

U.S. Government Syllabus

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Course Objectives:

- ✓ Students will understand the responsibilities of citizenship.
- ✓ Students will understand the distribution of power in the federal system.
- ✓ Students will understand the significance and impact of the Constitution on everyday life.
- ✓ Students will understand the historical factors that have shaped American ideology.
- ✓ Students will become familiar with current events and how they relate to government.

Language Objectives:

- ✓ Students will compose short narratives and summaries using key academic vocabulary.
- ✓ Students will orally present ideas based on essential questions.
- ✓ Students will analyze, evaluate, and reason using primary and secondary sources.
- ✓ Students will infer meaning from both primary and secondary texts.

Class Materials YOU will need EVERYDAY:

- ✓ A pencil and an eraser
- ✓ Any assignments or materials required for class that day
- ✓ Textbook
- ✓ Notebook or something to write on
- ✓ iPad and Pen

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Classroom Expectations:

1. Be **compassionate**. Treat yourself, your classmates, the teachers, and the school with respect and consideration.
2. Show **responsibility**. Come to class on time, homework completed (when necessary), ready with all materials, and no earbuds in your ears.
3. Practice **collaboration**. We are a classroom community. Many activities will require us to talk to one another or volunteer to share ideas with the entire class. Be kind and helpful to each other.
4. Demonstrate **resilience**. You will need to work hard in this class to be successful. Do your best and don't give up.

Current Grading Scale:

A= 90-100

B= 80-89
C= 70-79
D= 60-69
F= 0-59

Weight Scale:

100%=Tests/Quizzes/Projects/Document Based Reading and Questions, and IXL's.
There will be no retakes on tests or quizzes.

Homework and Assignments:

To be successful and pass this class, you will need to complete the homework/assignments assigned to you. Notes packets and most Schoology assignments will not be graded. However, these assignments will still need to be completed at proficiency (70% or above) to be able to take any quizzes or tests. Anything below a 70% on these assignments will need to be redone until you reach proficiency.

Late Work, Missed Work, and Missing Work:

Homework/Assignments that are not turned in on time will be marked in Powerschool as late. All homework/assignments are expected to be turned in at the start of the block class unless informed otherwise. Failure to complete the required homework/assignments will result in you not being able to complete the quiz or chapter test. You will then receive a 0 on this quiz/test until all work is complete. You will have two weeks to complete any incomplete assignments which includes completing the test or quiz. Failure to do this work done in that time frame will result in a zero. All IXL's are due at the start of each block class and cannot be done past the due date for any credit.

Excused Absences: If you are going to be absent for any type of appointment, are sick, have a sporting or other extracurricular event, etc. and have a graded assignment due that day, you need to email me why you can't complete it on time and how much time you will need to complete it. If you send an email to me, you can still earn full credit. However, failure to email me will result in a zero if not turned in and ½ credit if turned in late. There are no exceptions to this rule. It is your responsibility to email me if you cannot get your assignments turned in on time.

Unverified Absences: As stated in the student handbook, an unverified absence will be given a zero on all assignments, tests, and quizzes.

Attendance:

Attendance is VERY important. If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to find out what was missed in class. You can always find out what you have missed by looking at the weekly schedule on Schoology. Missing 10 (excused or unexcused) school days in any given class can result in 0 semester credit for that class. Coming to class late without an E-school pass is tardy. Every 5 unexcused tardies will result in one unexcused absence.

Cheating:

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is unethical. Show the respect you would want for your hard work and do not claim something that is not yours, including utilizing Artificial Intelligence! Cutting and pasting sentences off the Internet into a word document or copying sentences directly from the Internet will not be permitted. Paraphrase what you have found by putting it in your own words. You may use direct quotes if you cite your source. Graded assignments that are plagiarized will receive a 0.

Cell Phones and Earbuds:

Cell Phone Use: Per WFHS policy, cell phones must be out-of-sight and out-of-use from bell to bell.

KEEP THIS DOCUMENT

- 1st Offense: If a teacher asks for your cell phone and you hand it over respectfully, you'll get it at the end of the period.
- 2nd Offense: The teacher will bring your phone to the Main Office where you can pick it up at the end of the day.
- 3rd Offense: The teacher will bring your phone to the office. You will need to turn your phone into the Main Office for five days.
- 4th Offense: The teacher will bring your phone to the office. It will remain in the Main Office until picked up by a parent/guardian.
- If you refuse to hand over your phone, you will be sent to the Main Office.

Earbuds: Earbuds will not be allowed in the classroom during class time unless authorized by me to complete an assignment. Do not ask to use your earbuds to listen to music or watch videos.

- 1st Offense: If a teacher asks for your earbuds and you hand them over respectfully, you'll get it at the end of the period.
- 2nd Offense: The teacher will keep your earbuds until the end of the day.
- If you refuse to hand over your earbuds, a Packer Referral to your principal will be completed.

Language: Students in my room are fortunate to speak other language(s) other than English. Since students in my classroom represent a variety of languages, it is important that we use a language that everyone is able to understand. During our class time, I expect that students speak English. Before school, between classes, during lunchtime, and after school, you can speak whatever language you would like. Our class time is meant to increase our understanding of English and help students develop language skills that will help them be successful.