

Syllabus

Course Information

- Tutoring Hours – Per 7,8 and after school 3:00 - 4:00, just ask and we will find time.
- Email – mrn.history@gmail.com
- School Phone: 718 – 860 – 1385
- School Web Site: www.schoolforexcellence.org
- Course Web Site: Skedula/PupilPath

Course Goals

- Students will continue to develop analytical, critical thinking and writing skills for use in further high school courses, college and career.
- Students will gain understand the duties and rights of citizenship and the relationship between people and government.
- Students will work to understand their personal ideas, values and political views.
- Students will apply understandings of self and citizenship to current events.

Methods of Instruction

Instruction in this course will take a wide variety of forms. Students will work as individuals, pairs and groups. Lessons will range from lectures and note taking to document based inquiries with the focus on the student. Assignments will include defining key terms, writing short and long papers and a series of creative projects. Students will be assessed by quizzes, exams, formal essays and creative projects. We will be focusing on primary documents, analyzing secondary sources and using the textbook for reference and support. **This class is really focused on research, composition and discussion.**

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to be present for all class sessions. This will ensure your success by always being aware of assignments and keeping in contact with your teacher and peers.

Make-Up Policy

Students are responsible for making up all missed assignments in a timely fashion. Students are responsible for picking up handouts, worksheets etc. they have missed from the baskets. Students are responsible for getting any missed notes from another student

Course Expectations

As a student in this course you are expected to do the following...

- Be present and attentive for all class sessions
- Respect the efforts and opinions of others (including the teacher)

- Conduct yourself as a mature young adult in an academic setting
- Complete all assignments on or before the due date (they will be manageable)
- Ask for help/clarification/explanation and come to tutoring hours as needed
- Assume personal responsibility for your work and progress
- Keep up with the news & current events

Grading Policy

This course will use a letter based grading system intended to reflect a more wholesome depiction of student achievement including timeliness, completion, accuracy, effort and “academic professionalism”. Your final grade will be weighted by the categories listed below and each letter will have a numerical equivalent, also listed below. Rubrics for each type of assignment can be found at the back of this syllabus.

50% - Papers & Projects

25% - Classwork/Process Components

25% - Homework & Current Events

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F	INC	M	E
98	94	90	88	84	80	78	74	70	65	55	45	0	-

*Any assignment turned in late will not receive full credit unless arrangements with a valid excuse have been made with the teacher before the due date. **Any assignments turned in more than a week late will not be graded.***

Work found to be plagiarized or “copied” and all cases of cheating will result in a grade of 0/M and referral to administration.

Course Materials

Students are expected to have their own notebook, binder and or folder. Students will have access to a tablet computer for research purposes.

Summary of Units

This course will cover a range of political topics. Students are encouraged to seek their own understandings and conclusions within this units. See next pages for course calendar.

- Political Identity
- The Democratic Process and Elections
- Major Issues Foreign & Domestic
- Law, Justice and the System

Participation in Government 12 ---- Fall Semester Calendar

Week / Dates / Topics	Readings	Assignments / Due Dates
Week 1.....9/7 - 9/8 Course Intro	Syllabus / Rubrics	My Expectations
Week 2.....9/11 - 9/15 Begin Unit 1 - Political Identity Your Political Self	Teenage Political Identity Articles	Current Events 1 Statuses Paragraph
Week 3.....9/18 - 9/20 The Political Spectrum	Teenage Political Identity Articles	Current Events 2 iSideWith Results/Reflection
Week 4.....9/25 - 9/29 Begin Unit 2 - Democracy & Elections	TBD Local / State / Federal Gerrymandering Articles	Current Events 3 Political Spectrum Project Due
Week 5.....10/2- 10/6 <i>Citizens United v. FEC</i>	<i>Citizens United v. FEC</i> Document Packet	Current Events 4 4 Corners Response
Week 6 ...10/10- 10/13 <i>Citizens United v. FEC</i>	Drew - <i>Can We Really Have a Democratic Election?</i> <i>Citizens United v. FEC</i> Document Packet Independent Research	Current Events 5 Drew Response
Week 7.....10/16 - 10/20 <i>Citizens United v. FEC</i>	Independent Research	Current Events 6
Week 8.....10/23 - 10/27 <i>Citizens United v. FEC</i>	Independent Research	Lawyer's Case Briefs Due Oral Arguments (2 Days)
Week 9.....10/30 - 11/3	First 5 assigned group	Current Events 7

Begin Unit 3.1 - Major Issues (Domestic)	readings	Research Journal (Judge's Verdicts Due)
Week 10.....11/6 - 11/10	Independent Research	Current Events 8 Research Journal
Week 11.....11/13 - 11/17	Independent Research	Research Journal Due Panel Discussions (Thurs & Fri)
Week 12.... 11/20 - 11/22	Independent Research	Domestic Policy Paper Due Panel Discussions (Mon & Tues)
Week 13.....11/27 - 12/1 Begin Unit 3.2 - Major Issues (Foreign) The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict (Origins)	Choices Timeline Assorted Articles	Current Events 9 Cornell Notes
Week 14..... 12/4 - 12/8 The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict	6 Assigned Articles	Current Events 10 Cornell Notes
Week 15..... 12/11 - 12/15 The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict	Independent Research	Current Events 11 Cornell Notes
Week 16.....12/18 - 12/22 The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict	Independent Research	Israel-Palestine Paper & Map Board Due
Week 17..... 12/25 - 1/2 Christmas Break	No Classes	Are you keeping pace?

Week 18.....1/2 - 1/5 Begin Unit 4- Law, Justice and The System <i>Law & Morality</i>	Baxter on Dworkin	Current Events 12
Week 19.....1/8 - 1/12 <i>What is Justice?</i>	Jacobs on Rawls <i>Theory of Justice</i> Mc-Coffee Case Article	Current Events 13 Torts Worksheet
Week 20.....1/16 - 1/19 <i>People in the "System"</i>	Tort Reform Article Guest Speaker?? TBD	Law/Justice Reflection Due
Week 21.....1/22 - 1/26 Winter Regents Week	No Classes	Course Reflection Due