Syallabus For Government A

U.S. Government A

Course Objective:

Students will have a working understanding of the origins and fundamentals of the United States government.

Text: Magruder’s American Government

The Course will cover the following State of Idaho Standards

. The student will build an understanding of the evolution of democracy.

The student will build an understanding of comparative government.

The student will be able to compare different forms of government, such as presidential with parliamentary, unitary with federal, democracy with dictatorship

The student will be able to explain the central principles of the United States governmental system including written constitution, popular sovereignty, limited government, separation of powers, majority rule with minority rights, and federalism

The student will be able to describe the origins of constitutional law in western civilization, including the natural rights philosophy, Magna Carta (1215), common law, and the Bill of Rights (1689) in England.

The student will be able to describe historical milestones that led to the creation of limited government in the United States, such as the Declaration of Independence (1776), Articles of Confederation (1781), state constitutions and charters, United States Constitution (1787), and the Bill of Rights (1791) in the United States.

The student will be able to analyze the essential ideals and objectives of the original organizing documents of the United States including the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the United States Constitution. (503.01b)

The student will be able to discuss the interpretation and application of the United States Constitution.

. The student will be able to analyze the role of political parties and other political organizations and their impact on the American system of government

. The student will be able to explain the electoral process at each level of government.

Build an understanding that all people in the United States have rights and assume responsibilities.

The student will be able to identify the ways in which citizens can participate in the political process at the local, state, and national level.

Students in American Government build an understanding of the foundational principles of the American political system, the organization and formation of the American system of government, that all people in the United States have rights and assume responsibilities, and the evolution of democracy.

Build an understanding of the organization and formation of the American system of government.

The student will be able to identify the three branches of federal government, their powers, and responsibilities.

The student will be able to explain the functions, powers, interactions, and relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments.

The student will be able to analyze and explain sovereignty and the treaty/trust relationship the United States has with American Indian tribes with emphasis on Idaho, such as hunting and fishing rights, and land leasing.

The student will be able to explain the ways in which individuals become citizens and distinguish among obligations, responsibilities, and rights. (506.01d)

The student will be able to explain the implications of dual citizenship with regard to American Indians.

The student will be able to analyze and evaluate decisions about rights of individuals in landmark cases of the United States Supreme Court, including Gideon v. Wainwright, Miranda v. Arizona.

The student will be able to analyze the struggles for the extension of civil rights.

The student will be able to analyze and evaluate states' rights disputes past and present.

The student will be able to provide and evaluate examples of the role of leadership in the changing relationship among the branches of American government.

Students in American Government will build an understanding of multiple perspectives and global interdependence.

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The student will be able to discuss the mutual impact of ideas, issues, and policies among nations, including environmental, economic, and humanitarian

The student will be able to describe the characteristics of United States foreign policy and how it has been made and implemented over time.

The student will be able to identify and evaluate the role of the United States in international organizations and agreements, such as United Nations, NAFTA, and the International Red Cross.

Homework Policy:

Assignments will be due on the date and hour assigned. If it is not turned in at that time the Assignment will be considered late, and the value will be dropped by 50% after 48 hours the assignment will not be accepted

If the student has any zeros for a grade they will not be able to do extra credit

Make up tests and Assignments

Policy follows school wide policy of “day + one”.

If the student was present when the test or assignment was announced it will be taken on the day the Student returns. In other cases the district policy will be followed which is for each day missed the student will be given an extra day. All Make up Tests will be Essay tests

Make up tests dates and times must be established on the day the student returns from the absence.

Grading

Your grade will consist of

Homework

Quizzes

Tests

Participation

Final Exams

If you exceed 5 absences your final will be worth 60%

If you have less than five absences it will be worth 10%