

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT SYLLABUS

MR. FELUMLEE (ROOM 212) 2022-2023

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I. ATTENDANCE AND ASSIGNMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Homework is due at the beginning of the period. Unreadable work will not be given credit. An **In Class Assignment (ICA)** is done during class time and is due at the end of the period.
2. Late work will be accepted for **one day** past the due date with a 20% penalty. After one day the assignment will not receive credit.
3. Any assignment without a First and Last name, or written in **Red** will lose -5 points **Every Time** you do it.
4. **Check with me and get assignments ahead of time if you know you are going to miss school or class.** It is an excused absence, but you still must have your assignments done on time. Don't leave school early without picking up, or turning in, your assignments for that day. You are allowed four absences each nine weeks. Zero for each day above four.
5. To get assignments send me an email (Office 365), and check your assignment calendar to know what you are missing.

II. CLASS BEHAVIOR & PARTICIPATION GRADE (50 pts. each 9 weeks)

You are expected to participate and meet certain requirements of behavior and responsibility. You will lose five points each time you do one of the following actions.

1. Late to class, lunch detention on the 3rd offense.
2. Sleep during class, multiple offenses will get lunch detentions.
3. Don't have your notebook, pencil/pen, and charged I pad.
4. Disrupt or distract class, uncooperative, or disrespectful.
5. Using a cell phone, Smart Watch, or music device during class.
6. Drinks and gum are fine, but no food after U-Time.

III. GRADING PROCEDURES

1. Nine weeks grades are determined by a point total. All assignments have a point value that will go into the total including bonus points.
2. Bonus points can be earned throughout the nine weeks, but no extra-credit assignments will be given. You get ONE test re-take per nine weeks.
3. **Cornell Notes**- when reading assignments are given you should be taking Cornell Notes in your notebook. Sometimes they will be collected & graded, sometimes you can use them on pop quizzes.
4. **Pop Quizzes.** Four pop quizzes will be given each nine weeks. Three will count, the lowest is dropped. If absent the Pop Quiz is NOT made up.

5. Online Book- Google “Glencoe United States Government Democracy in Action chapter one PDF”. Then scroll to the correct choice.

IV. NOTEBOOKS (WORTH 65 POINTS EACH NINE WEEKS)

1. Notebooks are required and graded at the end of each nine weeks.
Test questions are based on all notebook material.
2. Students are to have quality notes (30 pts).
There will be surprise notebook quizzes each nine weeks.
3. All materials passed out must be kept in your notebook (25 points).
4. Your syllabus should be kept in your notebook all year.
5. Fill out an assignment calendar each week. (10 points)
- * Have a good notebook and you will do well!

V. SEMESTER EXAMS AND GOVERNMENT POST-ASSESSMENT TEST

1. You will take two semester exams. Each one will be worth 10% of your total
2. There will be a Post-Assessment Test given at the start of the 4th Nine Weeks, 100 pts. This grade will count in your 4th Nine Weeks grade.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR 1st NINE WEEKS

Week One-Two: August 17-26 Chapter One (Different Governments & Economics)
Class orientation, review syllabus, Pre-Assessment Test.

Concepts: Define government and politics. What are basic functions of government?
What is a Republic? What are the origins of a state? What are characteristics of a democracy? Compare other forms of government & economic systems. Review civic involvement and citizen responsibilities.

Assessment-Chapter One Test (Will include questions from the syllabus)

Week Three: August 29 September 2 Chapter Two (New Nation, New Government)

Concepts: What was the American political thinking of what government should be?
Why fight Britain to gain political independence?
Analyze the Declaration of Independence. Review the political strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.

Week Four: September 6-9 Chapter Two (Creating the Constitution)

Concepts: Why did the Articles of Confederation fail as a government? What were the arguments for and against a new, stronger government? Review the events at the Constitutional Convention. Understand the importance of the Federalist & Anti-Federalists Papers, and the promise of a Bill of Rights.

Assessment- Chapter 2 Test

Week Five and Six: September 12-23 Chapter Three (Analyze the Constitution)

Resources- Billofrights.org, Constitutionfacts.com, Bill of Rights Institute

Concepts: Understand the structure and principles of the Constitution. Know the checks and balances of power between the three branches of government?
Review the amendment process? Know the protections in the Bill of Rights.

Understand the concept of Selective Incorporation of the Bill of Rights.
Chapter 3 Test (This is the most important chapter in preparation for the State Test)

Week Seven: September 26-30 Chapter 4 (Federalism)

Concepts: How does federalism divide national/state powers? How do states cooperate with each other and how are states admitted to the country? Review the Northwest Ordinance, the case McCulloch vs. Maryland, and the supremacy clause.

Chapter 4 Quiz

Week Eight-Ten: October 3-19 Chapter 16 (Political Parties)

Political Spectrum-1Sidewith.com

Concepts: How did political parties evolve? How have the parties changed during our history? What are the functions of parties and how have they lost some of the powers they once had? Why are more Americans not joining a political party? What obstacles do Third Parties face in gaining support and winning elections?

What are the differences between Democrats & Republicans? Explain political ideology.

Understand conservative/liberal/moderate principles. Create a campaign poster.

Assessments- Chapter 16 Test

*Turn in notebook and coupons, end the grading period.

SECOND NINE WEEKS

Week One and Two: October 24 November 4 Chapter 17 (Voting & Elections)

USelectionatlas.org, ballotpedia.org, MyVoteOhio.org

Concepts: Ohio voting rights and election laws. How has the voting electorate grown?

Understand the different types of elections and primaries. Why is there so much concern about voting laws? Know the 14, 15, 17, 19, 24, and 26th voting amendments.

Assessment- Chapter 17 Test.

Week Three: November 7-11 Chapter 18 (Interest Groups/Public Opinion)

Resources-pollingreport.com, You Tube AP Govt. Review #9 Public Opinion

Concepts: What are interest groups and how do they impact American politics? Why do people join interest groups? What are the goals of interest groups? What is public opinion and why is it important? How are political polls taken and how are results used?

Week Four: November 14-17 Chapter 19 (Mass Media)

You Tube "Mass Media and Public Opinion"

Concepts: What is the media's role in politics. Analyze the different forms of media.

How has the internet changed politics? Analyze truth, facts & bias in the media?

Understand the difference between misinformation and disinformation.

Assessment- Chapter 18-19 Test

Week Five-Seven: November 21 December 9 Chapters 8-9-10 (Presidency/Bureaucracy)

Concepts: Understand the Electoral College. What are qualifications to be president? Understand presidential succession. Know amendments 12, 20, 22, 23, and 25. Analyze presidential powers and their constitutional limits. Analyze presidential campaigns. Assessments- President's Cabinet & Staff, Chapter 8-10 Test

Week Eight: December 12-15 Review and take 1st semester exam, Break Dec 16-Jan 2

End of the 2nd nine weeks, notebooks and coupons are due, end of the semester.

3RD NINE WEEKS

Week One-Two: January 3-13 Chapters 5-7 (Legislative Branch)

Concepts: How are the House and Senate different? What are qualifications to run for Congress? What are the main functions and powers of Congress? What is the process of a bill becoming a law? Know the Committee system and leadership of Congress.

Assessments- Chapter 5-7 Test.

Week Three-Four: January 18-27 Chapters 11-12 & 15 (Judicial Branch)

Landmarkcases.org, streetlaw.org, oyez.org, SCOTUSblog

Concepts: What is the structure of the federal court system? How do you become a federal judge? How does a case make it to the Supreme Court? Analyze landmark Supreme Court cases. Know the five sources of American laws. Know the differences between a criminal and civil case? Assessment-Chapter 11-12, & 15 Test.

Week Five: January 30- February 3 Chapters 13-14 (Civil Rights and Civil Liberties)

Readings: 355-387, 388-412

Concepts: Understand the civil rights and civil liberties citizen have under the law. Thoroughly analyze the 14th amendment. Understand due process, equal protection, and affirmative action. Discuss the issues of immigration, L.G.B.T.'s, and same sex marriages.

Week Six-Seven: February 6-15 Chapters 20-21 (Fiscal & Monetary Policy)

Concepts: Analyze the budget process. Review the various sources of revenue & spending of the federal government. Understand the national debt and deficit spending. Know how the Federal Reserve conducts monetary policy & controls interest rates.

Week Eight: Nine February 22-March 3 Chapters 22 (Foreign Policy)

Concepts: What is foreign policy? What are the goals of U.S. foreign policy? Why is foreign policy so important to the U.S.? Who is responsible for foreign policy? Understand the problems with Russia and China.

Week Ten: March 6-8 (Ohio State and Local Government)

Concepts: Understand how Ohio state and local governments operate. Analyze the tax and revenue system for each level. Review the services provided by county and municipal governments. Cite the reasons for the revised 1851 Ohio Constitution. Assessments-Ohio Government & Foreign Policy Test.

Turn in notebooks and coupons.

GOVERNMENT OVER EXCEPT FOR POST-TEST AND STATE TEST.

FINANCIAL LITERACY BEGINS IN THE 4TH NINE WEEKS

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Textbook (Google “Glencoe Economics Today & Tomorrow chapter one PDF”)
cnnmoney.com, Bankrate.com, Thebalance.com, Lendedu.com., Nerdwallet.com

Week One: March 13-17 Chapters One & Three (Role as a Consumer) POST-TEST
Concepts: Scarcity, wants and needs, trade-offs and opportunity costs. How to use your disposable and discretionary income? Understand consumerism and consumer rights.
Review job benefits and tax deductions from your paycheck.

Week Two-Three: March 20-31 Chapter 5 (Buying the Necessities)
Concepts: Know how to budget your disposable income. Understand advertising and sales tactics by businesses. Know the costs, procedures, and responsibilities when renting or buying a place to live. What are the costs involved when leasing or owning a car including loans, insurance, repairs, and fees? Understand how to save money when shopping for groceries and consumer goods.
Chapters 1-3-5 Test SPRING BREAK!

Week Four-Five: April 10-21 Chapter 6 (Saving and Investing) Ch. 14 (Money)
Concepts: List accounts insured by F.D.I.C. What are the four things you can do with your money? Understand the functions of money. What are the various ways to invest? How do securities markets work? Understand investment scams. How do you invest in your retirement, and what are retirement options? Understand how Social Security works and what it pays for. Know how to write & endorse the different types of checks.
Chapters 6 & 14 Test

Week Six-Seven: April 24-May 5 Chapter 4 (Going into Debt and Using Credit)
Concepts: Know the types of credit and debit cards. Understand interest, principle, A.P.R., finance charges, and installment payments. Analyze credit reports and credit bureaus. Review collateral, secured, unsecured loans, & sub-prime loans. What are the factors that determine your credit worthiness? Understand bankruptcy laws & bad credit issues. Review the different types of banks and credit unions.
Assessment: Chapter 4 Test.

Week Eight-Nine May 8-19 Chapter 8-10 Business Organization & Development
Concepts: Discuss the various business formats. How do businesses get financing? What are employee overhead costs and job benefits? Review the costs and risks of owning your own business. How is the government involved with mergers, subsidies, patents and trademarks?
Assessment: Chapter 8-10 Test, Review for the Exam

Week Ten May 22-24 Exams (50 Multiple Choice Questions over the 4th Nine Weeks)

Turn in notebook at the exam.