

AP U.S. Government and Politics

I. Introduction

This is essentially a college introductory course in American Government that is rather demanding and is accompanied with the senior Economics course. Due to the challenging nature of the course, it is critical that you put forth your best effort on a daily basis. In this Advanced Placement course, you will have ample opportunity to demonstrate that you are academically competent learners, effective communicators, productive individuals, politically aware individuals, and involved citizens.

II. Course of Study

This course will follow the curriculum designed by the College Board Advanced Placement program for American Government. Economics curriculum is designed at an accelerated pace to maintain consistency with the AP program.

ECONOMICS

- I. Intro of Economics
- II. Microeconomics
- III. Macroeconomics

AP U.S. GOVERNMENT and POLITICS

- I. Constitutional Underpinnings of United States Government
- II. Political Beliefs and Behaviors
- III. Political parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media
- IV. Institutions of National Government: The Congress, the Presidency, the Bureaucracy, and the Federal Courts
- V. Public policy
- VI. Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

III. Homework

- A. Expect regular reading assignments.
- B. Students will be expected to stay current with political news as it pertains to government.
- C. Late work is not accepted, except in case of excused absences or prior arrangement

IV. Student Responsibilities

- A. Students will need to maintain pace with required readings, assignments, and digital journal.
- B. Be respectful and polite...Class discussion cannot be effective in a climate of intolerance.
- C. If "life happens", see me to make arrangements to deal with your academic responsibilities.
- D. If you have academic difficulties with this class, feel free to get extra help.

V. When can I get HELP from Mr. Blackburn outside of class:

Before school...I arrive to school approximately 7:00.

During school...Fox Pause/RIE, lunch (11:56-12:26), 1st period (my prep)

After school...I will be here generally until 4:00.

Finally, to be assured of getting help for a specific time, please make an appointment.

VI. Attendance

Due to the rigorous curriculum, expectation is that you attend each day of class. Regular attendance will be an essential component of your academic success and you will be unable to meet the goals of the course unless you are here at minimum **92%** of the time.

It is the responsibility of the student to make up all work during and after an absence. The best policy is to get work prior to absence or to call in or have a friend get work for you. My voice mail number is: 873.6331 ext. 3747 or email at: **blackburn_chris@silverfalls.k12.or.us**

Unexcused absences will receive zero credit for assigned and/or received course work on the day of the absence.

VII. Cheating

Students are expected to abide by the highest moral and ethical standards of conduct in the preparation and presentation of graded materials. Such standards are founded on the basic concepts of honesty, integrity and respect for self and others. Any participation in plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated. Consequences may include all of the following: zero credit on assignment/exam, transfer to another class, and the loss of respect from instructor and others as well.

VII. Grades

Academic includes assessments as indicated by instructor, for instance, quizzes, unit exams, semester final, etc. Personal Management includes participation in discussions, completion of course work, and personal behavior, etc.

Grade Categories

75% = Academic

25% = Personal Management

Grade Scale

100-85 = A

84-75 = B

74-65 = C

64-60 = D

- A. Each AP unit exam will consist of a multiple-choice section (50%) and a free response section (50%).
- B. The AP final exam (senior finals) will be comprehensive, i.e., it will cover material from the entire year.

Mr. Blackburn

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