

U.S. Government

2017-2018

Teacher: Mr. Herms

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Overview

U.S. Government is a required class for graduation that will examine the different branches of the federal government and their functions, the branches of Michigan's state government and its functions, and how local governments work with a focus on Macomb County and Clinton Township. It is important, and a duty, that every citizen understands how their government works and the underlying principles that form our government. This class will help you realize this goal.

Grading Scale

93-100 A	73-76 C
90-92 A-	70-72 C-
87-89 B+	67-69 D+
83-86 B	63-66 D
80-82 B-	60-62 D-
77-79 C+	59 and below F

1st Quarter: 40% 2nd Quarter: 40% Final Exam: 20%

Homework and Classwork

Homework and classwork will be essential to your success in this class. Homework can be classified as a written assignment, a reading assignment, studying that is not assigned, research that is or is not assigned, or any other related activities done outside of class that pertain to this class. Whether or not you have homework assigned by the teacher, you should be reading and reviewing materials from this class every single day.

Homework will be a small percentage of your grade and is still an important part of your grade. Homework must be turned in on time. If it is a day late without any prior arrangements, it will be marked down and will receive half credit. On the second day after the due date, the late homework will not be accepted unless there is an IEP or 504 accommodation for the student. Some homework will be graded for accuracy and for the most part checked for completion to ensure the student is engaged in the course.

Note on cheating and homework: If it is found the student copied work from another student or source, the student will not receive credit for the assignment. If it is found that students are engaging in cheating through any other means, then homework grades will not be given or will be dependent on student performance on tests and quizzes.

Classroom Rules

Students will be held responsible for adherence to the Student Code of Conduct. These are my expectations and rules for this class:

- Be on time. 4th tardy- Detention 8th tardy-detention 11th tardy-loss of credit
- Be respectful to the teacher and other students. Keep hands, feet, and anything else out of the personal space of others.
- Stay off mobile devices while teacher is engaged in lecture, discussion, or giving directions.
- If you have an unexcused absence on the day of a quiz or test, you may not be able to make up the day's assignment, quiz, or test. 11th absence-loss of credit in class
- Do not talk during lecture, discussion, or the giving of directions. If you have a question, just raise your hand.
- Do not begin to put materials away into a book bag while class is still in session. I will dismiss you from class, not the bell.
- All violations of my classroom rules and the Student Code of Conduct will be dealt with according to district policy.

Absences

If you are absent, it is THE STUDENT'S responsibility to get work, materials, and information that was given during the absence. Please make reasonable arrangements to make up work. Do not ask me 3 minutes before class or raise your hand during class time to ask about late work. Schedule a time with me during the day, and I will be more than happy to assist you.

Academic Integrity

If any student engages in any form of plagiarism, cheating, or any other method of not producing original work, the student will not receive credit for the assignment and will face the consequences according to district rules on plagiarism and cheating.

Changes to Syllabus

The teacher reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus anytime during the year. The students will receive notification of this in a reasonable timeframe during the course.