

Civics Course Syllabus
Social Studies Department
2019-2020

Instructor: Ms. Elliott

Room Number: 215A

Email: KElliott@doralacademyprep.org

Office hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm.

Course Description:

The seventh grade social studies curriculum consists of the following content area strands: Civics, Geography, and Economics. The primary content for the course pertains to the principles, functions, and organization of government; the origins of the American political system; the roles, rights, responsibilities of United States citizens; and methods of active participation in our political system. The course is embedded with strong geographic and economic components to support civic education instruction.

Students are empowered to perform at higher levels as they engage in the following: analyzing historical documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient in note-taking, participating in Socratic seminars/discussions, emphasizing free-response and document-based writing, contrasting opposing viewpoints, solving problems, etc. Students will develop and demonstrate their skills through participation in research-based projects.

Course Text:

Civics- Government and Economics in Action
Prentice Hall

Methods of Assessment:

To prepare students for success in future social studies classes, students will complete in class assignments, homelearning, quizzes, projects, and chapter and unit tests.

Grading Scale

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Letter Value</u>	<u>Point Value</u>
90-100%	A	3.50-4.00
80-89%	B	2.50-3.49
70-79%	C	1.50-2.49
60-69%	D	1.00-1.49
0-59%	F	0-.99

Students will be assessed weekly using any of the following methods:

Tests	30% of grade
Projects and Essays	25% of grade
Quizzes	20% of grade
Classwork and Homelearning	15% of grade
Participation	10% of grade

Classroom Expectations:

1. Respect Others – listen when others are talking; keep hands, feet, objects, and negative comments to yourself.
2. Follow directions
3. Raise your hand to be recognized before speaking or standing up from your seat.
4. Bring required materials to class every day. (No cellphones, MP3 or iPod players, food, electronic devices, etc.)
5. Follow the Doral Academy Code of Conduct
Turn in completed assignments on time.
6. Follow classroom contract.

Disciplinary Plan:

- 1st Consequence – Verbal Warning
- 2nd Consequence – Phone Call Home/E-mail
- 3rd Consequence – Classroom Exclusion or Detention
- 4th Consequence – Referral to Administration

When necessary the teacher may bypass consequences depending on the severity of the classroom disruption or behavior.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Academic dishonesty is defined as an intentional act of deception in one of the following areas. Academic dishonesty is an infraction of the MDCPS and Doral Academy Codes of Student Conduct and disciplinary action will ensue. **Please see the addendum- *Doral Academy Prep Academic Integrity Policy***

- Cheating – the use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information or study aids
- Fabrication – falsification or invention of any information
- Assisting – helping another commit an act of academic dishonesty
- Tampering – altering or interfering with evaluation instruments and documents
- Plagiarism – representing the words or ideas of another person as one's own.

Attendance Policy:

In case of absence, make-up assignments will be given to all students, but only the students with excused absences will receive an academic grade without penalty. The assignment will remain with a letter grade of a "Z" until absence is excused. **It is the responsibility of the student to request any make-up work due to absences.** Students are expected to complete any missed assignments within three school days of their return to school. Failure to make-up all assignments will result in the lower assessment of the students' academic and/or effort grade.

Students are required to be on time to class and tardies to class will entail disciplinary consequences.

Required Materials:

- 1- Plastic covered three subject notebook with at least 150 pages (Five Star is good option)
- Index Cards will be brought to class for test preparation
- Copy paper (at least 10 sheets must be in the notebook pockets at all times)
- 1 box of black or blue pens
- Pencils (for testing days)
- Colored Pencils
- Glue Stick
- Scissors
- You may choose to donate disinfecting/cleaning wipes, a box of tissues, or hand sanitizer to be used by the class throughout the school year.

Parents and Students,

Please sign and return this page to Ms. Elliott by Friday, August 23rd. These are required documents for student files.

Thank you,

Ms. Elliott

We the parent/guardian(s) and the student, have fully read, understood, and agree to abide by these expectations.

Period _____

Print Student name

Student's signature

Date

Print Parent/Guardian name

Parent/Guardian's signature

Date

Print Parent/Guardian Email Address

Parent/Guardian Phone Number