

HIGH SCHOOL FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

POLITICAL SCIENCE I COURSE SYLLABUS 2021 - 2022

Instructor: Juan Salinas

Room: 240

Tutorials: By appointment

Email: juan.salinas@houstonisd.org

MATERIALS

	#2 Pencils	HISD Laptop	Black or Blue Ink Pen
Paper/Notebook			

COURSE OVERVIEW

The goal of this course is to make the topics of political science and government meaningful to you. This course will move away from just covering information to memorize for the sake of tests or quiz taking. While there will still be traditional tests and quizzes, the class will focus on learning and preparing for these assessments through classroom discussion, projects, and daily activities. After you finish this course you should be able to think deeply and critically about politics and government and be able to defend your ideas using evidence.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Be Proud: Show pride in everything that you do in this course. Demonstrating effort is important.

Be Kind: Show kindness to yourself and your peers. Bullying or negative behavior will not be tolerated, and such acts will be reported to parents/guardians and administration.

Be Respectful: Show respect for all persons and individual property in the classroom. When in doubt, remember to treat others as you would like to be treated.

Be Prepared: Materials for class and practice work should be brought to class as required, failing to have these items may impact your grades and repeated issues may result in discussions with your parent/guardian.

Be Pleasant: Rudeness will not be tolerated. Students are expected to be polite and professional with all individuals in the classroom. Again, treat others as you would like to be treated.

LATE WORK AND RETAKES

Late Work: 10% deduction in grade for each class day, up until 5 class days. Failure to submit work prior to the end of the marking period will result in a 0 for that assignment.

Retakes: You may request reassessment of major grade assignment and assessments that receive a grade of 70% or below. The highest grade you can receive for a reassessment is 75%. All reassessments must be completed within one week from the time the assessment grade has been entered.

GRADE WEIGHTS

Assessments and Major Projects
45% Summative exams and projects

15% Quizzes

Classwork/Homework
30% Knowledge and skill application/performance classwork

10% Formative assessment/labs and engagement classwork

GENERAL INFORMATION

Attendance: Attendance at every class or virtual meeting is mandatory. Frequent absences cause problems.

Tardy: You are expected to be in class on time, failure to be in class after the tardy bell has rung will result in you being counted tardy. A pass from a faculty or staff member will excuse your tardy. If you are tardy, complete the tardy form. If you have a pass, provide it to your instructor. Unexcused tardiness will be recorded on the HSLJ Discipline Referral form, communicated to the respective parent/guardian, and potentially to HSLJ administrators as per the Student Code of Conduct.

Restroom Privileges: You will be given the opportunity to use the restroom during individual work time and only during individual work time. A classroom pass is located at the front of the classroom and can be checked out freely during that time according to restroom procedures.

Readings: There is no textbook for this class. Reading will consist of materials given during class and to be kept by you in order to study and prepare of tests or quizzes later.

POLITICAL SCIENCE I COURSE OUTLINE	
Units	TEKS
Unit 1: Introduction to Political Science	130.183(C)(11)(a-b) 130.183(C)(4)(a-b)
Unit 2: Political Theories and Theorists	130.183(C)(1)(a - e)

Unit 3: Electoral Methods and Process/2020 Election	130.183(C)(8)(a-f)
Unit 4: Belief Systems	130.183(C)(3)(a-d)
Unit 5: Types of Government	130.183(C)(2)(a - e)
Unit 6: Role of Government in Free Enterprise	130.183(C)(5)(a-f)
Unit 7: Introduction to Political Parties, Public Opinion, and Interest Groups	130.183(C)(6)(a-e) 130.183(C)(7)(a-b) 130.183(C)(10)(a-d)