

NOUVEL CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION:	<p>This class focuses on the function and the structure of local, state, and federal political systems. The course will include a study of the three branches of government, the historical background to the Constitution, the wide variety of presidents and their administrations, Civil Rights, (including the struggle for black and women rights and their contribution to our society), in –depth study of the Articles and the Amendments, and citizenship within the political system. The rights and responsibilities of citizenship is an integral part of this course.</p> <p>First Marking Period will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Principles of Government• Origins of American Government• The Constitution• Federalism• Executive Branch <p>Second Marking Period will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legislative Branch• Judicial Branch• Civil Rights• Civil Liberties <p>Common Core Standards for Social Studies:</p> <p>Students will be able to analyze in detail how a complex primary course is structured, including how key sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text contribute to the whole. (Common Core Reading Standard 5)</p> <p>Students will be able to draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research. (Common Core Writing 9)</p>
MAJOR COURSE GOALS:	<p>At the end of the semester each student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• identify the origins and purpose of our government• explain the rights we have and how we obtained those rights• understand citizenship and how it applies to each person• explain how our government operates
COURSE ASSESSMENT PLAN:	<p>Daily class lectures and discussion will be conducted to help show competency in the subject area. Homework will be assigned regularly. These assignments may include but are not limited to: questions, essays,</p>

	readings, and discussions. Quizzes will be given weekly. These quizzes can be multiple choice, short answer or essay. Chapter tests will be given at the completion of each chapter. These tests can be multiple choice, short answer, essay, or project based. The final exam will be a comprehensive project.
SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS NEEDED:	You will be provided with a copy of <u>Magruder's American Government</u> . This textbook is your responsibility. Do no damage or lose your book or you will be charged a fine or the replacement cost of the book. You will also need a notebook and writing utensil.
EXTRA HELP:	If you need extra help, need to take a test or quiz, or have questions or comments about the class, I am available at 7:00 before school. I will be available after school until 3:15. I am also available during my prep period which is 2 nd hour.
INSTRUCTIONAL PHILOSOPHY:	Every student learns differently, therefore several different teaching strategies will be used in this class. Each day when you enter the room there will be a quote, chart, question, fact, or picture for you go think about. This will be related to the subject area of the day. Attendance will be taken and homework will be collected immediately. If you are unexcused tardy and are not in your desk when homework is collected, you will receive a zero. Information will be given through a PowerPoint, discussion, in-class activity or debate. At the end of each hour there will be a brief review of the information presented that day. There will also be time for students to ask questions or raise concerns.
MAJOR COURSE PROJECTS AND INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES:	Readings- selected from the text, and from various other sources, will be assigned throughout the semester. It is your responsibility to have readings completed before the class period. Tests and quizzes- you will be held responsible for all material assigned and covered in this class. You will always have at least three days notice before any test. Quizzes may or may not be announced. If you are absent (excused) on the day a test or quiz is given you will make it up upon your return to class. If your absence is one related to a school activity (sports, field trip, etc.), you need to take your test or quiz before you go. If you are unexcused, you do not get to make up tests, quizzes, or homework. Homework- No late assignments will be accepted! If you are absent (excused), you have as many days as you were gone to make up your work. For example, if you are gone two days, you have two days to hand in homework to receive credit. Participation- You are expected to participate in class discussions and in small groups. Points may or may not be assigned for participation. Attendance is important! When you are not in class you miss out on lectures, discussions, speakers and movies. Projects- There will be a major "Election Year" project due at the end of October. The final exam

	will be a project tying all the information you learned together.
CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:	You are expected to be in your assigned seat everyday when the bell rings. If you are not in your seat, you will be marked tardy.
HOMEWORK POLICY AND GRADING SCALE:	Homework will be assigned on a regular basis. No late homework assignments will be accepted! There is no set number of points at which we will arrive by the end of the semester. Grades will be put into Skyward in a timely manner. We will follow the grading scale listed in your handbook. You may come in to discuss you grade before or after school, never during class.
CONTACT INFORMATION:	
Teacher:	Carrie Wheatley
Email Address:	cwheatley@sacschools.org
Phone Number:	791-4330 ext. 454