

Civics - Course Syllabus

Mr. Perez

Course Description: Students in grade twelve pursue a deeper understanding of the institutions of American government. The course of study includes the study of foundational documents, analysis of changing interpretations of the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the current state of the legislative, executive and judiciary branches of government. These standards represent the culmination of civic literacy as students prepare to vote, participate in community activities, and assume the responsibilities of citizenship. **THIS CLASS IS A GRADUATION REQUIREMENT.**

Grades: Students will be graded on homework/classwork, tests, quizzes, benchmarks, writing assignments (usually short essays), and a final. Homework and classwork will account for 40% of the grade, tests and quizzes will account for 50% of the grade, and the final exam will account for 10% of the grade. The grading scale: 100%-90% = A, 89%-80% = B, 79%-70% = C, 69%-60% = D, 59% or below = F.

Preparation: All students are required to bring the necessary materials to class every day. This includes a charged Chromebook, a pen, a pencil, a hi-liter, binder (filler) paper, and a binder. **ALL WORK IS REQUIRED TO BE IN A BINDER.**

Homework: Homework is given an average of 3 days a week (writing, reading, or studying). Homework assignments must be complete for a student to receive full credit. If the student is in class on the day an assignment is due, the homework must be turned in at the **BEGINNING** of the period. If a student has an excused tardy, they must turn in the assignment that period. **LATE WORK IS GENERALLY NOT ACCEPTED.**

Make Up Work: Students are required to turn in assignments when they are due. If the student is absent on the day an assignment is due, it is the student's responsibility to turn it in the next day they are in class. Students will be permitted to make up missed school assignments when they have an excused absence. Students will be allowed two school days for each day of absence to make up the work. The teacher may extend the time for make up. Responsibility for requesting missed work lies with the student. Upon satisfactory completion, within the given time frame, the student will be given credit earned.

Quizzes and Tests: Quizzes and tests are given for each unit of study. Students are allowed to take quizzes/tests only once for credit. If a student is absent on the day of a quiz/test, it is their responsibility to make up that quiz/test within five school days of the original date of the quiz/test. Failure to make up the assigned quiz/test within five school days may result in a grade reduction of 10% for that quiz/test. **Failure to make up the assigned quiz/test within 10 school days may result in a grade of a zero.**

Attendance: It is important that the student be in class every day so that they can stay on top of all the work that is done in class. If the student is absent, it is their responsibility to contact the teacher or ask a friend for the work. **When a student reaches five (5) unexcused absences or ten (10) absences total, a parent/guardian conference may be requested by the teacher.**

Tardies: If a student is tardy and there is homework that is to be turned in that day, the student will **NOT** be allowed to turn in the assignment if the teacher has already collected the assignment. We will follow the school's tardy policy.

Cell Phones & Other Electronic Devices: If a phone or electronic device is seen, heard, or used at an inappropriate time, it will be confiscated and can **only be picked up by a parent/guardian.**

Topics: We will be discussing a variety of current event topics that are personal to many students. I will try to stimulate discussion on topics and will play the opposition to ideas commonly held by students. I am not infallible, but I will do my best to never say anything insensitive to students in the class. If I say something that you feel is wrong/insensitive, please feel free to talk to me (whether it's in class, after class, or through an email).

Need Help?: I am available almost every day at lunch and most days during homeroom. If a student needs additional help, I encourage them to talk to me as soon as possible. I will try to make arrangements to help those who are struggling (if you are struggling that means that at least you are trying) or having a difficult day/week. I can't help a student who does not talk to me. I am more than willing to talk to parents/guardians (or meet with them). In fact, I appreciate parents/guardians that are concerned about the education of their child. If we communicate, all of us will feel more at ease.

Questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Jerry Perez

phone: 735-3501 ♦ e-mail: jperez02@vusd.org ♦ website: thejerryperexperiment.weebly.com

Civics - Classroom Rules

Mr. Perez

1. Bring materials (charged Chromebook, paper, pen, pencil, hi-liter, binder, assignments) to the classroom every day.
2. Use language that is appropriate for the classroom.
3. Be honest in the classroom. We will follow the school's honesty policy.
4. Be courteous to your fellow pupils and the teacher during class. If you have a problem, talk to the teacher before or after class.
5. Be responsible for getting missed assignments. Ask a friend or the teacher at the appropriate time.
6. Help keep the classroom clean. Pick up all the trash around your desk.
7. Arrive to class in a timely manner. We will follow the school's tardy policy.
8. Class ends when the teacher is finished, not when the bell rings. Do not clean up until you are told to do so.
9. Do all classroom work. Learning in the classroom is not optional. You must listen, participate, take notes, and anything else that I ask of you.
10. Use common sense in the classroom.

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE CLASSROOM RULES MAY RESULT IN COUNSELING, DETENTION, SUSPENSION, OR ALTERNATIVE DISCIPLINE.

◆ Questions or concerns, please contact Mr. Jerry Perez ◆

◆ phone: 735-3501 ◆ e-mail: jperez02@vusd.org ◆

◆ website: thejerryperexperiment.weebly.com ◆

Student name _____ ◆ Signature _____ ◆ Date _____

Parent name _____ ◆ Signature _____ ◆ Date _____

Parent phone # _____ ◆ Parent e-mail _____

