

To All of My Students:

Welcome to Civics and Economics! I am excited about having each of you in my class this semester! I love teaching Civics and I'm so excited about getting to know each of you! Let's work together to make this a fun and exciting semester!

If you ever need to contact me with questions or comments, you can reach me by phone at 674-4300 ext. 1661 or email me at lassitr@@gcsnc.com. Email is the BEST and FASTEST way to communicate with me.

The Course: Civics & Economics

Civics and Economics is a required course for graduation in North Carolina. The purpose of this course is to teach you about our nation's political and economic systems. You will explore your role as participants in the economy, investigate economic choices, discover your rights and responsibilities as citizens, examine the legal and political systems where we live, and you will see how these systems influence your own lives.

Units of Study

- Unit 1 Foundations of American Democracy
- Unit 2 Government Systems
- Unit 3 Politics and Public Policy and Citizenship
- Unit 4 Law
- Unit 5 Foundations of Economics
- Unit 6 Economics at Work
- Unit 7 Financial Literacy

Grading Scale & Policies

A 90 - 100	Tests, Large Projects— 40%
B 80 - 89	Classwork, Homework, Current Events – 25%
C 70 - 79	Quizzes, Small Projects – 30%
D 60 - 69	Participation—5%
F Below 59	

**Test/Project Grades – 40%**

Tests will be given at the end of every unit. Tests will usually consist of multiple-choice questions and possible essays or short answers. Projects will be utilized throughout the course and major projects will count as test grades.

Classwork & Homework Grades – 25%

Turn in all assignments on time. Assignments are accepted only at the beginning of the block on the date that they are due. The highest grade a late **homework** assignment can receive is a **60**. Be responsible and do not procrastinate! Current Events are assigned for nearly every week throughout the semester and should be ready for discussion at the beginning of the block. The highest grade a late Current Event can receive is a **60**.

Participation—5%

Each day we will have warm-up activities that you will keep in your composition notebook. They will be collected on test days to be certain that you are completing the warm-ups each day. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to complete the assignment before the due date of the notebook.

Quiz Grades 30%

Quizzes are usually announced, but students should always be prepared to assess their knowledge. Please keep up with all of your assignments in your notebooks. We will use these daily and they should contain all of your class notes/assignments, homework and vocabulary.

Other Grades

- **Extra Credit:** Several opportunities for extra credit will be given throughout the semester.

Progress Reports: Progress reports should be promptly signed and returned to Mr. Lassiter for a homework grade. If parents have concerns, they should email me at lassitr@gcsnc.com . If your grade is low, you should be doing everything you can to improve it.

The final grade for the class will be calculated as follows:

First Term	40%	
Second Term	40%	
Exam	20%	(North Carolina Final Exam)

Required Course Materials

- Textbook: *Civics Today*, Glencoe McGraw Hill (provided by the school, bring it every single day)
- **Writing utensils (pens /pencils AND Highlighters, always have a writing utensil)**
- 3-ring Binder
- Composition Notebook (single-subject) to be turned in on the day of each Unit Test
- ruled paper

Class Rules, Expectations, & Procedures

Responsibility: It is the responsibility of the student to complete all required work for this class. Mr. Lassiter will not nag you about missing work. My classes require effort and you have control over your grade!

Tardiness: SHOW UP ON TIME (BEFORE THE BELL RINGS)! The school wide tardy policy will be enforced in this class.

Tardy Policy

1st Offense -	Warning
2nd Offense –	Detention and Parent Contact
3rd Offense –	Detention and Parent Contact
4th Offense and Subsequent Offenses-	Administrative Referral

Absences: DO NOT MISS CLASS ... UNLESS YOU HAVE TO! Students who have excessive absences are hurting their grade! You are required to be here and should not be missing many days at a time unless you have an emergency, family situation, etc. You can miss THREE days without making up time. Any absences that exceed three days must be made up with Mr. Lassiter. NO EXCEPTIONS! If you do not make up your time, you will receive a 59/F in the course (or lower if that is your earned grade).

Work missed due to absence should be made up within three **(3) days** after returning to school. **It is the sole responsibility of the student to collect and turn in any missed work!** If you do not make up a test within the appropriate **period**, you will receive a ZERO.

Always Come Prepared for Class: Students must bring class materials with them every day, including their binders, paper, and **writing utensils**. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BRING A PENCIL/PEN TO CLASS!**

Always Do Your Best: Participate in class discussions and activities. **NO SLEEPING IN CLASS!** Sleeping during class time demonstrates that you are not giving me your best effort and you will be given detention for repeatedly sleeping in this class. **Sleeping is rude to everyone!**

Food and Drinks: Food and drink is permitted in my class as long as trash and recycling items are thrown away in the appropriate containers. If trash is left repeatedly in class, food and drink privileges will be taken away until the following term.

Respectful Behavior: Be respectful of yourself, Mr. Lassiter, and others in this classroom. Raise your hand to be recognized. Do not interrupt. **Profanity, back-talking, arguing, complaining, or harassment of any sort is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated!** If a student is demonstrating disrespectful behavior, he/she will be referred to administration. This includes taking care of our classroom and school property. Throw away trash upon leaving for the day and be responsible for your actions.

Cheating: Cheating or copying another student's work is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**. If you are caught cheating you will receive a ZERO and the person who allowed you to copy will receive a ZERO. None of this work can be made up and students may be referred to administration for disciplinary action!

Electronics Policy: Cell Phones and iPod's, if brought to school should be kept in book bags/purses and are not to be used in class without permission from the teacher. At no time should electronic devices become a distraction for students. The GCS Student Handbook clearly outlines the acceptable use policy for electronic devices, and this policy applies to the personal use of such devices by students. **Any violation of the GCS policy (such as taking unauthorized photographs, recording and / or posting inappropriate materials, cyber-bullying and harassment, etc.) will result in immediate disciplinary action.**

Students who violate the teacher's policy OR the district's policy as stated above will face disciplinary actions as follows:

- 1st offense: student is asked to put item away
- 2nd offense: faculty takes item and keeps until end of class period then returns to student
- 3rd offense: faculty takes item and turns in to grade level administrator

*Failure to turn in an item to a classroom teacher during class will result in an administrative referral which could result in a 2 day suspension.

Items confiscated will remain with the grade level administrator until a parent comes to school to retrieve.

GCS policy states that phones may be held for up to ten days after confiscation.

Students who bring electronic items to school do so at their own risk. The school will take no responsibility for these items while students are on campus or on school-sponsored events.

FOLLOW ALL GUILFORD COUNTY AND SOUTHEAST HIGH SCHOOL RULES

FOLLOW THE SOUTHEAST HIGH DRESS CODE

Consequences for not following rules:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Parent Contact
3. ISS/ Administrative Referral