**** **United States Government (Civics) : Course Syllabus**

**2021-2022 School Year**

**Teacher: Mr. Sean Calliard**

* **Contact Information**

**Email:** **scalliard@bridgepreposceola.com**

**\*\* Please allow at least a 48-hour window for a response. \*\***

**Phone:**

**Edmodo**

**Course Description:** U.S. Government is a class designed to acquaint students with the origins, concepts, organizations, and policies of our government and its political systems. To increase comprehension students will read and analyze relevant primary and secondary source documents and incorporate these ideas into the assigned material. Satisfactory completion of the course will prepare students to take the state mandated Civics End of Course Exam.

**Texts:** Civics: Economics & Geography, Florida Edition (Mcgraw-Hill)

The text will be used to supplement classroom material and as a reference for main ideas, key terms, and primary source readings.

**Course Objectives:** During this course, students will:

* Understand the basic concepts of democratic thought
* Analyze the formation, concepts, and components of the United States Constitution
* Investigate the idea of federalism and explain the role of states and the national government in America’s political environment
* Explore America’s political culture and examine the traits and beliefs of the American voter.
* Identify America’s major political parties, the core beliefs, and the impact special interest groups can have on their actions
* Understand the electoral process in the United States
* Examine the components and functions of Florida’s state government
* Analyze the organization and purpose of the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial branches of government
* Understand the role and structure of the federal bureaucracy
* Investigate the modern media and its impact on public opinion
* Examine the concepts of civil rights and civil liberties and their impact on American society

**Assignments:** Students will be assigned a variety of classroom assignments throughout the course of the class. These will be completed either as individual or collaborative group assignments. Work turned in one day late will be subject to a 10% point deduction from assignments overall point value. Work turned in after five days late will be subject to a 50% point reduction. Exemptions from this policy will be given upon verified absences such as documented illness, family emergency, and school related events. Students with excused absences will be given one day for every day missed to make up missed work. Students who exceed the allotted number of excused absences must provide documentation (doctor’s note, etc.) to avoid late work penalties. Assignments for this class will be posted on my page at [www.Bridgepreposceola.com](http://www.Bridgepreposceola.com).

**Attendance Policy:**

To be marked present, the student must be inside the classroom. Absent students will have one school day to submit their assignments/homework, with the proper excuse.

* **Required Materials**
* Notebook
* Loose leaf Paper
* Pencils/Pens
* Highlighter
* **Online Resources**
* Edmodo
* Achieve3000
* CommonLit
* Khan Academy
* I-civics
* Civics360

**Grades:**

The grading scale will be as follows: 90-100 A

 80-89 B

 70-79 C

 60-69 D

 0-59 F

Example of the assignments that we will be working on, but not limited to, are:

* Notebook
* Classwork
* Pop Quizzes
* Participation
* Projects
* Online assignments (Acieve3000, CommonLit, I-Civics, etc.)

**Classroom Management** cellphones – Cellphones must remain OFF inside backpacks, not in pockets or desks (backpacks will be placed in designated area) **Penalties:**

* + strike 1
		- confiscated, returned at the end of the day
		- parents contacted
	+ strike 2
		- phones turned into administration

**Behavior**

In my classroom, I will not tolerate any kind of disrespect, swearing, gun-chewing,name calling, bullying, horseplay, abandoning the classroom without permission, throwing any kind of item, or any other kind of behavior that affect the learning environment. Every single student must and will be treated with kindness and respect, as well as any other teacher, visitor, and administrator.

* **School Rules & Dress Code**

School dress code and rules will be enforced before, during, between, and after classes with appropriate disciplinary actions following, starting on day one.

* Transition
	+ students will wait at the door of the next class, single line, voice level 0
	+ teacher will be at the door
	+ no bathroom/water/nurse/office pass
* bathroom/nurse/office/water passes
	+ need a pass (physical item)
	+ 1 @ the time
	+ wait 10/10 - not the first 10mins nor the last 10
	+ all students must sign pass log before leaving the room and returning in

**Student and Parent Acknowledgement of Classroom Policies.**

Students and Parents acknowledge that the information provided in this syllabus fully explains all the class details. With this document both, students and parents, have been informed of my classroom expectations, grading policy, late classwork policy, and other aspects of my class that will be affecting the student grades. Any additional information or requirement will be informed will the appropriate time. Questions, concerns, or any help required, please contact me at your earliest convenience: scalliard@bridgepreposceola.com.

***Deadline to turn in this paper signed August 20, 2021 (20pts)***

**My child will be wearing a mask during school, and I would like you remind my student.**

 **\_\_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_\_ no (Initials)**

Student Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date \_\_\_\_

Parent Name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_

Received by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_