

Course Outline
American Government
08/09

Teacher: Mr. Jandreau - Room 308
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Introduction: This is a yearlong course, which is mandatory of all sophomores. It will examine the foundations of American constitutional government, contemporary government, and government at the three basic levels (local, state, and federal). Qualities of citizenship, the political process, and the methods in which governments take in and allocate money will also be of prime focus throughout the course.

Quarterly Progression: Generally the following schedule will be maintained for the academic year:

- Q1:** *People and Government, Origins of Government, U.S. Constitution*
- Q2:** *Federalism, Legislative Branch, Executive Branch*
- Q3:** *Judicial Branch, Political Parties, Taxing and Spending*
- Q4:** *State Government, County Government, Municipal Government*

Textbook: American Government - Democracy in Action. Your textbook is required for every class along with other typical student materials.

Grading: Student grades will be based upon a variety of assessments accumulated throughout the quarter and will be derived using the following percentages:

Tests (chapter tests, chapter projects, papers)	40%
Homework (daily assignments, notes, group projects, etc....)	30%
Quizzes (pop, announced, or take home).....	20%
Class participation (questions, group observation, etc.).....	10%

Student notes: Students must maintain notebooks for class, which will be collected on a periodic basis and awarded a grade. Students should also be aware that information provided to students during class time may be included on evaluations and good note taking will benefit the student and improve his or her performance.

Attendance: Upon their return to school students who have missed class will be responsible to obtain missing assignments from the teacher.

Assignments: All assignments are to be complete for the beginning of the period for which they are due.

Student help: Students who feel they are struggling are encouraged to set up an appointment with the teacher to arrange for alternative assistance. This may be done before school, after school or during a study hall or free period. Please do not wait until the end of the quarter to step forward and ask for help.

Good luck!!! I hope your year is productive and enjoyable.