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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

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

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Weight Scale:

100%=Tests/Quizzes/Projects/Document Based 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% will be below proficient and 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 Infinite Campus 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 unit test. You will then receive a 0 on this quiz/test until all work is complete.

You will have one week after the end of each unit to complete any missing or not proficient assignments. This also includes completing any tests, quizzes, DBQ's, or projects. Failure to complete these, will result in a permanent zero.

All IXL's are due at the start of each block on the specified date 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. Every 5 unexcused tardies will result in detention.

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WHEN	WHAT
Ongoing!	Create schedules and routines that promote regular attendance as attendance is one of the most important indicators for high school success. This includes scheduling vacations around school breaks and leveraging study halls and Open Campus blocks for appointments. Additionally, if your student is at an appointment (medical, dental, etc.), submit documentation to the Main Office right away for the absence to be coded as medical. Excusals are only allowed within the first two weeks of the absence.
After the **fourth** absence in at least one course	**Attendance Check-In:** Your family will receive communication about your student's attendance via email. This is an opportunity to identify and address any barriers to regular attendance.
After the **sixth** absence in at least one course	**Family Contact & Support:** A staff member will contact your family to discuss attendance and determine what support may be helpful. You may be referred to the WFHS Social Worker.
After the **eighth** absence in at least one course	**Attendance Contract:** An administrator will meet with the student to discuss attendance concerns and the family will be notified. The student will also be placed on an Attendance Contract, clearly outlining future expectations.
After the **tenth** absence in at least one course	**Loss of Assignment/Assessment Credit Begins:** On the 11th and 12th absence in a class, you will not receive credit for work assigned or due on the days you are absent without a medical note. If you are present in class, you can still earn credit for your work.
After the **thirteenth** absence in at least one course	**Loss of Course Credit:** Administration will review the student's attendance and remove the student from the course with a Loss of Credit (LC). Additional supports or an intervention plan for credit recovery may also be put in place.

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. You may use direct quotes if you cite your source. Graded assignments that are plagiarized will receive a 0. Copying other students' assignments, whether on paper or pencil or Schoology assignments is also cheating and will result in a 0.

Electronic Devices (Cell Phones, Smartwatches, etc.) and Earbuds:

- Learner cell phones, smart watches, and all other personal devices that can send and receive messages are OUT-OF-SIGHT and OUT-OF-USE from 8:25a until 3:35p.
- Devices CANNOT be kept on your person (in a pocket, etc.). They must, at a bare minimum, be kept in a CLOSED backpack pocket. Devices can also be left in your car, at home, etc.
- Devices CANNOT be utilized or checked during passing times, lunch time, or Open Campus if you chose to remain on campus.
- If you choose to leave the classroom to visit the nurse, go to the bathroom, etc., your backpack (with your phone inside) STAYS IN THE CLASSROOM.

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Consequences by Offense:

- 1. The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the student at the end of the student's day
- 2. The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day
- 3. The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience, not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, additional plan assigned to the student
- 4. The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, 1 day ISS
- 5. The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, 1 day OSS
- 6. The device is brought to the Main Office, picked up by the parent/guardian at their earliest convenience not to be returned to the student until the end of the student's day, transition to Virtual Program

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.

Consequences by Offense:

- 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.