

WHO IS YOUR TEACHER?

Teacher: Ms. Jill Ellzey

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I have a B.S. Degree in Business Administration from Auburn University @ Montgomery. I have a Master of Education in Social Sciences. I have taught grades 6-12 with Opelika City and Montgomery Public Schools.

TEXTBOOK

United States Government Democracy in Action, 2003

WHAT IS THIS COURSE ALL ABOUT?

United States Government: United States Government is an eighteen week required course for Grade 12. In this course, students use the knowledge and analytical thinking skills learned in the Grades 10-11 United States History courses to focus on the origins, structure, and functions of government at all levels in the nation. Emphasis is placed on intellectual factors that influenced the development of a republic based on the rule of law, freedom of opportunity, individual liberty, and representative democracy. The course also includes a detailed study of the Constitution of the United States and its provisions. Students in the Grade 12 United States Government course engage in analysis of primary sources, including those specific to the founding of the United States, speeches, landmark Supreme Court cases, and relevant political commentaries. These students have the potential to become participating citizens in the fullest sense—voting, jury duty, and political office.

WHAT WILL YOU LEARN FROM THIS CLASS?

During this course, you will be introduced to new ideas and concepts and also extend your understanding of previous topics. At the end of this course you will be able to solve problems today's world and in the future.

The following are the Content Standards for the 12th Grade Government:

- Identify origins and functions of government.
- Analyze purposes, organization, functions, and principles of the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights.
- Explain how the federal system of the United States divides powers between national and state governments, including areas of taxation, revenue distribution, federal grants, distribution of entitlements, regulation of interstate commerce, and enforcement of contracts.
- Describe specific functions, organization, and purposes of state and local governments.
- Trace the expansion of suffrage and its effect on the political system of the United States.
- Describe the development and functions of special interest groups.
- Trace the development and impact of the media on the political process and public opinion in the United States.
- Identify roles political parties play in the functioning of the political system of the United States.
- Identify constitutional provisions of the legislative branch of the government of the United States.
- Identify constitutional provisions of the executive branch of the government of the United States.
- Identify constitutional provisions of the judicial branch of the government of the United States.
- Contrast rights and responsibilities of citizens in a representative democracy.
- Explain the foreign policy of the United States and national security interests as they pertain to the role of the United States in the world community.

Guidelines and Supplies

| <u>Class Guidelines</u> | <u>Discipline</u> |
|--|---|
| 1. Be in class when the tardy bell rings. 2. Bring ALL materials to class every day! 3. Treat EVERYONE with respect. 4. Listen carefully to directions. 5. Follow all policies and procedures outlined in the SHS & Sylacauga City Schools handbooks | Failure to follow classroom guidelines will result in: 1. Teacher/Student Conference 2. Call parent 3. Parent conference 4. Office referral |

Severity Clause:

Students exhibiting any form of severe behavior that endangers students, violates the law or seriously prevents the teacher from teaching or other students from learning, will be referred to administration. The teacher reserves the right to remove a student without prior consequences depending upon the severity of the situation.

Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism:

1st Instance: Students with cases of academic dishonesty will receive a zero for the assignment along with an automatic parent teacher conference. Any additional instances: Students with cases of academic dishonesty will receive a zero for the assignment along with an automatic office referral and parent teacher conference.

| <u>Grading</u> | <u>Grading Scale</u> |
|---|----------------------|
| 50%: Tests | 90-100: A |
| 40%: Projects, Essays, Papers, & Portfolios | 80-89: B |
| 10%: Homework, Quizzes, & Participation | 70-79: C |
| | 60-69: D |
| | 59-below: F |

Technology:

Occasionally technology will be used for in-class assignments. Devices used for anything not related to class (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, snapchat, texting, etc.) are subject to confiscation & disciplinary action.

Make-up Policy/Late Work:

I will follow the make-up policy outlined in the Student Handbook. Late work will be accepted at a point deduction of 10% per day. Tutoring is available Tuesdays and Thursdays 3:30-4:00p.m.

Items for class:

- Pen (Black or Blue ink ONLY!) or pencil
- Loose leaf paper
- 1 ½ in" Binder
- Dividers
- Highlighters

Please bring 2 of the following supplies:

Copy Paper, Clorox Wipes, Hand sanitizer, Paper Towels