

U.S. GOVERNMENT and CIVICS

Dr. Blazer

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Room 225M

U.S. Government and Civics Course Content

The United States Government and Civics course is a semester-length class designed to provide students with a study of the history, institutions, policies, and functions of the United States government. Students will forge connections between the framework of the U.S. Constitution and the functions of today's government, along with discussions on civic ritual, public policymaking, and current events.

Email is the best way to contact me.

U.S. Government and Civics Grading

Viewing Grades in ASPEN:

Points you receive for graded activities will be posted to the ASPEN Gradebook. Instructor will have grades up for viewing online within 5 days of completing an assignment.

Letter Grade Assignment:

Final grades assigned for this course will be based on the percentage of total points earned and are assigned as follows:

A: 90-100 Excellent Work

B: 80-89 Good Work

C: 70-79 Average Work

D: 60-69 Poor Work

F: 0-59 Failing

Assignments:

Details about each assignment are as follows:

Points	Description	Points	Description
100 (Each)	Tests	10 (Each)	In Class Assignments
10 (Each)	Quizzes	50 (Each)	Essays
50 (Each)	Bellringers	50 (Each)	Projects

Expectations and Rules:

- . . . NO electronic devices, i.e. cell phones, air pods, smart watches
- . . . NO talking unless called on by the teacher
- . . . show up prepared and on time
- . . . leave the room/ desks as you found them
- . . . submit your own work (no cheating)
- . . . respect the rights and opinions of others
- . . . keep the class clean
- . . . participate in class activities
- . . . wait in your seat to be dismissed every day! DO NOT line up at the door
- . . . All other rules listed in the student handbook, but not specifically stated above will be followed in our classroom

Violations of the above expectations/rules will result in student/teacher conferences, parent conferences, or referral to the office.

Cell Phones/Communication Devices

Per school policy, all personal communication devices are to be put away during the school day. At the beginning of the block, student devices should be powered off and placed either in a backpack or bag.

Chromebooks

It is essential for students to bring their school-issued Chromebook or personal device with them each day to class. These devices should be charged each day and the charger should be brought to school with the device. We will use Chromebooks to complete a variety of coursework on Google Classroom throughout the semester. Chromebooks should only be used at times specified by the teacher and only for the purposes specified by the teacher.

Assigned Seats

All students have an assigned seat and are expected to remain in that seat unless directed to do so otherwise by the teacher. Seat assignments may be changed periodically throughout the semester. If you have a concern about your assigned seat, please speak privately with the teacher.

Make-up Assignments:

Make-up work is the students' responsibility. Make-up work request forms are in a basket at the back of the room. If you are absent, you must complete the form and return it to the correct basket. You will have 5 days upon your return to turn in any missed work. Work turned in after 5 days will not be accepted. I will NOT approach you and remind you of missed work. It is YOUR responsibility.

Late Assignments:

No late work will be accepted. You will be given ample time in class to finish daily assignments.

Quizzes and Tests:

In this class, we will be having 2 types of exams, regular quizzes and tests. Regular quizzes will occur at least twice a week. Teacher will notify students one day prior to giving quizzes. Tests will be at the end of a unit and will happen every 3-4 weeks. Quizzes and tests must be made up within the 5 day makeup work window. It is your responsibility to take the quiz/test and make it up, not mine!!

Required Materials: (bring every day to class)

- Textbook: United States Government and Civics, McGraw Hill. Textbooks must stay in my room as I only have a classroom set. However, if you wish to check out a textbook, you may do so. You are required to see me prior to leaving the classroom with a textbook.
- Chromebook or personal computer, charged and ready to use in class.
- Folder, paper, pencils, or pens.

Tardiness:

School policy will hold true in this class. If you are not in your seat when the bell rings, you are tardy. Even if it is one second after the bell rings, you are tardy.

Course Outline:

This course is broken down into seven units, guided by the Tennessee Academic Standards for United States Government and Civics. Each day, learning will be guided by these state standards. The basic outline for the course is listed below. Please note that the dates listed below are subject to change depending on school closings and individual class pacing.

Unit 1: Foundations of Constitutional Government

State Standards GC.01-GC.09

August 4th-August 22nd

Unit 2: The Legislative Branch

State Standards GC.10-GC.15

August 25th-September 12th

Unit 3: The Executive Branch

State Standards GC.16-GC.18

September 15th-September 30th

Unit 4: The Judicial Branch

State Standards GC.19-GC.22

October 1st-October 24th

Unit 5: Civil Liberties

State Standards GC.23-GC.27

November 1st-November 18th

**Unit 6: Tennessee State & Local
Government**

State Standards GC.31-GC.35

November 19th-December 3rd

Unit 7: Citizen Participation

State Standards GC.28-GC.30

December 4th-December 12th