

Government Class Description & Syllabus

Mr. Johnston

1. This course includes the study of the foundations, organizations, structure, duties, and responsibilities of governments with emphasis on American National Government.
2. You will be required to bring a pen or pencil, notebook or paper, assigned homework, and other necessary materials to class each day. The book required for class is Magruder's American Government. There is a classroom set of books provided in the class for each student. A book for student use at home is available at the bookstore.
3. The grading scale for class is as follows:

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

4. Points are earned by performance on various assignments, quizzes, tests, a final project, and final exam.
5. Subject matter and order in which they are covered:
 - a. Comparative governments - chapter 1
 - b. Foundations of American Government - chapters 2 & 3
 - c. Legislative branch of government - chapters 10, 11, & 12
 - d. Executive branch of government - chapters 13 & 14
 - e. Judicial branch of government - chapters 18 & 19
6. To be successful, all you have to do is:
 - a. Be in class, on time, with the necessary materials for class
 - b. Participate in activities and be respectful of everyone
 - c. Turn in your assignments
 - d. Do the best that you can do
 - e. Have fun and take advantage of the opportunities to learn and interact with your classmates

7. School policies will be enforced in this class: “Laws are a dead letter without courts to expound and define their true meaning and operation.” A quote by Alexander Hamilton which offers an explaining the importance of enforcing the rules.
- a. No electronic equipment allowed in class – put all cell phones, iPods, MP3 devices, etc... If they are used in class they will be taken away.
 - b. No food or drinks permitted in class. (Bottled water with a cap is an exception.
 - c. Tardiness will result in :
 - i. 1st = Warning
 - ii. 2nd = Parent contact and
 - iii. 3rd = Detention & grade penalty
 - iv. 4th = Administration referral & grade penalty
 - Administration penalties will be determined by administration
 - Students will sign in on the tardy board when they enter class after the bell rings
 - d. Attendance policy is as follows: 5 unexcused absences are allowed. If you have more than 5 unexcused absences you will receive **NO CREDIT**. Saturday school is available to make up a maximum of 5 absences. Teacher Option is not available for this class.
 - e. Students must have their student ID and Handbook while on campus. Your handbook will serve as your pass to leave class. If given permission by the teacher, students must sign out any time they leave class while class is in session. **NO** student may leave class within the first 30 minutes of class unless there is an emergency.
8. Mr. Johnston is in room 3201. My class phone # is 502-5596 or I can be reached by email at ajohnston@yumaed.org . If you need to reach me when not on campus, feel free to call at 783-8399 (home). I will always be available to help you!

GOOD LUCK AND HAVE A GREAT SEMESTER!