

*Stafford High School
History Department
“We are not makers of history. We are made by history”*

Government

Teacher Information

Cristian Martinez

Contact:

cristian.martinez@staffordmsd.org

281-261-9200 ext. 3960

Location: A210

Conference: 7thst Period (1:30-2:17pm)

Tutorials: Tuesdays afterschool or by request

Class Website:

www.mrmartinezclassstafford.weebly.com

Textbook and Resources:

Government Book (provided in classroom)

Course Description:

This government course consists of the following content area strands: Geography, Civics and Government. The primary content for the course pertains to the study of government institution and political processes and their historical impact on American society. Content should include but is not limited to the functions and purpose of government, the function of the state, the constitutional framework, federalism, separation of powers, functions of powers, functions of the three branches of government at the local, state and national level and the political decision-making process.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will understand the basic foundational principals of American government
2. Students will be able to define and apply key terms.
3. Students will be able to develop skills that allow them to understand how government action interacts with daily life
4. Students will further develop reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.

Materials

You will need the following supplies:

- Textbook (provided in class as a class set, or can be requested in the back office)
- Notebook, school provided iPad, or paper for notes
- Binder w/ 5 dividers labeled: Warm-Ups, Notes, Assignments, Quizzes, Tests
- Pens and pencils

Grading Procedures:

Daily grades which include daily participation, exit tickets, quizzes, problem sets, handouts and activities will count for **40% of your grade**.

Major grades which include exams and projects (1 every six weeks) will count for the other **60% of your grade**.

Make Up Assignments

Due to the rapid pace of the course and the complexity of the material covered, absences will make it difficult to keep up. However, in case of unavoidable absence, YOU are responsible for your own make-up work. This includes copying notes from missed lectures, obtaining class handouts, and making arrangements to take any missed quizzes/tests outside of class time. If you are absent on the day of an exam, you should be prepared to take it in class on the following day unless you speak with me to make other arrangements. Do not make any assumptions – All make up assignments and consequences will be based on SMSD Grading Policy.

For **late assignments**, the grading scale is as follows: 90 on the first day, 80 on the second day, 70 on the third day, and 50 thereafter.

Electronic Device Use:

The use of electronic devices including, but not limited to cell phones, headphones, laptops, cameras are **NOT** permitted during class instruction, unless the student is researching using the Internet or if students are working independently. When we read as a class, take notes as a class, discuss as a class or take formal assessments (multiple choice or writing) the students will not be permitted to use their electronic device. In addition, the video recording of anyone in the classroom is **prohibited**. Personal laptops can be used in class while taking notes or researching using the Internet for a class assignment.

I will give you a warning about negative electronic phone usage, if usage continues, then I will take it up!

Etiquette

- **Dressed appropriately according to campus policies/ handbook**
- **Be on time (I do count tardiness)**
- **Respect for others and their comments related to class discussion**
- **Be mindful of chat comments**
- **Muted until question session, Be aware of background noise**
- **PARTICIPATION**
- **Review your notes and prompts to answer**
- **COMPLETE all assignments ON TIME**
- **EMAILS must be through your Stafford high school email, NOT PERSONAL EMAIL**