NNHS AP Government

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District Mission
To educate students to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors.

Department Mission:
Our mission is to equip students with knowledge and skills so they can be active global citizens, curious thinkers and empathetic and compassionate human beings through our dynamic teaching and collaboration.

Course Description
What is the interrelationship between the governed and the governing? This course, for which a student earns a weighted grade, is intended to be equivalent to an introductory college-level course. This course will focus on the fundamental nature of our federal system. It will assist students who are preparing for the Advanced Placement examination in U.S. Government and Politics. Students should have a strong interest in politics and government and a willingness to study. In order to fulfill the state civics requirement, students will take action towards a political issue they are interested in at the national, state or local government level.

Grading Breakdown:
Formative Assessment 10%
Summative Assessment 90%
Course Work 85%
Final Exam 15%
** test corrections will be available on tests when student scores below 70%

UNIT 1: Foundations Ch 1,2,3
- Study of American Government (chapter 1) 1 day
- The Constitution (2) 4 days
- Federalism (3) 5 days

UNIT 2: Civics Liberties Ch.5,6
- Civil Liberties (5) 4 days
- Civil Rights (6) 3 days

UNIT 3: American Political Ideology and Beliefs Ch.4,7,9
- Political Culture (4) 5 days
- Public Opinion, Polling (7) 5 days
- Political Ideologies and Political Parties (9) 5 days

UNIT 4: Political Participation Ch.8,10,11,12
- Political Participation (8) 3 days
● Elections (10) 3 days
● Interests Groups (11) 3 days
● Media (12) 4 days

UNIT 5: The Branches Ch 13,14,15,16
● Congress (13) 6 days
● Presidency (14) 5 days
● Supreme Court (15) 5 days
● Bureaucracy (16) 3 days

Unit 1 Foundations of American Democracy

Essential questions
1. How did the founders of the U.S. Constitution attempt to protect individual liberty, while also promoting public order and safety?
2. How have theory, debate, and compromise influenced the U.S. Constitutional system?
3. How does the development and interpretation of the Constitution influence policies that impact citizens and residents of the U.S.?

Key documents:
Declaration of Independence
Articles of Confederation
Federalist paper No. 10
Federalist paper No. 51
Anti-Federalist Brutus 1
U.S. Constitution Interactive Constitution
10th and 14th Amendments
McCulloch v Maryland
U.S. v Lopez

Khan Academy Unit I Review

Unit 2 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

Essential questions
1. To what extent do the U.S. Constitution and its amendments protect against undue government infringement on essential liberties and from invidious discrimination?
2. How have the U.S. Supreme Court rulings defined civil liberties and civil rights?

Key documents:
Bill of Rights (1-10 amendments)
Engel v Vitale
Wisconsin v Yoder
Unit 3 American Political Ideologies and Beliefs:

Essential questions:
1. How are American political beliefs formed and how do they evolve over time?
2. How do political ideology and core values influence government policy making?

Key documents:
Political line Quiz:
I side with
Political Compass
Political spectrum Quiz
Polling Report

Unit 4 Political Participation

Essential questions:
1. How have changes in technology influenced political communication and behavior?
2. Why do levels of participation and influence in politics vary?
3. How effective are the various methods of political participation in shaping public policies?

Key documents:
15th Amendment
17th Amendment
19th Amendment
24th Amendment
26th Amendment

Unit 5 Interactions among the branches

Essential questions
1. How do the branches of the national government compete and cooperate in order to govern?
2. To what extent have changes in the powers of each branch affected how responsive accountable the national government is in the 21st century

Key documents:
Baker V Carr
Shaw V Reno
Federalist No 70
22nd Amendment
Federalist No 78
Marbury V Madison
Explanation of Marbury v. Madison