



Course Name: US Government

Teacher: Mr. Ajiodo

My Welcome: Welcome to Government! It is my distinct pleasure to be your instructor this semester! This course will provide you with the tools to help you be successful in high school, college and after. Take this course seriously because it could be one of the most important courses you take throughout your academic career. One of my goals this semester is to help you feel confident as you embark upon the rest of your studies. I will guide you, cheer for you, coach you, and hold you accountable. This class as well as your other courses will require time management.

Course Description: In United States Government, the focus is on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded and, on the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. This course is the culmination of the civic and governmental content and concepts studied from Kindergarten through required secondary courses. Students learn major political ideas and forms of government in history. A significant focus of the course is on the U.S. Constitution, its underlying principles and ideas, and the form of government it created. Students analyze major concepts of republicanism, federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, and individual rights and compare the U.S. system of government with other political systems. Students identify the role of government in the U.S. free enterprise system and examine the strategic importance of places to the United States. Students analyze the impact of individuals, political parties, interest groups, and the media on the American political system, evaluate the importance of voluntary individual participation in a constitutional republic, and analyze the rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution. Students examine the relationship between governmental policies and the culture of the United States. Students identify examples of government policies that encourage scientific research and use critical-thinking skills to create a product on a contemporary government issue.

Course Objective Upon completing this course you will be able to:

- Describe and compare important facts, concepts, and theories pertaining to U.S. government and politics.
- Explain typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences (including the components of political behavior, the principles used to explain or justify various government structures and procedures, and the political effects of these structures and procedures).
- Interpret basic data relevant to U.S. government and politics (including data presented in charts, tables, and other formats).
- Critically analyze relevant theories and concepts, apply them appropriately.

Contact Information:

Preferred Mode of Communication: TEAMS Chat or Email

Email: eajiodo@houstonisd.org

Web Address: [Houstonisd.org/eajiodo](https://houstonisd.org/eajiodo)

Room: 345

Materials:

- HISD issued laptop and charger



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Grade Weight and Grading Scale:

Formative- 60% (Daily Grades, Quizzes, Homework)

Summative- 40% (Projects, Tests, Essays)

(A=100-90)

(B=89-80)

(C=79-75)

(D=74-70)

(F=69-0)

Honor Code: Jack Yates High School embodies a spirit of mutual trust and intellectual honesty that is central to the very nature of learning and represents the highest possible expression of shared values among the members of the school community. The core values underlying and reflected in the Honor Code are:

- Academic honesty is demonstrated by students when the ideas and the writing of others are properly cited; students submit their own work for tests and assignments without unauthorized assistance; students do not provide unauthorized assistance to others; and students report their research or accomplishments accurately
- Respect for others and the learning process to demonstrate academic honesty
- Trust in others to act with academic honesty as a positive community-building force in the school
- Responsibility is recognized by all to demonstrate their best effort to prepare and complete academic tasks
- Fairness and equity are demonstrated so that every student can experience an academic environment that is free from the injustices caused by any form of intellectual dishonesty
- Integrity of all members of the school community as demonstrated by a commitment to academic honesty and support of our quest for authentic learning.

Policy on Electronic Devices: Once students enter classroom, all electronic devices should be silenced and put away such that they are not visible. These include cell phones, headphones, ear buds, etc. Students may only use electronic devices if authorized by teacher. Teachers may use electronic devices for instruction purposes at their discretion.

Make Up and Late Work: Homework and daily class work should be submitted in a timely manner as much as possible. Evaluation on late work will be done on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the teacher. Make-up work will not be made-up during class time; this time will be reserved for planned instruction. It is the responsibility of the student to get make-up work and to return it to the instructor in a timely manner.

Class Norms

- Ready: When the tardy bell rings, prepare to have class.
- Respectful: Follow teacher directions the first time. Respect other people and school equipment.
- Responsible: Have necessary supplies. Turn in completed assignments on time.
- Have an Open Mind and learn from one another.
- Enjoy our time together.



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Attendance

Students are PRESENT if they are in class learning and being actively engaged and completion of reading and work assignments.

- In the event you are absent your work will always be on Canvas and dated so you always have access to your assignments

Tardy Policy

- First Tardy conference with student
- Second Tardy conference with parent/guardian
- After the third tardy one point will be taken off your grade for every tardy for that 6 weeks

Student Success: Additional time will be required for written assignments. The assignments provided will help you use your study hours wisely. Successful completion of this course requires a combination of the following:

- Reading the textbook
- Attending class in person and/or online
- Completing assignments
- Participating in class activities

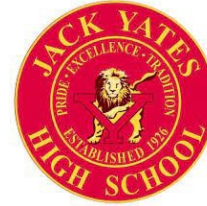
There is no short cut for success in this course; it requires reading (and probably re-reading) and studying the material using the course objectives as a guide.

As your teacher, it is my responsibility to:

- Provide the grading scale and detailed grading formula explaining how student grades are to be derived
- Facilitate an effective learning environment through learner-centered instructional techniques
- Provide a description of any special projects or assignments
- Inform students of policies such as attendance, withdrawal, tardiness, and making up assignments
- Provide the course outline and class calendar that will include a description of any special projects or assignments
- Arrange to meet with individual students before and after class as required

As a student, it is your responsibility to:

- Attend class on time
- Participate actively by reviewing course material, interacting with classmates, and responding promptly in your communication with me
- Read and comprehend the textbook
- Complete the required assignments and exams
- Ask for help when there is a question or problem
- Keep copies of all paperwork, including this syllabus, handouts, and all assignments
- Attain a raw score of at least 50% on the departmental final exam



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Student: I have read the syllabus for the **Economics for the 2023-2024** school year. I understand what is expected of me while enrolled in this class.

Parent: I have read the syllabus for the **Economics for the 2023-2024** school year. I understand what is expected of me while enrolled in this class.

Parent Print

Student Print

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Date

Date