Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School

**American Government Syllabus**

2018-2019 Academic School Year

Email: tmoudry@bguilfoyle.org

Phone: 944-4014 ext. 219

Website: https://mrmoudry.weebly.com

**Course Title:** American Government

**Teacher**: Mr. Tyler Moudry

**Room:** 219

**Course Overview:**

American Government is a one semester course examining the influence government has on daily life. Students, by being informed and actively participating, will learn and understand the values that formed our democratic government and examine the structure of the Constitution and how the Constitution applies to the individual.

**Major Course Objectives:**

*Throughout the academic school year students will examine the following topics.*

* Role of Government
* Origins of U.S. Government
* The U.S. Constitution
* Federalism
* The three branches of government
* Role and Powers of Congress
* Executive Branch at Work
* The Federal Court System
* Foreign Policy and National Security
* The U.S. Legal System
* Fundamental Freedoms
* Individual Rights
* Public Opinion
* Interest Groups
* Political Parties
* The electoral process
* State Government
* Local Government
* Comparing Political and Economic Systems
* International Relations

**Administering Course Requirements**

* Reading primary source documents
* Guided reading
* Instructional videos/ film analysis
* Internet search
* Research reports
* PowerPoint presentations
* Cooperative groups
* Simulations
* Current events
* Textbook questions
* Specialized worksheets
* Review packets

**Grading**

All class work is assigned a point value on Power School.

* Homework – 25%
* In class work – 25%
* Formal tests – 50%

**Late Assignments**

If assignments are late, 20%-point value is lost per day. After the third day, a zero is placed into power school until work is turned in.

**Absence**

It is your responsibility to find out what you missed. This includes homework, notes, and class activities, even if it was not for a grade. You should see me about this before or after class and you are always welcome to come any day after school to go over any class material, missed or not.

**Pre-arranged absence:**

Work you ask for must be completed upon your return. It will follow the late policy otherwise.

**Tests:**

Tests must be made up after school, so you do not miss another class. Test should be made up within the week you missed. You have the responsibility to seek out the date for make-up. If I do not remind you, it does not excuse you from taking the missing test.

**Classroom Behavior/ Student Expectations:**

* Folder for handouts, writing paper, pencil, and pen.
* Use of a hall pass is required to leave the classroom.
* Sit in your assigned seat unless otherwise told.
* No food or drink in class unless permitted by the school.
* Do not leave books and supplies under your seat when you leave.
* Readings must be complete and you must be able to discuss or be evaluated on the readings at any time.
* Cheating is not given a warning (For in-class, homework, or testing).
* Everything in the school handbook is in effect at all times.
* You need colored pencils for certain projects (keep your colored pencils in your locker until asked to bring them).
* Access to local newspaper and computer at home will be helpful and used at times.

**Textbook, Instructional Materials, Resources:**

Textbook**:** American Government. Kelman, Steven. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston. Austin, TX 78746. 1999.

Website: https://mrmoudry.weebly.com

**iPad Usage**

* iPads are an instructional tool. Follow all school policies while using them. The following are especially relevant to this course:
* Class website https://mrmoudry.weebly.com should be bookmarked.
* When not needed in class, they are not to be out except if notetaking.
* If an iPad is used improperly, the iPad will be collected from the student and sent to the office with a detention slip.
* iPads can be checked at any time for app’s, games and sites by any teacher or staff.
* iPads need charged before school. Occasionally they may run out of power during school and need charged. I reserve the right to say no. This is not to be habit forming. If an assignment is not done because of a dead battery, it becomes a late assignment and graded as such. Points will be taken off if not completed if it was due in that class period.
* No videotaping or picture taking unless otherwise instructed.

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**AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**

**Parent Signature**: Parent/ Guardian, please read, sign and date below. Return signature to school. Thank you. If you have any questions please email me or contact the school at 944-4014. A copy of this syllabus can be found on https://mrmoudry.weebly.com under the American Government tab.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_