

Syllabus: American Government

Mansfield Christian High School

2013-2014

Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Col. 2:3

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Texts: American Government; supplementary readings, books, and articles; and the Holy Bible.

Course Summary:

Beginning with an examination of the nature of government according to God's Word, this semester-long course (to be followed by Economics) explores how the American people govern themselves at national, state, and local levels. Special emphasis will consistently be placed on developing skills for informed, responsible, effective citizenship. As such, students will take part in hands-on projects and activities to illustrate and expand on learned content.

Expectations:

As one of the chief aims of the government class is to develop responsible, informed, engaged citizens, participation is essential. Come prepared and on-time. Projects and other assignments must be turned in at the designated time. If this is ever a problem, or if you ever need help with anything in this class, please communicate with me.

Grades:

There are two grading periods for this class (nine weeks each). Grades will be assigned according to the MCS Grading and Grade Point Scale. Below is an approximate breakdown of grades by category for each grading period:

- Tests/Projects: 50%
- Participation: 25%
- Current Events: 25%

Topics: Students will study American Government within topic frames based on Ohio Learning Standards. Time spent on a particular topic may vary as needed, to be completed within the semester allotment.

- Introduction - What does God say about government?
- Foundations of American Government - The Constitution
- Political Behavior - Civic Involvement, Participation and Skills
- The Legislative Branch
- The Executive Branch
- The Judicial Branch
- Ohio's State and Local Governments
- Government and the Economy

Disclaimer: As the course instructor, I reserve the right to modify the parameters of this course (including topic items and their order, grade distribution and categories, etc.) as necessary to meet the needs of the class and/or respond to unforeseen events (snow days, etc.).

Be subject for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people. Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God. Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor. - 1 Peter 2:13-17