



2023-2024 COURSE SYLLABUS

American Government/Economics

Mr. Messineo

Room T7

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Course Description:

Fall: Students in grade twelve pursue a deeper understanding of the institutions of American government. They compare systems of government in the world today and analyze the history and changing interpretations of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the current state of the legislative, executive, and judiciary branches of government. An emphasis is placed on analyzing the relationship among federal, state, and local governments, with particular attention paid to important historical documents such as the Federalist Papers. These standards represent the culmination of civic literacy as students prepare to vote, participate in community activities, and assume the responsibilities of citizenship.

Spring: Students in grade twelve learn the economic concepts of scarcity, opportunity cost, and compare and contrast the free enterprise system with other economic systems. They will also understand the laws of supply and demand and how they impact prices. They will examine the different types of market structures, business organizations, and labor organizations. Students will come away with a solid foundation of how our government impacts our economy by examining taxation, spending, and the Federal Reserve System. Finally, personal financial literacy will be stressed throughout Spring Semester.

Textbooks:

Government Alive and Econ Alive both by TCI

Course Objectives:

In addition to the above course description, students will also be expected to demonstrate proficiency in the following areas:

- Critical Thinking
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Creativity

Grading Policy:

Grades will be based on the total points earned in the following grade categories and then weighted according to the following percentages. **Late work is not accepted.**

- Classwork/Homework= 20%
- Exams and Quizzes= 50%
- Projects= 30%



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Your points in all four categories will be weighted to determine your overall grade. Keep all papers pertaining to your grade. It is your responsibility to prove any discrepancies with the grade sheet. Grade updates detailing your individual progress will be posted regularly in class.

90-100%= A 70-79%= C 59% or lower= F
80-89%= B 60-69%= D

Classroom Rules:

Students are expected to conduct themselves as young adults AT ALL TIMES!

Not only are you expected to comply with the school rules, you are expected to comply with mine as well.

#1: Let's start with cellphones.

*Cellphones are not allowed out unless permission has been given by the teacher. We will do some activities and games that will require their use.

**Students are not allowed to make or take a phone call in class. We have a procedure for family emergency situations when parents/guardians need to get a hold of their student. The procedure is to call the front office first. The office will call me and I will release the student to take or make a call to their parent/guardian. If there is a situation at school that puts the students in danger, then this policy may be adjusted as long as it can be done safely.

#2: Be on time and inside the classroom before the late bell rings. You are expected to immediately and quietly begin working on the warm-up activity.

#3- Do not disrupt the class with excessive talking, listening to music with or without headphones, asking off-topic questions, etc.

#4- Be Polite. (Conduct yourself in a proper manner at all time, "Please", "Thank you", and "May I", go a long way...) Polite also means no profanity.

If you have to think maybe something is rude or inappropriate to ask, it probably is.

#5-No eating in class. I understand sometimes you are hungry. If you have to eat, eat outside. Do not bring your Door Dash into my class. If eating food makes you late, you're late.

#6- You are responsible for what you miss even if your absence is excused. You have to approach me about what you missed, not the other way around. You have as many days to make up assignments, when absent, as you were absent. Late work is not accepted if you weren't absent and it won't be accepted then unless you have an excused absence.

Consequences for inappropriate behavior- 3 strikes and you're out. You will get two warnings during class and if the behavior doesn't stop you will be sent to the discipline office unless of course the behavior doesn't deserve a second chance.

I reserve the right to make adjustments to my class as I see fit; pop quizzes, seating changes, etc.

Sincerely,

Mr. Messineo

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HOME OF THE COUGARS

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