



U.S. Government

Welcome to SS011: U.S. Government!

Please read the information in this syllabus before proceeding to the course materials.

Credits .5 credit

Prerequisites None

INSTRUCTIONAL TEAM

Dr. Lee Salter

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Our Academic Advisors are also available to help you when you need it. They are trained to provide answers to your questions about the course or program.

Phone: 1-800-224-7234

Hours: 9AM – 6PM (Eastern Standard Time), Monday-Friday

MAIL

James Madison High School

6625 The Corners Parkway, Suite 500

Norcross, GA 30092

TEXTBOOK

United States Government: Our Democracy, McGraw-Hill

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In this course students will learn key concepts associated with being an American. They will learn about the state, national and local governments. They will also learn about key issues, court cases and documents that have shaped the United States into the country that it is today.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After completing U.S. Government, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the political philosophies that shaped the development of the United States government.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the United States Constitution.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the federal system of government.
- Explain key features of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.
- Explain reasons for the creation of the Bill of Rights and Constitution.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the legislative process including the roles played by leadership and committees.
- Explain the differences between the House of Representatives and the Senate including the powers afforded to each house.
- Describe how the government is funded.



- Demonstrate knowledge of how foreign relations are conducted.
- Describe the various roles played by the President of the United States.
- Explain the functions of the departments and agencies of the federal bureaucracy.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the election process.
- Describe the history and functions of political parties.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the function and responsibilities of the federal judiciary.
- Demonstrate knowledge of civil liberties and civil rights.
- Differentiate between civil and criminal law.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the powers and responsibilities of state and local government.

LESSONS	TOPICS
Lesson 1:	Basics of Government: Chapter 1, 2 and 24
Lesson 2:	Key Documents in American Government: Chapter 3, 15 and 19
Lesson 3:	Politics: Chapter 17, 18 and 20
Lesson 4:	The Congress and Taxes: Chapter 5, 6, 7 and 21
Lesson 5:	Government Policy: Chapter 22 and 23
Lesson 6:	The Executive Branch, Political Parties and Elections: Chapter 9, 10 and 11
Lesson 7:	The Judicial Branch and the Law: Chapter 13, 14 and 16
Lesson 8:	State and Local Government: Chapter 4, 8 and 12

GRADING

The following point totals correspond to the following grades:

POINTS	GRADE
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100-90	A
89-80	B
79-70	C
65-69	D
Below 65	F

James Madison High School allows 2 attempts on exams. If a student is not satisfied with his/her score on the 1st attempt, an exam may be resubmitted. The 2nd attempt is not required as long as the final course average is above 65%. The higher of the 2 attempts will be the score that counts towards the final average.

Exams are timed and once you begin an exam, the timer runs continuously, even if you leave the course. Refer to the exam instructions for the time limit (in most cases 3 hours), but the time limit cannot be spread over multiple days.



GRADE WEIGHT

TOPIC	ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE
Lesson 1:	MC Quiz	10%
Lesson 2:	MC Quiz	10%
Lesson 3:	MC Quiz	10%
Lesson 4:	MC Quiz	10%
Lesson 5:	MC Quiz	10%
Lesson 6:	MC Quiz	10%
Lesson 7:	MC Quiz	10%
Lesson 8:	MC Quiz	10%
Final Exam	MC Quiz	20%
Final Grade		100%

ACADEMIC AND COURSE POLICIES

Please see the Academic Policies section in the James Madison High School Catalog for information on Course policies, including the Exam/Assignment Retake Policy, Grading Policy, Academic Honesty Policy, and Student Conduct Policy.