by modern cities.

Course Objective:

By the end of the semester, students should be familiar with important primary sources, research methods, and advanced writing techniques. Students will also be able to explain how institutions in the United States were created and evolved, and understand basic economic principles.

Course Outline for Government & Economics 12:

TOPIC 1: Foundation of Government

TOPIC 2: Legislative Branch

TOPIC 3: Executive Branch

TOPIC 4: Judicial Branch

TOPIC 5: Political Behavior

TOPIC 6: Financing Government; Domestic & Foreign Policy

TOPIC 7: What is Economics

TOPIC 8: Understanding Markets

TOPIC 9: Business & Labor Standards

TOPIC 10: Banking & Finance

TOPIC 11: Economic Performance

TOPIC 12: Government & the Economy

Textbook:

Students will be issued a laptop that has their textbook preloaded in PDF form. They will not be issued a physical, hard-back textbook, but they can check one out from the library. Students will also have access to their online textbook account through their Pearson app, located in Clever.

Grades:

Semesters are divided into two 9-week grading periods. Final grades during the 9-week grading period are composed of the following:

- 60% Summative Assessments: Tests, quizzes, projects, writing assessment. Each unit will contain a quiz and a test.
- 40% Formative Assessments: In-class assignments, homework, citizenship.

The semester average is calculated as follows: 20% (1st Grading Period) + 20% (2nd Grading Period) + 10% (Semester exam).

Late Policy:

- Excused Absences*: Per HCS policy, students with excused absences will have ten days to make up all missing assignments and tests/quizzes. Should students not make up their work in time, they will receive a zero for those assignments and tests/quizzes.
- Unexcused Absences: Students with unexcused absences on traditional in-class days will be able to turn in late work. Submitted late work will have 10 points deducted from the final grade each day that it is late.
- Students who are present in class on traditional in-class days and choose not to do the assignment will receive a ZERO.

Grading Scale:

	A	B	C	D	F
Grading Scale	90 - 100	80 - 89	70 - 79	60 - 69	0 - 59
AP/IB Scale	5	4	3	2	0
Honor Scale	4.5	3.5	2.5	1.5	0
Regular Scale	4	3	2	1	0

Progress Reports / Report Cards

You will receive a progress report in the middle of each 9-week grading period. It is the student’s responsibility to monitor their grades on PowerSchools. Parents also have access to PowerSchools, and it is recommended that they utilize this tool. It is also recommended that parents create an account to follow along with their students’ academic progress on Schoology.

Citizenship:

Every student begins the year with full citizenship points (100), which is 10% of the Formative Assessment. To maintain these points, students must act professionally in class daily.

Unprofessional activities will result in a loss of points after a verbal warning. These activities include, but are not limited to, coming to class late, being unprepared, using a cell phone or device when not permitted, disrupting class, and engaging in other unprofessional actions. If a student continues to lose citizenship points, an email will be sent home. This grade helps students prepare for future careers, and act in a virtuous manner.

Expectations:

Students are responsible for make-up work and scheduling make-up tests. If a student is struggling or has questions, they are encouraged to ask. Seek help before falling behind and do not be afraid to email.

Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic zero. Plagiarism is a form of cheating, and if detected, will result in an automatic zero; these policies include assignments completed digitally.