**GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP DISCLOSURE**

Mr. Gleaves Rm. C230

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**Course Description:**

 The United States is a great nation because of the democratic freedoms that we enjoy. It is my goal to help you prepare to be productive citizens by learning how to participate and be active in the communities that you live in. We will discuss and debate various topics that have an impact on the United States. As you complete this course I hope that you will learn to think critically and become lifelong learners.

**Attendance:**

 Regular attendance is an important factor that has a tremendous impact on academic success. Poor attendance in this class will impact the learning process and the success you have in class.

 I follow the school attendance policy. Please review the Attendance Policy in the Student Handbook

**Materials:**

 You will need a notebook, paper and a writing utensil to be successful in this class.

**Expectations:**

 I have high expectations for my students. It is my goal for everyone to be successful in my class. Respect is the most important item I focus on in the classroom. This country is wonderful because of the freedoms that we enjoy and I want to treat you all as adults; however, the classroom environment needs to be free from distractions so everyone has an equal opportunity.

 -Be on time and prepared for the day

 -You are required to be actively working

 -Cell phones and other electronic devices should not be used in class

 -Self Advocate: If you have questions ask, if something comes up communicate

 -Food and drinks are allowed as long as you clean up

**Assignments:**

 There will be a variety of assignments in this class. Reading and Writing are extremely important skills for a historian to have. We will do some form of reading and writing on a daily basis. Class discussions are a big part of this class, so please be active and engage in the classroom as often as possible. Please ask questions, questions are an important critical thinking skill and I want everyone to feel comfortable asking the things that they would like to know. We will read and analyze documents, create and defend claims, as well as complete various types of assessments. You will also be required to complete the following:

 **Participation:**

 Class discussion and debates are an essential part of this class. Specific assignments will be given to track your level of participation. Being absent will make it difficult for you to complete this requirement.

**Current Events:**

 At the beginning of each week you will receive a current events paper that will be completed the first 5 minutes of class each day. In order to complete this assignment you must be on time to class. If you are tardy or absent you will not be able to make up that day’s event.

 **Current Event Quizzes:**

 Every Friday there will be a Current Events quiz. The questions will come from the Current Event papers done each day. It will be the first 10 minutes of class. They will be worth 10 points and your lowest quiz score will be dropped for the term. If you are tardy and the quiz has been completed or if you are absent you will not be allowed to make up the quiz.

 **Public Service Announcement (P.S.A):**

 This assignment will be completed in groups of 3 and will be turned in at the end of First Term. You will receive a detailed description and rubric the second week of the term.

 ***Anthem* by Ayn Rand**

 We will read this book as a class during Second Term.

 **Community Involvement/Service:**

 You will complete 4 assignments each term from a list of community and service opportunities. This is a great opportunity for you to become involved and be active members of society.

**Grades:**

 Everyone can be successful and get the grade they want in this class. Grades will be calculated by total points. Participation and all other assignments will be assigned a point value. I will do everything in my power to grade and give feedback within a week of the due date. The grading scale is as follows:

100-94: A 76.99-74: C

 93.99-90: A- 73.99-70: C-

 89.00-87: B+ 69.99-67: D+

 86.99-84: B 66.99-64: D

 83.99-80: B- 63.99-60: D-

 79.99-77: C+ 59.99 and below F

 With the exception of Current Events and Current Event Quizzes, Late work is accepted throughout the term. It is important to turn in assignments on time and doing so will allow you to have the most success in class. There are occasions when things come up and you should talk to me and ask questions so that we can make sure your experience in this class helps you learn. Assignments that are turned in late without discussing the situation with me will not receive full credit, if it is 2 days late you will receive 75% and anything submitted later will be 60%.

 You will not be able to re-take tests and quizzes, but remediation opportunities will be given.

**Extra Credit:**

There will be opportunities to do extra credit every term.

**Parents/Students:**

 It is my goal to help each of my students in any way possible for them to be successful. There are times when people get behind, need more time or just get frustrated. Please feel free to call, email or come in before or after school to get extra help or just to talk about how things are going. Please use the website as well to see what is going in class and to access many of the assignments and activities that we do in class.

 Parents if there is any information that I need to know to help your child be successful please use the space provided to leave me a message. Feel free to contact me at any time.

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_