

Course Syllabus
U.S. Government: Democracy in Action
Economics: Free Enterprise

Flexibility will be key this year. Please be patient as we are all trying something new!

GRADING STRUCTURE:

50% Formative Assessments (Quizzes, Class Assignments)
35% Summative Assessments (Tests/Assessments, Projects)
15% Other (Homework, Class Participation, Exit Tickets)

GRADING SCALE:

90%-100% = A (Excellent)
80%-89% = B (Good, Above Average)
75%-79% = C (Satisfactory, Average)
70%-74% = D (Passing, Below Average)
Below 70% = F (Unsatisfactory, Failing)

COURSE OVERVIEW

GOVERNMENT: In United States Government, the focus is on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded and on the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. This course is the culmination of the civic and governmental content and concepts studied from Kindergarten through required secondary courses. Students learn major political ideas and forms of government in history. A significant focus of the course is on the U.S. Constitution, its underlying principles and ideas, and the form of government it created. Students analyze major concepts of republicanism, federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, and individual rights and compare the U.S. system of government with other political systems. Students identify the role of government in the U.S. free enterprise system and examine the strategic importance of places to the United States. Students analyze the impact of individuals, political parties, interest groups, and the media on the American political system, evaluate the importance of voluntary individual participation in a constitutional republic, and analyze the rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Students examine the relationship between governmental policies and the culture of the United States.

ECONOMICS: Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits is the culmination of the economic content and concepts studied from Kindergarten through required secondary courses. The focus is on the basic principles concerning production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services (the problem of scarcity)

in the United States and a comparison with those in other countries around the world. Students analyze the interaction of supply, demand, and price. Students will investigate the concepts of specialization and international trade, economic growth, key economic measurements, and monetary and fiscal policy. Students will study the roles of the Federal Reserve System and other financial institutions, government, and businesses in a free enterprise system. Types of business ownership and market structures are discussed. The course also incorporates instruction in personal financial literacy. Students apply critical-thinking skills using economic concepts to evaluate the costs and benefits of economic issues.

The entire course will be offered through the HISD learning platform the H.U.B. This is a free web-based program that is available on the computer. Every single assignment and material required for the class will be available on this platform. Additionally, all due dates for assignments will be posted there. As a result, students are responsible for keeping up with all of their upcoming due dates and assignments. Students will access the synchronous component of their course in Microsoft TEAMS. All submissions unless otherwise stated will be made on the H.U.B. There is no excuse for a student failing to submit an assignment by the assigned deadline.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT PLAN

VIRTUAL NORMS:

1. Students are expected to have mics muted and start on the DO NOW immediately once they sign in to the TEAMS lesson.
2. Students are expected to keep their mics muted while the teacher is lecturing. We will use many break-out rooms for group discussions in which all students will be encouraged to participate and speak.
3. Students are encouraged to have their cameras on and if you are uncomfortable with your setting at home, you are encouraged to use the virtual background to block out your surroundings.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS:

1. Respect will be practiced in this class at all times. I will respect all students and I expect the same respect in return. This means no profanity, or explicit behavior will be tolerated.
2. Students will be expected to participate in class. It is okay to have wrong answers. It is okay to ask questions for clarification. It is okay to ask for more time, however, all students are expected to participate.

Waltrip High School

Instructor: Michael Campora

Michael.Campora@houstonisd.org

3. Talking will not be permitted when the teacher, or any guest speaker is in the classroom and talking. There will be plenty of time for collaborative group work in which talking will be permitted. If you are talking, I expect it to be related to history.

4. Students are expected to submit original work on all assignments. Cheating of any sort is unacceptable and will result in a zero for the assignment, quiz or test in which the student was caught cheating.

PARENTAL/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT:

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. It is my belief that **YOU** are the most influential person in your child's life. I am looking forward to providing your child with the best possible education and a safe learning environment. I look forward to working with you and getting the most out of each and every student, but it must be a combined effort. If you are in need of strategies for helping your child with homework or other various assignments, contact me and I'll be glad to help. Together, we can make a positive impact on the future of your child and provide them with all the tools necessary to become successful at everything they do. Please sign this syllabus to acknowledge you have read and are aware of all expectations for this class. I'm looking forward to an amazing year!

*I may be reached during office hours using the TEAMS link on the HUB.

Monday: 3:25-4:10

Tuesday-Friday 1:50- 2:35