FVS American Government Syllabus

Course Description
This semester-long course provides students with a practical understanding of the principles and procedures of government. The course begins by establishing the origins and founding principles of American government. After a rigorous review of the Constitution and its amendments, students investigate the development and extension of civil rights and liberties. Lessons also introduce influential Supreme Court decisions to demonstrate the impact and importance of constitutional rights. The course builds on this foundation by guiding students through the function of government today and the roles of citizens and organizations in promoting policy approaches. Throughout the course, students examine primary and secondary sources, including political cartoons, essays, and judicial opinions. Students also sharpen their writing skills in shorter tasks and assignments.

Course Objectives
Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:
• Investigate the founding principles that guided the establishment of the U.S. government.
• Analyze the civil rights and liberties that are granted to U.S. citizens, and understand the influence of constitutional amendments and Supreme Court decisions that have developed these rights.
• Understand the structures and procedures of local, state, and federal governments.
• Discover how you can participate in government by voting, running for office, meting civic obligations, and petitioning your representatives.
• Read complex texts at grade level.
• Increase academic and domain-specific vocabulary.
• Engage in routine writing in response to texts, concepts, and scenarios.
• Use research skills to access, interpret, and apply information from sources you have gathered.

Student Expectations
This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5 hours per week during a regular semester (or 15 hours per week during summer session) on:
• Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks.
• Assignments in which you apply and extend learning.
• Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams.
Communication
Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, e-mail, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face as you collaborate on projects, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop your speaking and listening skills.

Grading Policy
You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>10%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Quizzes</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Tests</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labs</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assignments</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Exam</td>
<td>20%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All of the grades that you receive online will be recorded in Edgenuity. To view your grades in Edgenuity, click on: organizer; reports; then, scores and feedback.

Fulton County Schools Grade Recovery Policy
Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.

Due Dates
The Fulton Virtual School’s policy is to allow students to work at an individualized pace in the course. You are expected to work at your own pace and have the course finished by the last day of the class. You are expected to show the same level of commitment as you would in your traditional school setting.

Scope and Sequence
When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson’s link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below.
Unit 1: Introduction to American Government
Unit 2: The Constitution
Unit 3: Civil Rights and Liberties
Unit 4: Federal, State, and Local Government
Unit 5: Civics and Participation

Georgia Performance Standards

This course is correlated to the Georgia Performance Standards. If you would like more information on the GPS, please visit: https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Social-Studies-American-Government-Civics-Georgia-Standards.pdf

Fulton Virtual School Academic Integrity Policy

In a virtual learning environment, honesty and integrity are integral traits for academic success. At Fulton Virtual, we believe that all students must show integrity in the completion and submission in all aspects of the academic experience. Therefore, no forms of cheating, assisting others in cheating, and/or plagiarism (passing off the work of others as if it is your own) will be tolerated.

When collaboration is necessary to complete tasks and projects, Fulton Virtual School instructors will provide students with advance notice. Thus, all work is considered an individual assignment unless otherwise noted. The following list of dishonest behaviors has been compiled to assist you. This list is by no means exhaustive, and each infraction of academic dishonesty will be handled the virtual instructor on an individual, case-by-case basis.

*Dishonest behavior includes, but is not limited to:*

Plagiarism. Plagiarism can be defined as the inclusion of another’s ideas, words, expressions, or data in writing or presentation without properly acknowledging the source.

2. Unauthorized use off another person’s password/login. Student logins/passwords are confidential information that should not be shared with others.

3. Cheating. Cheating can be defined as the act or attempted act of deception by which a student seeks to misrepresent his submitted work as uniquely his own completed without assistance. Cheating includes copying another student’s work and submitting it as your own.
4. Impersonation. Performing work or taking an examination for another student or allowing someone to do so for you.

5. Falsification and/or misrepresentation of data. This can be defined as the submission of false or contrived data or sources.

6. Computer crimes. This may include damaging computer programs, hacking, constructing viruses, introducing viruses into a system, copying programs, etc.

**Academic dishonesty will result in one or more of the following actions:**

- Loss of grade points
- Removal from the course
- Failure to receive credit for the course
- Loss of eligibility to earn credits through Fulton Virtual Schools

Fulton Virtual School instructors have the authority to require that students perform other tasks or undergo additional assessments in proctored situations. If a Fulton Virtual School instructor suspects that there is a problem with academic integrity, the administrators of both the local school and Fulton Virtual School will be informed. Failure to follow these guidelines may result in removal from your virtual course without further warning.

**All Fulton Virtual Students Must Agree and Adhere to the Following Academic Integrity Guidelines:**

- I understand and will support and will abide by the guidelines set for in the Fulton Virtual School Academic Integrity Policy.
- I will not personally cheat (i.e., use unauthorized materials in completing my assignments and assessments), and I will not help others cheat.
- If I become aware of anyone else’s cheating or use of unauthorized materials (or any other violations of Fulton Virtual School’s Academic Integrity Policy, I have a personal responsibility to report the matter to an instructor or administrator.