

South Gibson County High School

US Government and Civics

Instructor Contact Information:

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Course Description: Students will study the purposes, principles, and practices of American government as established by the Constitution. Students are expected to understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens and how to exercise these rights and responsibilities in local, state, and national government. Students will learn the structure and processes of the government of the state of Tennessee and various local governments. The reading of primary source documents is a key feature of United States Government and Civics standards.



Required Texts and Other Supplies:

- 3” view binder (the kind you can slip a sheet down the front)
 - Loose Leaf Paper (plenty for notes & work)
 - Pens in these colors: Black, Blue, Green, Red
 - Transparent Tape and/or Glue Sticks
 - #2 pencils for use with scantron answer sheets
 - 12 color set of colored pencils (in class activities)
 - Highlighters: yellow, pink, green, blue, orange (to highlight and color-code essays/assignments)
- The student will each have a textbook which will be given and kept in the classroom.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Clarifying the “I” as incomplete on progress reports and report cards:

- All students at South Gibson County High School are expected to complete all assignments/assessments that support learning the state standards and completing those assignments/assessments to an acceptable level of mastery.
- In the event that an assignment/assessment is not submitted to the teacher on time and to a satisfactory level of proficiency, the student will be placed on the ICU list and will be supported academically beginning the next school day through the ICU framework.
- In the event that a student has missing assignments/assessments at the time that progress reports or report cards are issued, the student will receive an “I” which indicates that the student continues to be responsible for learning and completing the tasks that will lead them to mastery and an acceptable level of understanding of the standards for the course.
- At SGC, zeros are not acceptable as this indicates that the opportunity for learning is over. Zeros, failing grades, and performance that is less than a student’s best effort stand in direct contrast to our belief that failure is not an option.



GRADE CATEGORIES AND CALCULATION

Raw points will be used when calculating your grade. **Tests, quizzes, and projects** will have more points per assignment than daily **homework** assignments; however, lost points on **daily** assignments will negatively affect your grade.

<i>Tests, Quizzes, & Projects</i>	<i>80%</i>
<i>Homework, Classwork</i>	<i>20%</i>
Grading Scale	A = 93 – 100 B = 85-92 C = 75-84 D = 70-74 F = 69-0

Academic Support: • ICU – targeted academic support provided during the school day

PROCEDURES

1. Be in your seat ready to begin class with all supplies and textbook when the bell finishes ringing. The school tardy policy will apply for all tardies. If you are tardy, you must sign the tardy book to be admitted to class. You must **begin your WARM UP** assignment when you enter the classroom.
 2. **Respect all others and their property in words and actions! (See quotes to the right.)**
 3. No food or drink allowed in the class unless given to you by the teacher. Don't litter my room!
 4. All other school rules are covered in the handbook. School discipline policies will be enforced.
 5. No cell phones out during class time or they will be taken up. We may periodically use it for classroom research at that time I will let you know it is an appropriate time for cell phone use.
 6. **Questions about grades:** No class time will be given to discuss a problem with a grade. The best way to discuss this with me is through e-mail or by making an appointment with me. This policy is both to protect class time as well as maintain confidentiality. Please don't interpret it as inapproachability on the instructor's part. I will work with you to get a better grade. We need to use time in class wisely.
 7. **Assignments:** All assignments will be completed in class. All assignments have deadlines. It is the student's responsibility to assure projects are completed by assigned deadlines. If any assignments are not completed by the due date, students must make up before school, or during intermission time. If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to complete missed assignments within 5 days starting the day student returns to school.
- NO DISRUPTIONS OR BEING OFF TASK WHEN DOING ANY INDIVIDUAL, GROUP, OR WHOLE CLASS WORK, INCLUDING LISTENING TO LECTURES. BOTH WILL RESULT IN A CONSEQUENCE!**

CONSEQUENCES AND DISCIPLINE

- Warning - Teacher/Student Conference - Parent Call /Email - Administrative Referral
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- ❖ Upon request, parents/guardians shall have the ability to inspect the following items: instructional materials; teaching materials; teaching aids; handouts; and tests that are developed by and graded by their child's teacher. Parents wishing to inspect such materials should contact the building level principal in writing.

Academic Support:

There will be opportunities to meet any student's need for extra help in this subject through Intermission. The PASS Program is also available before and after school, and is a great way for a student to make up assignments or receive extra assistance. A student may also request extra help from Coach Parrett before or after school by making arrangements a day in advance. I will promptly respond to e-mail messages from parents/guardians concerning their student(s).

Government standards cover the following topics:

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| Unit 1: Principles of Government | Unit 2: Branches of Government |
| Unit 3: Federal Powers | Unit 4: Elections and Federal Processes |
| Unit 5: Rights and responsibilities of Citizens | Unit 6: Tennessee state and local governments |

For a more detailed version of the state standards, visit

http://www.tennessee.gov/assets/entities/education/attachments/std_ss_us_government_civics.pdf