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District Mission	To educate students to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors.
Special Education Mission	Comprehensive counseling services in Naperville 203 provide students with preventative and responsive services that promote academic, social emotional, and college and career skill development in order to advance and empower students to achieve postsecondary success.
Course Description	How is democracy reflected in the three branches of the American system of government? In this course, students will study the primary concepts of the American political system, including its foundations, structures and political behavior. This course does not simply look at the institutions of the federal government but also examines the parties' issues, candidates and power-pressure groups and their roles in American politics at the national level. Emphasis is also placed on the role of the citizen in a democratic society. Successful completion of this course satisfies the American Government graduation requirement.
Course Textbook & Resources	Textbooks will not be needed for this course. Students will utilize NewsELA to access reading supports for this class.
Course Skills and Essential Questions	• Visual Literacy (including maps, charts, graphs, and political cartoons) • Demonstrate how to express an understanding of those who hold different opinions. • Textual Analysis • Claim Writing and identification of appropriate support • Research Skills including using the library databases • Political Philosophy: What am I passionate about and why? • Constitution and Foundations of Government: How can the structure of the government support my passions and solve my problems? • Media: How can I know what is going on? • Civil Rights: Can I do that? Can the government do that? • President and Elections: How does my voice matter?
Units of Study:	• UNIT 1 - Political Philosophy and Behavior • UNIT 2 - Constitution and Foundations of Government • UNIT 3 - President and Executive Branch • UNIT 4 - Media • UNIT 5 - Legislative Branch • UNIT 6 - Judicial Branch

Grade Calculation Definitions

At Naperville North we define practice and evidence work as follows:

- **Practice** is used for students to practice the skills that they are working on throughout the class. These are assignments that are graded for completion and no feedback is provided.
- **Evidence of Learning** is used to monitor student's learning to provide ongoing feedback that can be used by students to improve their learning. Examples may include: formative assessments and summative assessments.

Grading Practices

Grades communicate each student's progress toward mastery of goals/standards for the course.

- No extra credit will be issued.
- Violations of the academic integrity policy will result in a consequence by administration in collaboration with the Department Chair/teacher.
- Any percentage lower than 50% will be put into the grade book as a 50%, the lowest possible grade on completed work (incomplete or work not turned in will receive a grade of 0 in the grade book).
- A zero on a summative assessment will only indicate that no attempt was made by the student.
- **Practice:**
 - Tasks that are connected to course standards/learning targets that promote the development of skills and/or knowledge that will be assessed.
 - May include, but is not limited to: daily readings, note taking, practice exercises and tasks essential to the learning process.
 - Completion noted or a simple scale score is used to record the assignment, but feedback toward proficiency on a standard is not given for practice assignments
- **Evidence of Learning:**
 - Accepted up to the five days after the assigned due date. Assignments submitted after the five days will not be accepted.
 - Work submitted after the due date cannot be penalized more than a total of 10%.
 - A zero on an assessment will only indicate that no attempt was made by the student.
 - If a legitimate attempt is made on an assessment, a score of 50% will be the lowest possible grade.
 - Evidence work will be accepted up to five days after the assigned due date. Evidence work submitted after the five days will not be accepted.
 - Tasks or assessments where feedback is provided to the student and considered evidence of a student's level of proficiency on a given standard or skill.
 - This may include, but is not limited to formative tasks that provide insights on areas for growth as well as summative tests, projects and/or performances.

Grading

A=100-90%, B=89-80%, C= 79-70%, D=69-60%, F=59-0%

Disbursement

Semester Grade:

- Coursework: 85%
 - Practice = 10%
 - Evidence of Learning: 90%
- Final Exam =15%

Final Exam Format: A short written assessment applying knowledge of terms throughout the semester.

Academic Integrity Code

District 203 students are challenged to address the academic process enthusiastically, diligently, and most importantly, honestly. It is the responsibility of our students, teachers, and administration to uphold the fundamental academic values of honesty, responsibility, fairness, respect, and trust. The integrity of our district's academic programs is built upon these principles.

Academic integrity violations include cheating; plagiarism, self-plagiarism or copy infringement; obtaining or providing an unfair advantage; falsification of documents; unauthorized access to records; and inappropriate collaboration, whether intentional or unintentional. The classroom teacher and administration will collaborate and exercise professional judgment in determining academic integrity violations.

Reassessment Policy

The purpose of reassessment is to allow students to demonstrate mastery of course essential standards in which they remain deficient.

- Students will be required to engage in further learning and reassessment when students do not demonstrate sufficient learning of the course essential standards.
- Students who have demonstrated sufficient learning of the essential standards, but scored below (85%) , will be allowed reassessment opportunities on summative assessments if they so choose. To be eligible for reassessment, students must:
 - Demonstrate readiness for the summative assessment through timely and consistent completion of practice work and formative assessments.
 - Complete designated learning experiences as assigned by the teacher.
- Reassessments MUST be completed within 5 school days of the student receiving feedback unless otherwise determined by the instructor. The reassessment deadline should be communicated in an IC comment.
- Project-based assessments that include multiple opportunities for feedback and improvement in the assessment process will represent multiple attempts and be considered a re-assessment
- Higher reassessment grades will replace the original assessment score (85%)

Student Communication

- You are encouraged to communicate with your teacher regarding questions.
- Teachers make every effort to respond to emails and phone calls within 24 hours during the workweek.
- The best way to communicate with teachers is through email; however, if you haven't received a response within 48 hours, please resend the email or call their voicemail. Your email may have been filtered.

Additional Resources for Support

- You can make an appointment with your teacher should you need additional instruction or support in learning material.
- You can drop in to work with a peer tutor during lunch periods or before school in the Literacy Center.
- After School Tutoring will be available after school on certain days from 3:30-4:30.

Parents or Guardians Partnership

Naperville North believes in a collective partnership with parents/guardians which provides students the best opportunities for success.

Some ways parents/guardians can support their student's learning are:

- Actively check Infinite Campus for their student's grades.
 - o Infinite Campus is a tool to progress monitor student work until the final course grade is posted.
 - o Monthly progress grades are posted and represent the current grade of a student in the course at that moment in time.
- Discuss missing assignments, reiterate due dates, help organize folders, materials, assignment notebooks, and review upcoming projects and assessments.

COURSEWORK ASSESSMENT DETAIL

Assessments may be added or eliminated based on teacher discretion.

Unit 1: Political Philosophy and Behavior	☐ Pre-Assessment (Are You a Democrat or Republican): Practice assessment so will fall under practice category ☐ Pre-Assessment (Citizenship Test): Practice assessment so will fall under practice category ☐ Political Spectrum and Political Party Assessment (Evidence of Learning)
Unit 2: Constitution and Foundations of Government	☐ Constitution Assessment (Evidence of Learning)
Unit 3: President and Executive Branch	☐ The Executive Branch and the President Assessment (Evidence of Learning) ☐ President Project (Evidence of Learning)
Unit 4: Media	☐ Media Project (Evidence of Learning)
Unit 5: The Legislative Branch	☐ The Legislative Branch Assessment (Evidence of Learning)
Unit 6: Judicial Branch	☐ Mock Trial Project (Evidence of Learning)

