

Ocean View Christian Academy AP American Government Course Syllabus

I. Basic Course Information

Course Title: AP American Government	Room #204	Transcript Abbreviation: HIS 1200
Length of Course: 1 Semester		Subject Area & Discipline: Civics/ American Government
Pre-Requisites: None		Course Credits/Designations: 1 Credit Hour /AP

OVCA Course Philosophy: We teach social science at Ocean View to help students understand God's grace upon our human nature, the beginnings of that nature, and the way in which the cycle of history affects man. In addition to history, social science teaches our students political, economic, and civil awareness and their responsibilities as Christ followers. Furthermore, as citizens of our country, students need to be prepared to contribute substantive information to debates about policies and politics. Foundations of geography and current events round out the subjects, allowing students the opportunity to learn cross-cultural awareness and appropriate responses to the media and culture.

Course Goal: Prepare students for responsible citizenship with a discussion of the principles and mechanics of a constitutional republic. Material discussed includes the Constitution, in depth insights into the three branches of government, political parties, elections, foreign policy, and more, all from a biblical perspective.

List of Key Course Topics: Geography: Influence of physical geography on American History; History: Chronological survey of American history from European discovery to the present; Government: Structure of American government; the Constitution; Economics: Development of free-enterprise system and effects of government; interference; Religion: Contributions of various religions, especially Christianity, to American heritage; Culture: Integration of various facets of American culture; cultural change.

Course Materials, Supplies, & Technology:

Black or blue pen; Pencil; Highlighter; *American Government* Textbook; 3-ring binder with two sections (binder can be shared with another class); College-ruled, Loose-leaf paper; Internet access

Primary Instructional Methods: Lecture, Class Discussions, Group Projects, Individual Projects, Research Project, and Presentations.

Primary Student Activities: Reading, Note-taking, Discussion, Presentation of materials, Hands-on projects

Primary Assessment Methods: Tests, quizzes, Research Project, Federalist Paper Analysis

Capstone Project/Key Projects: Not Specified at this time.

Alignment Notes:

OVCA Academic Benchmarks-Knowledge, Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking, Researching, Critical Thinking, Tech Use Other OVCA Benchmarks- Social & Spiritual UC Course Components- *Skills*: Research & Inquiry, Analysis, Communication (Writing, Oral Presentation); *Content*: Examine societal change, building blocks, economic function, and physical environment. Identify defining features of political systems.

II. Tentative Course Timeline

Course Overview/Snapshot:

Students will be able to identify the documents and the process used to create the Constitution. Through their studies they will be able to describe the process of running for office and the responsibilities of the three branches of government. The study will show students the importance of being actively involved citizens in the governmental process while looking at the issues from a Biblical worldview.

Timeframe-1st Quarter	Unit Name	Unit Topics	Basic Assessments/Tasks	Text Reference, Materials, Links
10 Days	America's Foundation (Ch. 1-3)	Foundations, Forms of Government and Christianity, the Church and Government	Quizzes, Homework Assignments, Individual Activities, Group Activity	Pg. 2-46 Election Sermon by Abraham Williams, 1762 Systems of Government Walter Williams: Democracy and Majority Rule Edict of Milan Jefferson and the "Wall of Separation"
18 Days	The Constitution (Ch. 4-7)	Constitutional Beginnings; Constitutional Cornerstones; Federalism; and State and Local Governments	Quizzes, Homework Assignments, Individual Activities, Group Activity	Pg. 48-150 Role of States in Founding Era Patrick Henry, Anti-Federalist "General Welfare" Federalist #51 Meaning of Federalism Revenue Sharing Voter's Guide
6 Days	Legislative Branch (Ch. 8-9)	Structure of Congress; and Powers of Congress	Quizzes, Homework Assignments, Individual Activities, Group Activity	Pg. 152-190 Representative's and Senator's Committee Assignments C-SPAN
3 Days	Unit 1-3 Review	Review	Final Exam	Pg. 2-190

Timeframe-2nd Quarter	Unit Name	Unit Topics	Basic Assessments/Tasks	Text Reference, Materials, Links
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15 Days	Executive Branch (Ch. 10-13)	Road to the White House; America's Highest Office; Federal Bureaucracy; Foreign Policy	Quizzes, Homework Assignments, Individual Activities, Group Activity	Pg. 192-322 Presidential Qualifications and Qualities Bureaucracy Can't Be Run Like a Business The Cabinet Foreign Policy Development Global Interventionism and the Erosion of Domestic Liberty
8 Days	Judicial Branch (Ch. 14-15)	Judiciary; and Civil Rights and Responsibilities	Quizzes, Homework Assignments, Individual Activities, Group Activity	Pg. 324- 392 Federalist #78 Recent Court Decisions Criteria for Supreme Court Justices The Duties of Citizenship
14 Days	Party Politics (Ch. 16-18)	Party System; Campaigns and Elections; and Public Policy and Politics	Quizzes, Homework Assignments, Individual Activities, Group Activity	Pg. 324-392 Party Functions Voter Turnout in Presidential Elections Becoming a Candidate Role of Media State Election Laws
4 Days	Final Exam		Final Exam	

III. Course Policies

Academic Expectations

<p>Homework and Assignment Standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daily 5 Activities, Summaries of Assigned Readings, Activity Pages, Current Events (due on the second Thursday of each month) ● Late Homework will be penalized accordingly. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1 day late= 80% maximum ○ 2 days late= 60% maximum ○ 3 days late will not be accepted ● Detention will be given for five missing homework assignments to be served the next school day. ● Research projects (large and small) must be turned in on time. There is a 10% deduction per day each day it is late. To help ensure the grade reflects the work the student completed, it is imperative to turn in the final project as close to the due date as possible. Students who are absent are required to turn in research-based assignments on the due date. 	<p>Class Participation & Note-Taking:</p> <p>Students are required to take notes on their readings and during class lectures. These notes will help students to share what they learned with the class. Notes are also a great study tool for tests and quizzes.</p>
<p>Assignment Formatting:</p>	<p>Grading:</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● APA Heading Format ● Students will earn all of the points if the homework meets the standards set forth for them. All homework must be completed with black or blue ink and in cursive unless the teacher allows the assignment to be typed. The work must follow the instructions given and be completed to the student's best ability. 	Homework 20%; Quizzes 30%; Tests 30%; Exams 20%
<p>Due Date Policies: Students who are absent are responsible for completing all missing homework per the student handbook. Each assignment will be given a grade in Facts.</p>	<p>Materials Maintenance/Other: N/A</p>

Class Procedures

<p>At the start of class: Be in your seat with class materials when the bell rings. Complete bellwork that is assigned at the beginning of class. If the bellwork is not complete in the allotted time, the student may be required to finish the assignment as homework.</p>	<p>When you have been absent: It is your responsibility to turn in homework that was due when you were absent, and collect missing assignments from the class file.</p>
<p>At the end of class: When the teacher dismisses you, stand up, push in your chair, grab your belongings, and have a wonderful day.</p>	<p>Turning in assignments: Papers are to be passed in the direction stated in class. Tests get turned into the class basket when you complete them.</p>

Learning Environment

<p>Speaking in Turn: Students are asked to raise their hands, unless the teacher says, "Class, what is ...". Moreover, when the student is called upon, he or she will stand and give their answer.</p>	<p>Food and Drink Policies: Water is the drink of choice in the classroom; no other drinks will be allowed. Food is not allowed to be eaten in class unless given by the teacher or permitted by the teacher.</p>
<p>Class Worktimes: Group Work volume should be kept to a low talk. Individual work should be done silently. Get as much done in class as possible so you do not have homework at home.</p>	<p>Electronics/Devices: Cell phones are not allowed at any time in class. There are occasions when students can bring in laptops, tablets, and iPads to work; however, they are not to be used to access the Internet.</p>

Resources

<p>Teacher Contact Info.: email: info@ovcapatriots.com</p>	<p>Help Class Info.: To be announced</p>
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