

Participation in Government/Economics Syllabus

Mrs. Horne

"PIG" and Economics are both ½ year classes that are requirements for graduation. These two classes will help prepare you to be informed democratic citizens AND good managers of money. Both are important for you as you head into the world of adulthood.

Course Requirements:

✓ BE PREPARED	✓ PARTICIPATE	✓ BE RESPECTFUL
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Preparation:

- ✓ MATERIALS- Teacher-provided
 - Folder- *must* be brought to each class period. You will receive handouts and will need to stay organized.
 - Loose leaf paper
 - Pens or pencils

- ✓ HOMEWORK/ LATE WORK POLICY
 - HW will be infrequently assigned, so complete each assignment!
 - All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Homework may not be completed during the class period it is due.
 - If you are absent the day an assignment is due, it **must be turned in the following class period**; extended absences handled per the Student Handbook. When absent, it is the **student's responsibility** to ask me for missed notes, assignments, etc. *VIA THE CHAT FEATURE IN TEAMS THE NEXT DAY.*

ANY LATE HOMEWORK, PAPER, OR PROJECT THAT IS TURNED IN LATE, even by one class period, WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BE COUNTED AS A ZERO. You will be treated as adults, preparing for life after high school and this is part of your preparation. Homework is a serious responsibility and will be considered as such in this course.

- ✓ GRADING PROCEDURES- Grades will be based on a percentage scale, but a *total points accumulation* system, accounting for length and significance of assignment or assessment. If you are struggling in PIG or Economics, please reach out to me. I can help!
 - **Participation:** I expect each student to participate in class. Your participation grade in these classes will be based largely upon: **EFFORT and ATTITUDE.** This grade will reflect your preparation each day, your behavior and attitude in class, and your participation in class discussion. This grade will also include in-class assignments. If you're not in class, you are missing a lot!

Full participation credit can be earned if a student is fully engaged, respectful, and on-task each class period.

This participation may impact your weekly (in)eligibility. Feel free to ask me about ways to increase your participation grade. If you're losing points for your participation, I've kept track of the reasons why. Ask me how to improve if you're interested!
 - **Homework: Homework:** Homework is an important part of your grade. You will be graded on the completion of your assignments, on their accuracy, on neatness, on effort, and your ability to successfully define, discuss, and evaluate the material covered.
 - I will NOT give full credit grades for simply completing the assignment, but your work will be graded based on the assignment instructions, a rubric, or objectives met. I will provide you with these expectations.
 - Homework provides you with an opportunity to learn more about a topic discussed, show me that you understand a topic, or to preview a topic you will need to have background knowledge

for discussion. Please do this work. Please do this work on your own. You're welcome to get help from a friend, or from me, but you **may NOT copy another students' work**. (It's amazing to me that students still try to do this... thinking I won't read their hw and find out!) This is called plagiarism and there's a thing about it in your Student Handbook. Don't copy answers from the internet. Or use a robot. This is also plagiarism.

-Do not throw out any graded assignments as they are proof of your grade and completion of assignments.

-All homework assignments will be turned in to me when I ask, not placed on my desk.

****If you do not do your HW you may be placed on in el for the following week.**

- **Large Projects and Papers:** Each quarter will consist of at least one project, presentation, or paper(s). Please pay close attention to my expectations and follow my instructions and do not underestimate the work needed to do these well.

Participate:

✓ STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO:

1. Be in class. It's *really* hard to be successful in PIG/Econ if, well, you're not actually *here*. Only miss class if there's a crisis or something completely unavoidable is happening. It will actually make your life easier. Pretend this is a job and I'm your boss. ;)
2. Have 'attentive' body language: **Your posture, eye contact, and body language** is an important part of the environment of our room and VERY important to me as a teacher. [Trouble areas include: aggressive doodling, full-arm ink live-drawing sessions, hair-brushing, focus visibly 'out-the-window', sending me the message that you'd like to swipe my video away or click 'skip' like I'm an ad on your screen.] I will speak with you if you have areas that you need to improve.
3. Be on time to class every day and be in your seat when the bell rings. **You must have a pass from a teacher or faculty member if arriving late.** Do NOT interrupt my instruction or your peers if you enter late. Quietly sign into the Sign-In Sheet. Get to work quickly and please wait for an appropriate time to hand me your pass and be sure to ask politely for the handouts, instructions, notes, etc. you have missed which will always take place at the beginning of class. Habitual lateness will **not** be accepted, even with a pass. Three unexcused tardies to class will result in a detention, see Student Handbook. HOWEVER, a pass from a RANDOM ADULT will never count, and will result in even more trouble.
4. Ask and answer questions in class related to our discussion. I keep track of this kind of participation and it's important that you're appropriately involved in what we are discussing and doing each day.
5. When using your iPad in class, under no circumstances will you be on a webpage other than what I've asked you to do. (Also, be sure your iPad notification 'ding' is turned off.)
6. Bathroom use: Please use the restroom in between class periods, but don't be late. In class is NOT a good time, unless it is a rare emergency. Rare emergencies don't happen every class period, every day, for 12 minutes. The beginning of class is *really* NOT A GOOD TIME to get a drink or go to the bathroom; please don't ask. You passed a restroom AND a drinking fountain on your way to my room. :) You will miss an important introduction each time you do that. If there's an urgent need, be sure to raise your hand and ask in a non-disruptive manner. Sign out and sign back in. **I ask that you limit your use to 1x per week.** Please keep your restroom visit length short. If I notice long departures, I will notify the nurse and call home. This will hurt your participation, too, because you can't participate *from the restroom*. You do NOT want to give me the feeling you'd rather be elsewhere *than in my class!*
7. Please stop at the drinking fountain outside my classroom before class if you're thirsty, or bring a filled water bottle with you.
8. Bring **all** your materials to class **each day**. Once the bell rings, you may not leave to go to your locker to retrieve your materials or your homework. You will be marked down for not coming prepared and are still **expected** to participate in class discussion and work. Please don't ask to go to the bathroom, than strangely appear back here with your missing homework.

9. If you need a writing utensil, collect one on your way in before the bell rings. Handle any material-issues before the bell rings. Tissues are there as well.
10. You will sometimes work in groups, some of my choosing, some of yours. Choose who you work with carefully, remember you are graded on your class participation, which involves group work. If you have a concern with someone I have asked you to work with, please speak with me privately. I expect that you work **cooperatively**, meaning that each person in the group shares the responsibilities and participates.
11. Remember that I **dismiss the class**. You may not decide when you think class is over and just pack up whenever you want. Please don't WATCH THE CLOCK. I know what time it is; it's my job. Your job is to stay focused and not distract me or others with your clock-watching.
12. Come ready to learn and ask questions! If you are confused, chances are someone else has a similar question, so don't be afraid to ask. Please don't discuss individual grades, homework, ineligibility, or other issues during class-time but speak with me one-on-one.
13. It is the student's responsibility to take their iPad home each night and be sure to return it the next day **FULLY CHARGED**. Please don't forget. If you do, sign out a laptop from the library/ISS room/Mrs. Douglas prior to class, BUT don't make this a habit.

Respect:

✓ GUIDELINES FOR A POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT:

1. Always treat others with respect. Treat the material we are studying with respect. Treat me with respect.
2. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking. One person speaks at a time. Do **not** blurt out. Do **not** interrupt! Do not make off-topic class wide comments.
3. If I am teaching, giving instruction, or addressing the entire class in any way, please **do not interrupt my instruction verbally, or with disruptive behavior**.
4. Please be sensitive to 'a look' or a quiet, redirecting comment from me. This is my way of getting your attention and politely asking you to respect me or change something you're doing.
5. This is an academic setting. Therefore **foul language, sexual innuendoes, rude comments, under-the-breath comments, or name-calling will not be tolerated**. Do not discuss other students or teachers in my room to others. If you have concerns speak with me.
6. Abide by the school dress code in this classroom. If you're confused about crop tops, belly-buttons, how much skin is too much, or large blankets, I can speak with you!
7. Please remove your hoods from atop your head in my room. It's too easy to burrow earbuds in and jam during class. Please honor me in this way. (I'm ol' school, and I also *love* hats off in class. If you care to know, it matters to me and I'd love if you took your hat off and placed it under your seat until you left. But, then I would certainly win least-liked-teacher-in-the-world award if I actually crimped your style and expected it. Just saying.)
8. Food or drink (except a bottle of water) will not be allowed in my room. *Seniors who have homeroom with me: you have until 8:00 to finish breakfast, including coffee and other drinks besides water.* My room isn't your café. Graduate, and then you can have leisurely coffees while studying. :) If your waterbottle has left a wet mark on your desk, please wipe it up before the next class comes in.
9. Please respect my classroom. Always ask before using/touching something that is not yours. Please do not plug your iPad in to charge it without permission. Please do not answer my classroom phone. If I answer the phone, it's your lucky moment (break!!) so, please remain quiet until I return to teaching.
10. If you bring a backpack to my room, please place it along the back wall or right alongside your desk (not in the way!). Please do not leave any of your items in my classroom, including textbooks, binders, water bottles, etc.
11. SCHOOL cell phone POLICY (oh no! perhaps you can't manage without it!???)
No cell phones, smart devices/watches, earbuds will be used, accessed, or heard in my room. Not. At. All.

These must be *turned off* in your backpack or in your locker or at home. Not in your pocket where I can clearly see it. Please do not give me any reason to doubt your honesty.

12. Permission to leave the room will be left up to the teacher...only urgent requests will be considered. Don't expect me to say 'yes' right away... there may be a better time coming up later in the period. There ARE other times built into your schedule for this purpose. Our class time is too valuable for you to spend it elsewhere.

- ✓ **DISRUPTION IN CLASS:** Any behavior considered by me to be disruptive to our class will result in:
 - ONE warning (perhaps immediate disciplinary action if in Student Handbook)
 - Phone call OR email to parents if the disruptions do not stop. Referral to the Principal if necessary.
 - If you are disruptive to other's learning you will be removed from the classroom.

Ineligibility

Your eligibility or ineligibility will be determined by your behavior and participation in class and turning in completed homework each week. This will also be connected to your attendance and ABSENCES. See the District's behavioral participation rubric for how this will be calculated. Please ask me for areas you need to improve if this is the case. How you act is just as important as the academic work you do in my room!

I reserve the right to make changes to this document at anytime, and will announce such changes to the students.

To the Parents/Guardians of Mrs. Horne's SENIOR students:

I consider it a privilege to teach your student this school year. I am excited about the opportunities we will have together, and look forward to our time together. These guidelines and expectations are outlined in order to provide a nurturing learning environment for everyone. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information or any matter throughout the school year, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Senior parents: These two courses are not 'hard,' but they are incredibly important for graduation, as they MUST be passed with 65% averages to graduate. ***Please keep careful watch of grades.*** Check PowerSchool regularly and review the 5-week and end-of-quarter grades that I send home. If the grades are low, I am very concerned. If there are excessive absences, I am very concerned. I am here to help with anything—but I will hold students accountable and help teach them good work ethic!

Parents, please send me a message in our new ParentSquare app by ***SEPTEMBER 19TH*** to let me know that you have read this syllabus. (Click on Messages, click New Message, and type my last name, and it should be easy to send me a direct message!) If parents at different numbers both want to be contacted throughout the year, please have both send this text and indicate as such.

Also, we watch some films, mostly excerpts, in this course. For instance, we may watch *The Social Dilemma*, *Bowling for Columbine*, and/or *Runaway Jury*. If you have reservations about these films, let me know in your message, as I need to gain parental permission.

Having started this messaging conversation will provide you with an easy way to get a hold of me later in the school year, if needed. Thanks!

You can also reach me by email at shorne@genvalley.org.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Horne