**Civics**

Learning Syllabus

Ms. Rutherford

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Hello class and welcome to Civics! I am excited to have you in my class and to get to know everyone. During this transition back into in person learning, patient and understanding will be key. I have nothing but high hopes for this school year!

**Course Description:**

This course explores the development and functions of the United States government. We will start by looking at the various forms of government, as well as our own government in further detail. We will also look into the culture, economics, geography, and history that ties into the topic of Civics.

**Course Objective:**

**The ultimate objective of the course is to challenge students by:**

♦ Valuing the process of acquiring knowledge

♦ Becoming confident and independent learners

♦ Thinking critically, analytically, and creatively

♦ Communicating effectively with clarity, respect and openness

♦ Acting with integrity and a sense of moral purpose

♦ Developing self-discipline and a sense of responsibility

♦ Reflecting upon, sharing, and applying what is learned

**Topics Covered:**

Unit 1: Foundations of Government

Unit 2: The Constitution

Unit 3: Three Branches of Government

Unit 4: Civil Liberties and Rights

Unit 5: The People and Elections

Unit 6: Economics and State vs Local Government

Unit 7: Comparing Political Systems

**Required Materials:**

* Access to Online Textbook (Paper Version Available upon request)
* Access to Teams, Blackboard, PowerSchool
* A fully charged iPad
* Charger (just in case)

**Grading Scale:**

Students’ grades are determined using the following distribution:

 Summative Assessment: 30%

Performance Assessments

70%

 Constructed Responses and Projects: 20%

 Quizzes/Projects: 20%

 Class Assignments and Documentary Questions

Formative Assessments

 20%

 Class Worksheets

 Homework Vocabulary Sheets and Maps

 10%

 Participation

**Late Policy:**

**Formative:** Must be completed by the due date and time. One day late receives a 50% deduction and any submissions after that will result in no credit.

**Performance:** Must be completed by the end of the due date and time. One day late receives a 10% deduction and after one day, a 50% deduction (must be made up before the end of the quarter). Tests and quizzes can be made up throughout the quarter with no penalty. All performance assessments must be completed by the end of the quarter in which they were assigned

* You will take quizzes/test on the day assigned and turn in project on the due date, so long as you were here when the material was completed.
* If you are absent, make an appointment with me to make up your test.

**Constructed Responses:**

* To answer the question:
	+ - Only use your notes
		- Do not refer to other sources (i.e. websites or books)
* All work must be completed independently
	+ - You are not allowed to view, copy or paraphrase someone else’s essay
		- You are not allowed to preview someone else’s essay to gain a better understanding of the format

**Learning Expectations:**

1. Be present and on time for class- Being present means actively participating and engaging with the lesson. It is clear who is and who is not!

2. Be prepared- You are in high school and you MUST come to class in the mindset to learn. Be sure your i-pad charged or plugged in! Also ensure that any other resources are with you as well.

3. Be honest- I expect that all of you will be honest in my class. You are required to do your own work.

4. Be respectful- The best way for this class to run smoothly is for everyone to respect one another.

5. Do your best!! Everyone is capable of doing well in my class. I do expect you all to work to your full potential.

6. If you are struggling or need extra help, please let me know. I am happy to work with students who ask for help!

7. If you have any problems with your iPad you will need to contact the help desk by going to oxfordasd.org, clicking on the parents and students tab at top. Then click technology helpdesk, log in and complete a help request ticket. Please let me know that you are having trouble and have put in a help ticket.

**Behavior Consequences:**

Failure to follow the above guidelines will result in dismissal from meeting.