

Class Name: A.P. United States Government and Politics (Full Year)
Teacher Name: Carrie Lowenbach
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Goals and Objectives

The express purpose of this year-long course is to prepare students to take the AP Exam for U.S Government and Politics.

Students successfully completing this course will:

- Know important facts, concepts, and theories pertaining to US government and politics
- Understand typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences (including the components of political behavior, the principles used to explain or justify various government structures and procedures and the political effects of these structures and procedures).
- Be able to analyze and interpret basic data relevant to US government and politics

After the Exam

Personal Finance and Economics topics will be taught and assessed after the A.P. exam is given in May and will be required for all students taking A.P. Government.

Texts and Resources

Wilson, James Q., and John J. DiIulio Jr. *American Government: Institutions and Policies*. Cengage Learning.

Woll, Peter, ed. *American Government: Readings and Cases*. 14th ed. New York: Pearson Longman, 2002. (selections)

Throughout the year, the course text will be supplemented by relevant articles from sources such as the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, *Washington Times* and the *Christian Science Monitor*.

Grading and Behavior

Grading Scale

Grading in this class will be divided into two segments:

Standard Assessments which may include exams, quizzes, essays, and/or projects all tied to state and national standards. These assessments will comprise 90% of the final grade. Students will have three attempts to master knowledge and skills on every assessment given. The cutoff for retakes will be at the grading period at the end of each 9 weeks.

Historical Knowledge

HS.1. Evaluate continuity and change over the course of world and United States history. **{Preamble}**

HS.2. Analyze the complexity and investigate causes and effects of significant events in world, U.S., and Oregon history.

Historical Thinking

HS.10. Evaluate an historical source for point of view and historical context.

Civics and Government

HS.24. Analyze and critique the impact of constitutional amendments. **{Amendments 1-10}**

HS.25. Describe elements of early governments (i.e., Greek, Roman, English, and others) that are visible in United States government structure.

HS.27. Examine functions and process of United States government. **{Six principles of government}**

HS. 30 Analyze the roles and activities of political parties, interest groups and mass media and how they affect the beliefs and behaviors of local, state, and national constituencies.

HS.32. Examine and evaluate documents and decisions related to the Constitution and Supreme Court decisions.

HS. 34 Explain the responsibilities of citizens

Social Science Analysis

HS.60. Analyze an event, issue, problem, or phenomenon from varied or opposing perspectives or points of view.

HS.61. Analyze an event, issue, problem, or phenomenon, identifying characteristics, influences, causes, and both short- and long-term effects.

HS.62. Propose, compare, and judge multiple responses, alternatives, or solutions to issues or problems; then reach an informed, defensible, supported conclusion.

Daily work, participation, and homework will make up the remaining 10 percent of the final grade.

Final Grades will be earned as follows:

A (90% +) = Exemplary

B (80%-89%) = Mastery

C (70%-79%) = Proficient

D (60%-69%) = Approaching Standard

F (>59%) = Fail/No Attempt

Behavior Expectations

Regular attendance, open-minded and active participation, and respectful interactions with teacher and classmates are required to meet the class objectives.

**district behavior policy will apply and can be found in the student and parent handbook*

An expanded version of this syllabus which includes specific Oregon and Common Core State Standards is available on Crook County School District website and the Google Classroom Site for AP United States Government and Politics.

A.P. United States Government and Politics
Mrs. Lowenbach

I have read and understand the contents of this syllabus.

My student has shown me where they can access the EXPANDED version of the syllabus on Google Classroom.

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent/Guardian email _____

Comments or Questions:

Please return to Mrs. Lowenbach by Sept. 15th