**Government Syllabus**

**South Paulding High School**

**SY:** 2019 - 2020

**Instructor:** Dawn Quarles

**Room:** 3015

**Contact Information**

**Email**: dquarles@paulding.k12.ga.us

**Teacher website**: [www.dawnquarles.weebly.com](http://www.dawnquarles.weebly.com)

**Canvas website**: <https://paulding.instructure.com/login/ldap>

**Purpose of this Course**

The purpose of this course is to provide a general introduction to the structure, organization, and functioning of the national government of the United States. It will examine the powers and relationships of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of the government with special emphasis given to the role that history, political parties, pressure groups, etc. play in influencing these relationships.

Additionally, this course will stress critical thinking and analysis skills. Students will be required to stay current in all assigned readings and current political events for discussion groups; especially given the pace of this course over a 9-week period.

**Required Materials and Supplies**

Pens- Blue/ Black ink only

Pencils

1.5” three-ring binder with 5 dividers

3” x 5” index cards

**Texts**

Remy, Richard C. United States Government: Our Democracy: $62.97

Government Alive! (Text and online versions)

**Methodology:** The class will revolve around the use of discussions, mini-lectures, group projects, investigations, presentations, and debates. Audiovisual materials, films, movies, and computer technology will be used when necessary. Be prepared to be creative and independent thinkers in this class!

**Projects:** Students will choose ONE of the available government projects located on canvas. The project will be due no later than December 16th.

**Class Rules/ Expectations**

1. **Be Ready!** Be on time and prepared for class.
2. **Be Respectful!** Treat each other with kindness and consideration. No bullying ever!
3. **Be Responsible!** Take responsibility for your own actions and clean up after yourself.
4. **NO FOOD** in the classroom! You may have a drink provided it has a lid on it. (**Severe medical allergy for this!**)

**Disciplinary Progression**

1. Warning
2. Student conference/ Contact parent
3. Detention
4. Discipline referral

**Bell Work/ Essential Questions**

Essential Questions will be required at the beginning of each class.

**Paper Headings**

Every submission for a grade must include the following at the top of the page:

Name

Date

Block

Title of Assignment

* *Loss of 5 points for failure to list all required information at the top of your paper*
* *Loss of 10 points for “No Name” papers once claimed.*

**Late work**

Late work penalty is half credit deduction. You may submit late work up to three times. After three late submissions, late work will not be accepted.

**Attendance/ Make-up Work**

Each student will be responsible for their own missing work. In this endeavor, it would be helpful to have a classroom “buddy.” He/she is someone you can rely on to get makeup work/ notes from when you are out. You might want to exchange phone numbers to get assignments.

**Bonus Points**

Every student will be assigned four current events over the course of the nine weeks.
Completing any additional current event will allow the student to earn 10 bonus points on any quiz. (One current event bonus per quiz limit)

Completion of the unit study guide will result in 10 bonus points on the unit test.

**Technology and Cell phones**

Electronics we be used for educational purposes only and with my permission only. This includes the use of cell phones, so pay attention to the sign hanging at the front of the classroom. Failure to follow the sign will result in a referral.

**Unit Repair**

Students will have **5 class days** to complete test corrections, review assignments to include all video review clips of the material and attend a minimum of one tutoring day. Any additional absences do not result in additional days to complete the assignments. Failure to complete all parts of the unit repair will result in the student being unable to retake the unit test.

**Tutoring**

Monday & Thursday 3:35 – 4:00

Wednesday 7:50 – 8:15

**Grading Scale**

Summative Assignments 71% (Ex: Tests/ Projects)

Formative Assignments 29% (Ex: Quizzes, CW, HW)

EOC Exam 20% of overall grade

**Your course final average will be calculated as follows:**

At the end of the nine weeks, your average will be calculated with your milestone exam.

Nine-week average- 80%

EOC Exam- 20%

The following grade equivalents are used in Paulding County Schools:

A = 90 – 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

F = 00 – 69%

**Cheating:** Cheating is a terrible and highly disrespectful action that brings more penalties than rewards; and WILL NOT be tolerated.

***Anyone found to be cheating on a quiz or test, or submitting the work of another to include plagiarism, will receive a “Cheating” designation on the assignment, a referral to administration, and your parent/ guardian will be notified.***

**Tests-** Unit tests will be completed on Canvas. I have already scheduled the test dates for computer access. Your class calendar will list which computer lab / location to report to on this test dates. At that time, you may also catch up and complete any missing canvas assignments.For every test, all electronic devices (and smart watches) will be turned in prior to the test.

**Collaborative work-** Be sure the work you turn in is entirely yours, not a copy of, or even collaboration with someone else’s, unless we are completing a group activity.