

Principles of Government and Public Administration
2026-2027

Mr. Jose H. Trevino

p: 361.584.2547

Room 512

Course Description

Principles of Government and Public Administration is designed to introduce students to the foundations of government, public policy, and public service. The course examines how governments are organized and how public institutions develop, implement, and evaluate policies that affect citizens and communities.

Students will study the principles of the United States and Texas systems of government, including the Constitution, federalism, separation of powers, checks and balances, political participation, elections, political parties, interest groups, and the role of the courts. The course also introduces students to the field of public administration, exploring how government agencies and public officials manage programs, provide public services, develop budgets, and respond to community needs.

Through discussions, simulations, research, case studies, and civic activities, students will practice the following learning objectives:

Unit	Topic	TEKS Connection
1	Foundations of Government	Constitution and democratic principles
2	Federalism	Federal, state, and local government
3	Legislative Branch	Lawmaking and representation
4	Executive Branch	Leadership and public administration
5	Judicial Branch	Law, courts, and constitutional rights
6	Elections & Political Participation	Voting, parties, campaigns, interest groups
7	Public Policy	Policy formation and implementation
8	Public Administration	Government agencies and public services
9	Public Budgeting & Finance	Taxes, spending, and budgeting
10	Ethics & Public Leadership	Accountability and civic responsibility
11	Texas & Local Government	State agencies, cities, counties, and school districts
12	Careers in Public Service	Government and public administration careers

Materials

Pencils and Pens
2 Composition books
3 Color set of highlighters

Grading

All assignments will contribute to your overall grade. Other factors that will impact your grade are handwriting and answering in well balanced complete responses.

Exams	40%
Daily Work	40%
Quizzes/Projects	20%

Missed Work Due to Absence

Make up work due to an absence is your responsibility. Please come to me to collect missed work, they may be completed during activity period or after school the same day. Extra time may be granted on a case by case basis.

Principles of Government and Public Administration

2026-2027

All projects must be turned in by the due date or early if there is an expected absence. In the case of an unexpected absence occurring on a project due date or test date it is due the first day you return.

Expectations

- Follow all school-wide rules, including no cell phones.
- Academic honesty will be enforced.
- Late students must have a pass.
- Bring all necessary materials.
- Work that is sloppy, does not have a name, or plagiarized will not be accepted.
- Be respectful of others and mind your manners.
- Clean up after yourself and push in your chair when work is done.

Assessments

Tests will be announced. Quizzes may be announced or unannounced. Projects may be individual or group. Journals will be graded weekly or biweekly and must be kept organized.

Daily Assignments will consist of taking notes, completing handouts, discussions, group work, reading out loud. Participation in class discussion and conversation is required.

Homework may be required if you do not work efficiently in class. Your journal or worksheet must be accounted for the next day. This will be case by case and documented. In class work that goes beyond a single day will not be accepted. Manage your time well.

Principles of Government and Public Administration
2026-2027

Student Name: _____

Period: _____

We have read and do acknowledge Mr. Trevino's Syllabus for the 26-27 school year. I agree to abide by the Classroom Expectations as well as all school and class rules.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Information:

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Comments:
