

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT 1st Trimester 2018-2019

Mr. B

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Name: American Government
Requirement: Required
Prerequisites: None
Course Length: 1 Trimester

Course Number: SS110
Grade Levels: 9, 10
Instructor: David M. Batchelder
Credit: 1 credit

This course meets or exceeds university admissions requirements, and State of Arizona Civics Education requirements, including the US Citizenship Test {per A.R.S. 15-701.01(B).}

This core course requirement exceeds State of Arizona Social Studies requirements, and is an NCAA core course.

AZ State Academic Standards Applied: Social Studies, Language Arts, Workplace Skills, meets AZ

Students will study federal and state (and to a lesser degree local) governments relative to: original intent and constitutional foundations (Federal and State of AZ); distribution of authority and contemporary functions; the relationship between levels of government and citizens; the role of Federalism; the impact of political parties and the media on governments; elections and the political process; the branches of government and their relationships, including separation of powers and checks and balances; and the federal and state legal systems, including examples from civil and criminal case law.

Utilizing a combination of written materials, Internet (and other media) research, experiential events, and lectures, the instructor will deliver the course content in various and interesting ways. Mastery will be demonstrated by achieving 75% of all possible test/evaluation points.

TEXT: Magruder's American Government (2009 ed.), Pearson Hall

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

9 August- First day of First Trimester

Welcome to Your American Government Class!

DAY TWO- 2 Assignments

1. **United States of America Citizenship Test - IN CLASS- THE 100 Questions!**
This is a Pre-Test, BUT if you pass it, you're one step closer to graduation. You will see ALL of these questions again, on your final, if you don't pass it now. In fact, they make up about 1/3 of the Final Test for this class. BUT if you pass it now (70 or higher) then you will not be required to take the Citizenship Test portion of the Course Final, BUT YOU MAY CHOOSE TO IF YOU WANT TO RAISE YOUR SCORE- NOT taking it will not hurt your final score. Please answer as completely as possible. Give every question your best answer. I will explain more about WHY we do this on Friday 10 August, in American Government Class.
2. **Course Outline and Contract (DUE 8/14/2016) and Student Information Form**
Please review with your parents, sign and return. This is due BY TUESDAY 14 August.

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GOALS

- ❖ Develop appreciation, foundation and advanced knowledge, skills, and abilities in the area of U.S. and Arizona government.
- ❖ Improve and increase reading comprehension skills, student skills (organization, note taking, listening), participation skills, and writing and research skills.
- ❖ Accelerate and/or effectively apply knowledge, skills, and abilities within the history and civics domain and across the curriculum, within the students' home and community, and for a variety of purposes.
- ❖ Gain knowledge and cultural understanding, to be incorporated into the student's daily life as useful and accessible information.
- ❖ Develop written and spoken command of the proper names and technical terms used.
- ❖ Locate on a timeline various stages of American political and historical development, including when and where major events, movements, technologies, leaders and significant people, and conflicts occurred.
- ❖ Gain knowledge and understanding of how political systems interrelate, particularly in the context of an increasing understanding of the effects of political events on current national and world events.
- ❖ Recognize and explain divergent viewpoints as illustrated in primary and secondary source materials.
- ❖ Recognize significant cause and effect relationships in American government and politics.
- ❖ Develop and accelerate student skills related to reading and utilizing textbooks to their full advantage, note taking from written and spoken sources, and application of learned information in testing, written assignments, in class discussions, and across disciplines.
- ❖ Develop and demonstrate a basic knowledge of US history and government, sufficient to pass the United States citizenship test, required for HS graduation in the State of Arizona, pursuant to **A.R.S. 15-701.01(B).**

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. Introduction- PRE-TEST- US Citizenship Test- HANDOUT- NEW Citizenship Test - THESE 100 Questions will be on the Final, and you MUST pass this Final to pass the class. BUT...IF you have already passed the test, you will not be required to take it again on the Final. It is a requirement for AZ High School Graduation
- II. (OPTIONAL) VIDEO- A More Perfect Union- America Becomes a Nation- 3 class periods and discussion
- III. Chapter 1- Principles of Government
 - A. Government and the State
 - B. Forms of Government
 - C. Basic Concepts of Democracy
- IV. Chapter 2- Origins of American Government
 - A. Our Political Beginnings
 - B. The Coming of Independence- The Declaration of Independence
 - C. The Critical Period
 - D. Creating the Constitution
 - E. Ratifying the Constitution
- V. Chapter 3- The Constitution
 - A. Basic Principles
 - B. Formal Amendment
 - C. Change by Other Means
- VI. Chapter 4- Federalism
 - A. Federalism: Powers Divided
 - B. The National Government and the 50 States
 - C. Interstate Relations

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- VII. Chapters 5 and 6- Political Parties *and* Voters and Voter Behavior
 - A. Parties and What They Do
 - B. Two-Party System in American History
 - C. The Minor Parties
 - D. Party Organization
 - E. The Right to Vote
 - F. Voter Qualifications
 - G. Suffrage and Civil Rights
 - H. Voter Behavior
- VIII. Chapter 7- The Electoral Process
 - A. The Nominating Process
 - B. Elections
 - C. Money and Elections
- IX. Chapters 10, 11 and 12- The Legislative Branch
 - A. Chapter 10- Congress
 - 1. The National Legislature
 - 2. The House of Representatives
 - 3. The Senate
 - 4. The Members of Congress
 - B. Chapter 11- Powers of Congress
 - 1. The Expressed Powers of Money and Commerce
 - 2. The Other Expressed Powers
 - 3. The Implied Powers
 - 4. The Nonlegislative Powers
 - C. Chapter 12- Congress in Action
 - 1. Congress Organizes
 - 2. Committees in Congress
 - 3. Making Law: The House
 - 4. Making Law: The Senate
- X. Chapters 13 and 14- The Executive Branch
 - A. Chapter 13- The Presidency
 - 1. The President's Job Description
 - 2. Presidential Succession and the Vice Presidency
- (X. Chapters 13 & 14- The Executive Branch, A. The Presidency (cont.))
 - 3. Presidential Selection: The Framers' Plan
 - 4. Presidential Nominations
 - 5. The Presidential Election
- XI. B. Chapter 14- The Presidency in Action
 - 1. The Growth of Presidential Power
 - 2. The Executive Powers
 - 3. Diplomatic and Military Powers
 - 4. Legislative and Judicial Powers
- XII. Chapter 16- Financing Government
 - A. Taxes and Other Revenue
 - B. Borrowing and the Public Debt
 - C. Spending and the Budget
 - D. Fiscal and Monetary Policy
- XIII. Chapter 18- The Federal Court System
 - A. The National Judiciary
 - B. The Inferior Courts
 - C. The Supreme Court
 - D. The Special Courts

TIME PERMITTING-

- Foreign Policy and National Defense
 - Foreign Affairs and Diplomacy
 - National Security

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American Foreign Policy Overview
Foreign Aid and Alliances

FINAL TEST (Comprehensive)

METHOD

The instructor will present the course content utilizing a wide variety of source materials including the textbook, secondary written materials, original source documents, audio and video resources, books, computer software and interactive materials, and Internet sources. Lectures, Socratic methods and strategies, class discussions and debates to examine divergent viewpoints, oral and multimedia presentations, small group discussions and discovery, and dramatic presentations and role playing may all be employed to deliver the course content in interesting, meaningful, and effective ways.

MEASUREMENT CRITERIA FOR MASTERY

The instructor will utilize a variety of evaluative strategies, including but not limited to tests, quizzes, written assignments, oral presentations, classroom discussions and debates, individual and group research projects, collaborative group problem solving projects, etc. Students will demonstrate mastery of the course objectives by achieving 75% of all possible points.

COURSE GRADING

The student's grade will be earned based on the following distribution:

20% for Participation -

Based on a 0-3 point scale. Each 3 week grade reporting period is worth approximately 30 participation points.

0 – Absent or in violation of the Code of Conduct, frequent interruptions

1 – Present, not participating, not taking notes, some interruptions

2 – Engaged in discussion, taking notes, respectful to other students speaking

3 - Highly engaged, active in leading questions or discussion, exemplary student conduct

60% for Assignments -

Includes all papers, projects, quizzes, tests (except the Final)

20% for the Final -

In the first trimester, the Final is comprehensive

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

TESTS

In this first trimester, there will be Chapter Tests for each chapter or unit of the textbook. There will not be a mid-term. The Final will be comprehensive.

QUIZZES

There will be a number of 10-point quizzes distributed through the course.

PAPERS

There will be 2 short papers this trimester (5-7 paragraphs). All papers will go through a drafting process under teacher direction. Unless otherwise noted, they are to be typed in black ink, double-spaced, and the papers must follow the Madison Paper format. Papers are graded based on the World History Writing Rubric (25% each for completion, content and clarity, research and footnotes, and mechanics). Specific details for the papers will be provided to students in a handout, and will also be available on the website.

DISCUSSIONS

Each unit will include frequent opportunities for students to discuss political, governmental, current or historical events, people, and concepts in class. Students are expected to come prepared for these discussions of each day's reading and topics. Evaluation of discussions is included in the Participation grades for the class, which comprise 20% of the final grade.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Students will participate with their classmates in selected group activities. Please be sure to COMPLETE THE ASSIGNMENT GIVEN, in the time allotted, with ALL of your teammates participating. Mr. B will provide instructions, and students should ASK QUESTIONS to be sure they are meeting expectations.

Classroom Conduct and Decorum

- CLASS MATERIALS- Please bring the following to class (* means REQUIRED DAILY):
 - *Notebook- composition, spiral, or three ring
 - *Black or blue pen OR #2 Pencil for notes and assignments AND *red/purple pen for grading
 - Planner- STRONGLY suggested, but not required
 - Folder- to organize handouts, homework to turn in and homework/tests returned- STRONGLY suggested but not required
 - Textbook- Spare texts will not be provided to forgetful students
- Disruptions will not be tolerated. Any disruptive student will be sent out of the class with a felony ticket. The student will lose all attendance, participation, assignment, quiz, test, paper, or project points for that day, in addition to any other consequences resulting from the disruption.
- Sleeping in class is treated the same as a classroom disruption.
- No food is permitted in class without Mr. B's permission. This is rarely given, and should NEVER be assumed.
- Water bottles are permitted, but not disposable water bottles. Students will not be excused from class for water. Bring a water bottle with water in it!
- Gum: Per school policy, students are not allowed to chew gum in Mr. B's classroom.
- Bathroom breaks will be given to individual students only when absolutely necessary, and generally not in the first 10 or last 10 minutes of class. Ideally, you should go to the bathroom before class begins, or wait until after class. Students must ask permission to be excused to use the restroom, and must sign out on the bathroom sign out sheet.
- Students will not be excused from class for OTC medication, per school policy.
- Don't be late, remember: Tardy means a ticket!
- Students who are absent from class for 10% or more of the course over the trimester (seven classes) will not receive credit for the course unless approved in writing by JMPS administration.
- Classroom discussions will be conducted in a respectful and adult manner, demonstrating respect at all times.
- Students are expected to follow instructions for homework, papers, projects, etc., and for grading. Please refer to the handout HOW TO USE A PIECE OF PAPER IN MR. B'S ROOM for instructions on paper layout for homework, in class assignments, etc. Please don't doodle on your homework.
- Students must always be ready at the start of class. This means notebook open, pen or pencil ready, text book open. IF EVERYBODY ISN'T READY, EVERYBODY GETS A POP QUIZ!

American Government Video List- *The following is a list of videos we MAY use in class. These videos have been selected for their accuracy, informative nature, and overall effectiveness in helping teach students about American Government.*

A More Perfect Union- America Becomes a Nation- DVD, Originally produced for the Bicentennial of the US Constitution by Brigham Young University, © 1991.

The American Promise- DVD, Produced by Farmer's Insurance Company, Endorsed by the National Council for the Social Studies, © 1995

Foundations of Freedom- DVD, Produced by Center for Educational Technologies, Wheeling Jesuit University, © 2004

Understanding Government- 3 DVDs (The Legislative Branch, The Executive Branch, The Judicial Branch), Produced by Full Circle Entertainment for Goldhill Media International, © 2000

Thurgood and A Call to Act: Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company- DVD, Produced by the Leonore Annenberg Institute for Civics, University of Pennsylvania, © 2010

Mr. Smith Goes To Washington- DVD, Columbia Pictures, Directed by Frank Capra, © 1939

Selected **YouTube** shorts related to topics presented or discussed in class. These are pre-screened, topically relevant and age appropriate. Mr. B utilizes the "Safe Search" function when utilizing YouTube.

Course Outline

Student Contract and Receipt

Student Name:	GRADE:
Advisor:	

I do ___ do not ___ have internet access at home. I do ___ do not ___ have a library card.

My email address is _____@_____

My Parent'(s) preferred email address(es) is/are _____@_____

_____@_____

I would like to sign up ___ (or) would not like to sign up ___ to utilize the REMIND app for this class. I understand that the REMIND app and the website are not updated daily.

I have received the Course Outline for (course name)_____.

I understand, acknowledge, and agree to abide by and complete to the best of my ability:

- ✓ the Course Goals and Objectives;
- ✓ the Course Outline;
- ✓ the Course Mastery Criteria and Grading Policies;
- ✓ the Course Assignments, including all tests, quizzes, papers, projects, and presentations;
- ✓ the Classroom Conduct and Decorum rules;
- ✓ and the Course Video List.

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Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

