AP GOPO

M. Smith

**Pace High School Mission Statement:**

Our mission is to provide all students with quality instruction while stressing the importance of respecting others, sharing responsibility, and embracing the concept of lifelong learning.

**Course Description**

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project.

**Materials Needed:**

Students will be provided the textbook United States Government:Our Democracy by McGraw-Hill as the textbook for this course. Students will also be proved United States Government and Politics by AMSCO as a supplemental reading.

Students will need to provide the following items to be brought to class on a daily basis.

 1.\* 1 inch, 3-ring hard cover binder with inside pockets.\*

 2. Notebook paper

 3. Blue or Black ink pen

 4. Pencil

**Grading and Assignments**

Grading scale:

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: 59 and below

Grades will be determined at the conclusion of each nine-week grading period by averaging all daily and test grades. At the end of each semester (two nine weeks grading periods), a comprehensive exam will be given to all students in each class. In determining the semester grade for each course, each nine week grading period grade will count 40% and the semester exam will count 20%.

**Technology**

students are to use school computers for school work only. Students are welcome to bring iPads/laptops etc. for note taking if they can efficiently keep up. Abuse of this privilege (i.e.: playing games on computer during class) will result in loss of privilege for that student. Cell phones may only be utilized during such times as the teacher deems necessary for research.

**Website**

For AP GOPO I have created a website. On this website You will find additional College Board information about this course. You will also find assignments and other helpful resources. See website here: https://smithmh6.wixsite.com/govt

**Classroom Rules/Procedures**

Class rules are put in place by the teacher for safe, efficient management of the classroom. All students are to follow these rules. Consequences are issued for those who do not follow the rules.

**Rules**

 1. Be seated in desk and ready to begin when tardy bell rings.

 2. Bring all needed materials to class daily.

 3. Respect others and their property.

 4. No food or drink in the classroom.

 5. Obey all school rules.

 6. Remain seated until dismissed.

**Daily Routine**

1. Upon arrival to class and being seated, student should check board for daily bell ringer.

2. Teacher will check attendance while students complete bell ringer or if no bell ringer, students will take out notebooks prepare for class to begin.

3. Papers are to be thrown away upon arrival or dismissal.

4. Classroom door will be closed with the tardy bell. All students are tardy to class once the door is closed.

5. Teacher will dismiss class. Class is not dismissed with the ringing of the bell.

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism means utilizing incorporating, or paraphrasing any information that is not your own. Your homework and/or projects must be COMPLETELY original. Plagiarism is not tolerate by myself or College Board. Any plagiarized work will result in a “ 0” on the assignment , as well as phone call or Email home. A second offense will result in a referral to Administration.

**Make-up Work**

When a student is absent from school for school-sponsored activities or for an excused absence, the student shall be responsible for making arrangements with teachers for completing all work and assignments missed during the absence. All make-up work assigned shall be completed within three (3) days after the student returns to school unless given an extension of time by the teacher. Tests announced prior to the absence can be given on the student’s first day back to school, or at the discretion of the teacher. Assignments given prior to an absence that were due during the absence should be turned in the first day the student returns to school.

Zeroes will be given for class work and assignments missed during an unexcused absence and may not be made up for grading purposes unless an exception is made by the Principal.

**Late/Missed Assignments**

Late work, other than work not turned in due to excused absence or school closing, WILL NOT be accepted and student will receive a zero.

**The AP Curriculum**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Unit** | **Title** | **Topics** | **Documents** |
| 1 | **Foundations of American Democracy** | Constitutional ConventionSeparation of PowersChecks and BalancesFederalism | *The United States Constitution**Articles of Confederation**Federalist No. 10**Brutus 1**Federalist No. 51**Tenth Amendment**Fourteenth Amendment**McCulloch v. Maryland**US v. Lopez* |
| 2 | **Interactions Among Branches of Government**  | CongressPresidencyJudiciaryBureaucracyMaking Public Policy | *Federalist No. 70**Twenty-Second Amendment**Article III of the Constitution**Federalist No. 78**Marbury v. Madison* |
| 3 | **Civil Liberties and Civil Rights** | First AmendmentCivil Rights*Letter from Birmingham Jail* | *U.S. Constitution**Bill of Rights**First Amendment**Tinker v. Des Moines**Schenck v. United States**New York Times Co. v. U.S.* |
| 4 | **American Political Ideologies and Beliefs** | IdeologyPolitical socialization |  |
| 5 | **Political Participation** | Political PartiesElectionsInterest GroupsMass Media | *Baker v. Carr**Shaw v. Reno* |

\*Keep in mind that no matter what your schedule is, the **2019 AP US Government exam is on Monday, May 6th at 8:00 am.**

**The AP Exam**

**AP Exam Format**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Section | # of Questions | Timing | Percent of Total Exam Score |
| I. Multiple Choice | 55 | 80 minutes | 50% |
| II. Free Response | 4 mandatory | 1 hour, 40 minutes | 50 |
| Concept Application  |  | 20 minutes  | 12.5% |
| Quantitative Analysis |  | 20 minutes | 12.5% |
| SCOTUS Comparison |  | 20 minutes | 12.5% |
| Argument Essay |  | 40 minutes | 12.5% |

**AP Exam Content Breakdown**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Unit**  | **Unit Title** | **% of Exam** | **# of Questions** | **Days Semester** | **Days Year** |
| **1** | **Foundations** | **15-22%** | **8-12**  | **12** | **21** |
| **2** | **Branches** | **25-36%** | **14-22** | **18** | **33** |
| **3** | **Civil** | **13-18%** | **7-10** | **17** | **30** |
| **4** | **Beliefs** | **10-15%** | **5-8** | **10** | **22** |
| **5** | **Participation** | **20-27%** | **11-15** | **13** | **27** |
| **Total** |  | **100%** | **55** | **70** | **133** |

**For a 45-60 minute instructional period**

\*Keep in mind that no matter what your schedule is, the **2019 AP US Government exam is on Monday, May 6th at 8:00 am.**

**Contact Information**

School Phone Number: (850) 995-3600

Email: smithmh@santarosa.k12.fl.us

**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please read below, sign and return to teacher. Class Syllabus is to stay at front of notebook. Student may not begin receiving grades until this is returned signed.**

**I have read and understand the guidelines for Mrs. Smith’s class. I promise to follow these guidelines for this course. I understand the consequences for failing to follow these guidelines.**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Parent/Guardian**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Date**