U. S. Government

Instructor: Patsy Moore
Phone: 830-778-4300 ext. 2096
Conference: 2:05 – 3:35 B days

Course Description:
U.S. Government is the study of the historical backgrounds, governing principles, and institutions of the government of the United States.

Grading policy
Major Grades (quizzes, tests and projects) 40%
Minor grades (homework, classwork etc.) 60%

Student Contributions
The student is expected to:
1. Attend classes daily, be prepared and be on time
2. Pay attention and take proper notes from class lectures, readings and videos
3. Complete and turn in all homework and assignments on time
4. Be present for all exams
5. Respect the views of others in the class at all times
6. Students are expected to share their work with the class, both in small and whole group settings.
7. Access Blackboard for assignments/supplemental materials
8. Spend time outside of class studying and preparing for class

CLASS POLICIES

1. EVERY STUDENT MUST:
   - Come to class prepared. Being prepared for class means having in your possession the following items: your binder, your textbook; a working pen and/or a sharpened pencil; any assignments that are due; and something to keep you quietly busy during periods when you are caught up or waiting for the rest of us. (Homework, book or magazine, etc.). A tardy may be assessed for each trip to get class materials after the bell rings.
   - Place name, date and period in the upper right corner of all assignments. There should also be a title on the page for the assignment you are turning in. (5% deduction for failure to comply).

1. BINDER
The binder will be organized in the following manner by chapter.
   1. Class Notes
   2. Unit Work [Vocabulary & Review Questions, Supreme Court Case Assignment]
   3. Graded Assignments [quizzes, class work, homework]
   4. Miscellaneous [all other papers]

2. QUIZZES AND EXAMS
   - There will be chapter quizzes and comprehensive exams over each unit of study.
   - Exams are always announced in advance.
All students are expected to take the quiz or exam in class on the day it is administered, regardless of an absence on the prior day of class. If every member of the class takes the unit exams on or before the day of the test, the whole class will receive 5 bonus points on that test.

Makeup quizzes or exams due to an absence are to be completed by appointment. This appointment must be made and completed within one week after you return to school. If this is not accomplished the result will be a zero for that test. The responsibility for makeup is entirely yours.

Students may not re-take quizzes or exams.

3. ASSIGNMENTS / HOMEWORK

- Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the period.
- Individual questions about assignments, grades, paper comments, etc. should be handled before or after class.
- Assignments are expected to be turned in on their due date. Late assignments will be accepted but will only receive a maximum of half credit.

4. LATE WORK

- Late assignments will be accepted for up to 2 class days after the assignment was due but will only receive a maximum of half credit.
- Work turned in late on the day it is due will receive a 15% deduction. This is in effect for work completed late in or after class or work forgotten at home.

5. ABSENCES / MAKE UP POLICY

- It is the responsibility of the student to get all assignments missed during an absence. All makeup assignments must be turned in within two class days of the absence.
- All assignments given prior to any absence (excused or not) are due the day you return, NOT the day after. Basically, if you know about it, you are responsible for it.
- Any quizzes or exams will be made up during an appointed time set up between the student and the teacher (Appointment must be made the day you return). Exams and quizzes must be completed within one week after you return to school. If this is not accomplished the result will be a zero for that test.
- A single day or period absence will not excuse you from any quiz or exam scheduled for the day you return.

6. TARDY POLICY

- We will follow the school tardy policy.

7. CELL PHONES & ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Cell phones may not be accessed during Government. Students will place their phone in the designated area before the tardy bell. Attendance will be taken based on the phones that are placed in their assigned pocket. You will retrieve your phones 3 minutes before the bell rings.
- If you refuse to follow the rules your cell phone will be confiscated and turned in to the office.
- You will be expected to turn in your smart watch during quizzes and exams.

8. BATHROOM POLICY

- The bathroom should be used before and after class – not during.

*If it is necessary to revise any portion of this syllabus, the instructor will inform you in advance of any changes.*