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## Civics Course Syllabus

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Welcome to Civics! This will be quite possibly the most demanding course you have ever had. The major reason for this is that the EOC (End of Course) exam for Civics counts for 30% of your total grade for the course! Not only must you keep up with regular classroom assignments, tests, and homework, but you will also need to study diligently for the EOC in order to pass this class. You will have some time to study in class but you *must* set aside time outside of school to study as well. Though this course is difficult, it is also a lot of fun. Expect to get frustrated and make mistakes but also to learn and grow from those mistakes! I am always happy to answer questions in class, during my planning period, and via email.

### *Resources*

Google Classroom I update this every Monday by 5pm. Here you will find assignments for the week as well as important reminders.

Remind Updates: I use the Remind app to update parents and students with important information about Civics class. Just text @7k62738 to the number 81010. You will receive a welcome text from Remind letting you know you were successful!

### *Grade Categories and Distribution*

30% - Classroom Assignments - Typical classroom assignments include assessments from your textbook, worksheets, study guides/guided notes, copying flashcard terms + definitions and Binder Checks.

10% - Participation - There are many opportunities to participate in class discussions, group work, and review games. Respectful communication is expected of each student.

50% - Tests - Tests will be frequent. Expect to be tested on new flashcard terms, textbook chapters, longer units of study as well as the Midterm and Final! Should you earn a failing grade on any test, your recess/PE time may be taken to provide remediation as needed.

10% - Homework - There is a weekly current event assignment, but other homework may be given as well. *Expect to finish classroom assignments for homework if not completed during class* - these will always be due the following day they were assigned.

Parent initials: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Major Topics and Concepts

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### Ist Semester

- ❖ Rule of Law
- ❖ The Enlightenment
- ❖ Declaration of Independence
- ❖ The U.S. Constitution
- ❖ The Bill of Rights
- ❖ Structure and Functions of the Federal Government
- ❖ The Executive Branch
- ❖ The Legislative Branch
- ❖ Checks and Balances
- ❖ The Amendment Process
- ❖ Citizenship + Naturalization

### 2nd Semester

- ❖ The U.S. Court System
- ❖ Jury Trials
- ❖ Landmark Supreme Court Cases
- ❖ State and Local Governments
- ❖ Influencing Government
- ❖ The Media
- ❖ Interest Groups
- ❖ Political Parties
- ❖ Elections and Voting
- ❖ Domestic and Foreign Policy
- ❖ Trade and Currency
- ❖ International Organizations

**New flashcard terms/definitions will be given out periodically. They will total 200 for the entire year and must be kept with students at all times so that they can study:**

- ❖ **Before/after classes**
- ❖ **In the car on the way to/from school**
- ❖ **At home with parents**
- ❖ **During independent or partnered study time in Civics class**

*"The beginning of wisdom is the definition of terms" - Socrates*

**Parent initials:** \_\_\_\_\_