

VIRGINIA & UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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Amherst Education Center
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COURSE OVERVIEW:

The Government course familiarizes the students with the founding principles of the United States government and the effect its development has on its citizens. It examines the body of laws, government bodies, and political mechanizations at the national, state, and local levels. It also discusses and how they affect the student. An opportunity is given for students to become actively involved with their government.

Text: American Government by Pearson

COURSE OUTLINE:

<u>Chapter Topics</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Foundations of American Government	1-4
Political Behavior: Government By the People	5-9
The Legislative Branch	10-12
The Executive Branch	13-17
The Judicial Branch	18-21
Comparative Political and Economic Systems	22-23
Participating in State and Local Government	24-25

COURSE RESPONSIBILITIES:

This course will involve several different aspects of coursework. These may include: Notes, PowerPoint, study guides, work sheets, chapter work from the text, discussions, presentations, and projects.

GRADING:

Your grade is *earned* not *given*. Grades will be based upon all work completed and incomplete, test scores (including nine-weeks tests), and notes. *Yes, you will be graded on the notes you keep!*

GRADING CATEGORIES AND PERCENTAGES

Measure of Progress – 40% Measure of Content – 60%

GRADING DISBURSEMENT:

A= 90-100 B= 80-89 C= 70-79 D=60-69 F= 59 AND BELOW

PROGRESS TEST:

Each student will take a test to evaluate their progress in the course. The test will be given at the beginning, middle and end of the course and will be used to examine what they have learned. All students are encouraged to do their best on each administration.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:

Be Respectful

- Respect others opinions and contributions
- Raise hand before speaking
- Be present (physically and mentally)

Be Responsible

- Hang up jackets and sweatshirts
- Stay in your seat
- Complete work and ask for missing assignments
- Use technology appropriately

Be Your Best

- Set goals, monitor your progress
- Be actively engaged
- Ask questions to expand your learning

DISCIPLINE:

If any of the above expectations are not followed, classroom discipline may become necessary. Disciplinary procedures may include (but are not limited to) the following.

Silent Class: Students are required to complete a specific work assignment during the class period. If there is any talking, or any distractions, the student will receive a referral to Mr. Penn.

Breakfast/Lunch Detention: The student will pick up their meal and return to the classroom to complete a specific amount of work.

After School Detention: The student will be required to stay after school, from 2:00 to 3:00, to complete a specific amount of work. Travel arrangements are the responsibility of the student and his/her family.

Administrative Referral: A referral, with a list of the negative behaviors, will be written to Mr. Penn for further disciplinary action.