

**GREATER NEW YORK ACADEMY
SYLLABUS FOR
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
FALL 2002**

Teacher: Mr. Recaldo Ochoa

Room: New Wing # 2

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

TEXTBOOK: America Government: by William A. McClenaghan.
Prentice Hall: American History- Regents Review Text.

CLASS MATERIALS: Textbook, Notebook, Pens (black and blue ink), and Pencils.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides the students with a comprehensive history of the United States' Government. It presents an accurate and honest description of the fundamental principles of the American Government, Political Behavior, the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial Branches of Government, the Political, and Economic systems, and the State and Local Governments. The course has two major goals: the first is to instruct and excite students about the nation's system of government and the need for citizens' participation; the second is to help students master those history study skills that are vital to a real understanding of America's political development.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES: discussion, group work, map work, worksheets, written class-activities, problem solving activities, essay writing, dramatic presentations, written/oral presentations, and short lectures.

CLASS REQUIREMENTS:

1. Students are required to attend all class sessions and be on time.
2. Students are required to do all assigned homework, class work, quizzes, tests, and term papers. Makeup work may be arranged only after proper excuse is submitted to the teacher.
3. Students are required to keep a well ordered note and resource book which will reflect all class notes, hand-outs, tests, quizzes, and maps. The book should be neat and properly bounded. Materials should be properly dated.
4. Students will be required to write a (7-10) page paper on a topic to be assigned by the teacher. This paper will reflect well thought out and research e materials. This paper should reflect at least (4) sources, which must be cited in the paper.
5. There will be a weekly one-page reaction paper due each Friday. This will be in keeping with the unit or topic being studied. Students may react to newspaper articles, Internet news sources etc. In either case, a copy of the article must be attached to the student's typed reaction.
6. Students must use either blue or black in pens for notes and hand written assignments.

COURSE OUTLINE: (AREAS OF STUDY)

First Semester:

AREA 1: Foundations of American Government

AREA 2: Political Behavior: Government By the People

AREA 3: The Legislative Branch

AREA 4: The Executive Branch

AREA 5: The Judicial Branch

AREA 6: Comparative Political and Economic Systems

AREA 7: State and Local Governments

GRADING POLICY:

Tests-reports and major projects:	30%
Quizzes:	20%
Homework:	20%
Class-work:	30%

Letter Grades:

A	93-100
A-	89-92
B+	86-88
B-	79-82
C+	76-78
C	73-75
C-	69-72
D+	66-68
D	63-65
F	00-62

Final semester examination is 20% of the overall grade!

Classroom Rules:

1. Bring your notebook, pens, rulers, and pencils to every class.
2. Students will not be allowed in the classroom if they are not properly attired.
3. Bring no food, drinks, candy, gum hats, or sunglasses to the classroom.
4. Use the restroom before you enter the class.

5. Be punctual, students must be seated before bell rings.
6. Students must remain in their seats throughout the class period.
7. No walking, talking, playing, or grooming will be allowed.
8. No student may leave his/her assigned seat without the teacher's permission.
9. Verbal abuse is not tolerated.
10. Be attentive while the teacher, or a student, who is called upon, is talking
11. Students are responsibly for all work given in their absence.
12. Only students who have received written parental permission will be allowed to go on field trips.
13. Each assignment, homework and class-work must have the following heading:
 - Must be at the top of paper
 - Must include first and last names
 - Must have the date
 - Must have the class period
 - Must have the page(s) assigned
 - Must have the course's name
14. Obey all other school rules (students are responsible for knowing all school rules and policies in Student Handbook).
15. Each student is responsible for reading and following these class rules.

Procedure for Breaking the Rules:

First offence-	Verbal warning
Second offence-	Documentation in teacher's record and action
Third offence-	Phone call to parents
Forth offence-	Detention
Fifth offence-	Conference with Parents and Principal
Sixth offence-	Principal's office-recommendation for suspension

Exams:

1. Students are responsible for doing all work given in their absence.
2. Students are responsible for requesting a make-up exam within the first two days of returning to school.
3. A doctor's or parental note or/and a phone-call is required to take the exam.
4. All make-up exams are given after school.
5. Tests missed and not made-up will receive a grade of zero.

“Rules and laws exist so that all members of society can live in harmony with God, their fellowmen, and their environment”.