



United States Government

Syllabus

Instructor: Mrs. Jasmeen Kaur

“Empowering All Students for Global Success!”

- I. Course Description:** This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the foundations, structures, and functions of the American government and prepare to be informed and active participants in the democratic process
- II. Course Objectives:** Students will be able to compare, analyze, and explain events and developments in our nation’s history and government.
- III. Classroom Rules and Expectations:**

Jets are Resourceful, Respectful, and Responsible, and Reliable.

Resourceful: Students are expected to use resources appropriately; be prepared and ready to learn daily.

Respectful: Students are expected to respect the teachers, peers, and the learning environment.

Responsible: Students are responsible for their ideas, materials, and work.

Reliable: Students are reliable when they consistently demonstrate punctuality, preparedness, accountability, and dependability in their academic and social responsibilities.

Classroom Management Plan:

- Verbal Reprimand
- Conference with student with parent contact
- Withdrawal of privilege(s) with parent contact
- Other consequences determined to be reasonable and appropriate by the school administration.

- IV. Accommodations:** Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed by students and parents.



V. Appropriate Use of Technology:

- Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities.
- Discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers.
- Neither the teacher nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops.
- Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher. (This includes using cell phones, which must be put away and silenced.)

MCS Technology Policy: If technology is needed in the classroom, then **school issued chromebooks** must be used. Personal electronic devices can only be used at the teacher's discretion. The teacher will use *Turnitin.com* and *GoGuardian* to monitor student use of devices and the originality of their work.

MCS Phone Policy: Cell phones and earbuds/headphones will not be allowed to be used during classroom instruction time. ***Phones and earbuds/headphones will be put away in a location designated by the teacher and placed in silent mode.*** In secondary schools, students will have access to their phones and earbuds/headphones outside of classroom instruction time, such as between classes and lunch. Failure to follow these procedures will result in a disciplinary referral to the office.

Devices will be returned at the end of class, i.e., students will not be allowed to take their phones to the restroom.

Turnitin Notice: The majority of writing assignments in this course will be submitted to Turnitin via the Schoology learning platform. The primary focus of this software is to help students become better writers and scholars. Turnitin generates a report on the originality of student writing by comparing it with a database of periodicals, books, online content, student papers, and other published work. This program will help students discern when they are using sources relatively, citing correctly, and paraphrasing effectively—skills essential to all academic work. Students will have the opportunity to review their Turnitin originality report and will have the chance to make revisions before submitting their work for grading. Once their work is submitted, teachers have the opportunity to view the students' originality reports and grade them accordingly.

AI Notice: Students are prohibited from using AI or any AI-generated content to complete assignments, exams, projects, or any other form of academic work unless expressly permitted by the instruction or institution for specific educational purposes.

James Clemens High School

11306 County Line Road
Madison, AL 35756



Instructor: Mrs. Jasmeen Kaur
Email: jkaur@madisoncity.k12.al.us
Phone: (256)-261-5313

- VI. Grading Policy:** Test grades will account for 70% of the 9-week grade, with the remaining 30% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Grades will reflect mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as class work can be made up and graded for excused absences only. The final exam counts for 20% of the final grade. Late work will only be accepted for a ten-point per day deduction for up to five days. After five days, late work will not be accepted. Any acts of academic dishonesty or plagiarism will be subject to consequences defined in the Madison City Schools policy on cheating in the Code of Conduct.
- VII. Make-Up Work Policy:** If a student misses a major or minor grade, it is up to the student to contact the teacher and make arrangements for a make-up date/time. The absences must be excused in order to schedule a make-up date/time. Failure to do so will result in a 0 for that major or minor grade.
- VIII. Late Work Policy:** Make-up work for unexcused absences will be granted at the teacher's discretion. Missing work for daily grades and test grades with an excused absence will be accepted up to 3 days after the absence; it is up to the student to check with the teacher to get the missing assignments upon returning to school. Missing work for test grades (e.g., projects with an advanced notice of due date) with an unexcused absence will have a two day-late penalty: one day late: -10 points; two days late: -20 points. No late work will be accepted after the two-day late period. If a student misses a daily grade or test grade and the absence is excused, it is up to the student to contact the teacher and make arrangements for a make-up date/time within the three-day grace period. Failure to do so will result in a 0 for any missed assignment.
- IX. Course Materials:** A classroom set of textbooks will be utilized. Students should have their school-issued device, paper, and pen/pencil in class daily. The teacher will specify anything else required during class time.
- Several types of media may be used in this class, including podcasts, research articles, video clips, case studies, novels, and movies. Please email me if this is an issue for your student/family.

Materials Needed:

- Pencil/Pen
- Notebook/Loose- Leaf Paper
- Binder/Folder
- School-Issued Device
- A Positive Attitude ☺

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	<p style="text-align: center;">9 Week Plan *Subject to change as needed* *See Schoology for Updates*</p>
Weeks 1-2	Introduction to Government, Origin of Government, Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution
Weeks 3-4	The Constitution, Separation of Powers, State (taxes, government structure) & Federal (taxes, foreign policy)
Week 5	Legislative Branch
Week 6	Executive Branch
Week 7	Judicial Branch
Week 8	Suffrage, Civil Rights, Voting, Voter Turnout, and Polling
Week 9	Final Exam Review/Final Exam (Civics Exam)