

American Government Syllabus

School: Middleton Academy

Course Description:

Responsible citizenship, including civil and political participation is essential to maintain a representative government that truly represents the people of the United States. In this course, students learn about the structure of government and how it shares power at the local, state and federal levels. This course also explores founding principles that inspired the Constitution and Bill of Rights, preserving the freedoms that students experience daily. Students will examine the processes of each branch of government, the election process, and how citizens can impact public policy. The media, interest groups and influential citizens provide examples of how the government can be effected by informed and active participants. Students will examine the U.S. Court system, and become a part of the process by participating in the judicial decision making process. They will also discover ways the United States interacts with countries around the world, through domestic policy, foreign policy and human rights policy. Completion of this course will allow you to act as an informed citizen who is ready to participate in the American democracy!

Access the site link below to view the course description from the Florida Department of Education. <http://www.floridastandards.org/Courses/PublicPreviewCourse633.aspx?ct=1>

This course is aligned to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Course Prerequisites:

This course is recommended for students in 11th and 12th grade. Successful completion of English 1 and English 2 is strongly recommended.

Estimated Completion Time:

2 segments/32-36 weeks

Course Assessment and Participation Requirements:

To achieve success, students are expected to submit work in each course weekly. Students can learn at their own pace; however, “any pace” still means that students must make progress in the course every week. To measure learning, students complete self-checks, practice lessons, multiple choice questions, projects, discussion-based assessments, and discussions. Students are expected to maintain regular contact with teachers; the minimum requirement is monthly. When teachers, students, and parents work together, students are successful.

Materials:

- Students should have access to a computer.
- Students should have internet access. Continuous broadband Internet access is recommended.
- The ability/permission to install plug-ins or software (e.g., Adobe Reader or Flash) is recommended.
- The ability to download and save files and documents to a computer is recommended.

