Government

Mr. Skoglund

Room: 301

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

American Government is a required one semester course for Minneapolis Public Schools and satisfies one of the graduation requirements for social science. Students will explore a variety of units that focus on the basics of American Government and basic principles of rights and freedoms from around the world. The goal is not to learn every American Government practice that every country/culture has adopted but to focus on Government themes and look at cultural connections that relate to our world today. We will focus on different skills such as writing, time management, communication skills and conduct academic research. Group discussions are a part of classroom learning and all students are expected to participate. Students during this course will be expected to read and write on a daily basis. All students will be graded on their learning logs, classwork, warm-up (current event), homework, tests, quizzes, projects, essays and their participation during class. It is important for students to attend class on a daily basis to stay on track in regards to the pace of the course. Students should ask questions and seek additional help when needed!

Academic Expectations & Goals:

- Students will be required to read and write every day.
- Students will be engaged in project-based learning.
- Students will engage in content-specific study skills.
- Students will complete all assignments (In class and homework.)
- Missing assignments will be handed out before or after school.
- Students will follow Roosevelt High School academic honesty policy: Cheating will result in a zero.

Topics/Units:

1. Am Gov Ideologies	**(Quarter 1/3)**
2. Forms of Governments	**(Quarter 1/3)**
3. Revolutions	(**Quarter 1/3)**
4. The Constitution + Bill of Rights + Popular Sovereignty	(**Quarter 1/3)**
5. Legislative Branch	(**Quarter 1/3)**
6. Executive Branch	(**Quarter 2/4)**
7. Judicial Branch	(**Quarter 2/4)**
8. Checks and balances + separation of powers	(**Quarter 2/4)**
9. Political parties	(**Quarter 2/4)**
10. America's political divide.	(**Quarter 2/4)**

GRADING

Proficiency on MN Social Studies Standards LEARNING TARGETS will be the major way in which students are assessed in Economics. Students will be graded on a 8 point grade scale. We will follow the Minneapolis Public Schools grading scale as shown below:

A = 8	B+ = 6	C+ = 4	D = 2	Below 2 = Does not meet
A- = 7	B = 5.5	C = 3.5		proficiency.
	B- = 5	C- = 3		

Grade Categories:

- Warm-ups -Current Event (Summative)
- Class Work/Homework (Formative)
- Participation (Summative)
- Tests & Quizzes (Summative)
- Papers/Projects (Summative)
- Small Group Discussion (Summative)

You are expected to complete **80** percent of your **FORMATIVE** assignments before you can take the **SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS** for that section of the course. If you do poorly on a Summative (Quiz or Test), I offer time after school for retakes. One Pop Quizzes will also be randomly assigned for each unit. If students miss a pop quiz or do poorly, they can come after school or during lunch to make corrections. My role as your teacher is to guide and assist you when achieving your goals for this course.

If you have an IEP or 504, communicate with your teacher about your due dates.

General Classroom Policies & Procedures:

- Students arrive to class on time. Tardy students will lose points on the warm-up.
- Students come to class prepared with materials (notebooks, pen/pencil, homework etc.).
- Students come with their Chromebook and charger.
- Students must follow the MPS cell-phone policy.
- **Current MPS policy is no cell-phones during class.**
- Students may receive a pass 10 minutes after the bell rings until 10 minutes before class ends.

Teacher Availability:

I will try to be as approachable and available for assistance as possible. You (or a parent or guardian) can always email Mr. Skoglund at christopher.skoglund@mpls.k12.mn.us to ask questions or schedule a time to meet. Please communicate with me if you have any issues, challenges or questions. I am excited to have you all in Government!

**********Sign and TURN IN THE SECTION BELOW **********

Student Name: _____ Hour _____

We have read and understand the course requirements and expectations for World History class.

Student name (print): _____ Hour_____

Parent/Guardian (print): _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

Parent/Guardian email: _____

Phone # day or cell _____