**Civics Literacy**

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"A popular government without popular information or the means of acquiring it is but a prologue to Farce or Tragedy or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance, and a people who mean to be their own Governors must arm themselves with the power knowledge gives."

* James Madison

Welcome to civic literacy, in which we will be achieving what James Madison had hoped for in the quote above; learning about how democracy creates a government of the people. To accomplish the goals of civic literacy we will dissecting founding principles of U.S. government, evaluating our role through civic engagement, and analyzing how the generations of Americans have adapted the ideals of government. My role as your teacher is to be a facilitator of that exploration and allow you the student to see different perspectives and formulate your own interpretations of the grand experiment established by our founding fathers.

***LEARNING VIRTUAL***

*Should we placed on remote learning the expectation is that you participate in live instructions and complete assignments, as if it is a regular class. All instruction will be carried out on canvas, but I also have a school website,* [*https://www.gcsnc.com/Page/59164*](https://www.gcsnc.com/Page/59164)*, which has or will PowerPoints and other review material to assist students when I am not available. I am also aware that each student’s situation is unique and may need accommodations to assist in the learning process. One way to easily facilitate the difficulties of this situation is through communication. Please let me know if you are having difficulties because of the on-line situation so I can try to adjust your situation. I have provided couple of ways to reach me during this time, such as the REMIND 101 which allow students to directly communicate with me. The signup instructions for REMIND 101 are at the bottom of the syllabus. Please know we are in this together and that is the only way we can be successful.*

***VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPECTATIONS***

1. *Show respect for yourself, classmates, and teacher*
2. *Be prepared: you need the right attitude, an open mind, and the right materials*
3. *Be responsible, keep up with your assignments and your learning*
4. *Stay organized: we cover several topics at once and assignments will overlap. We will focus on this skill all year.*
5. *Communication: reach out to me via REMIND 101, email, or Canvas - ask questions if things are unclear or if you are having issues*

**GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

1. Be on time- please take care of bathroom, water, and grooming needs before class
2. Show respect for yourself, classmates, and teacher
3. Be prepared: you need the right attitude, an open mind, and the right materials
4. Be responsible, keep up with your assignments. (late work will be penalized)
5. No food or drink in the classroom- you may have water. NO PEANUTS OF ANY KIND.
6. Stay organized: we cover several topics at once and assignments will overlap
7. Communication: ask questions if things are unclear

**Civic Literacy**

This class is broken up into 3 major topics, government, economics, and personal finance. We will begin the year with examining how the American government operates and factors that influence our democratic republic. We will learn how individuals, businesses, and government operate and are influenced by our market economy. Finally, we will be developing sound financial skills that will allow you build a sound future. (The units of study are as follows)

**Curriculum Units of Study**

* **Foundations of Democracy - The Constitution**
* **Individual Rights - Federal, State, and Local Government**
* **Politics and Political Parties - Laws and Public Policy**
* **Citizenship and Civic Participation - United States and the World**

# GRADING POLICY

1. Test, Papers, & Projects: 50%
2. Individual assignments: 20%
3. Quizzes/mini projects: 30%

**ASSIGNMENT TYPES**: (Grading percentage are yet to be determine, as result of waiting for general guidelines for the NC General Assembly in response to the pandemic)

**Tests**

I will give at least a week of notice before each test. Most tests will include the following: 20-35multiple choice questions (depending on the length of the unit), 1-3 free response questions.

**Quizzes**

We cover a lot of content in C&E, therefore it is imperative that students are keeping up with and retaining information as we progress throughout the year. In order to make sure that you are keeping up and processing topics covered there will be several quizzes throughout each unit. Some quizzes will be announced and other will be unannounced. I often quiz to ensure students are staying on top of their assignments and readings, that way we can address concepts that are not understood PRIOR to testing.

**Current Events**

Sometimes you will be expected to apply the knowledge you have gained to analyze modern issues in American society. These include short writing assignments that will require students to apply knowledge gained from the course and allow them to develop their own political opinions on issues facing our nation, state, or city, as well as the economy.

**Discussions**

I’ll give you lots of articles, readings, and political cartoons to respond to in class. You must read/analyze these items in order to participate in class discussions. Question on these items will be included on tests.

**Projects**

For the most part each unit has an accompanying project. Projects will come in various forms, such as creating scrapbooks, games, photo essays, PowerPoint presentations, etc. Some of these projects will be completed in groups, other will be done independently.

**Mini Projects**

These will be less time intensive than normal projects and will mostly be completed in class. They can count as either a quiz grade, or two depending on how much work is involved.

**Free Response Questions**

Free response questions will be in response to various documents and readings. FRQs will also be present on tests and quizzes.

# Make-up policy

# If students are absent it is their responsibility to contact me for missing work. If you are experiencing a prolonged absence, I can email most assignments to avoid having a large amount of make-up work upon your return. Just reach out to me at hultbea@gcsnc.com. Assignments will also be posted online on canvas. All make assignments, quizzes, and tests are to be made up within ONE WEEK of the student returning to school, unless other arrangements have been made with the teacher. Failure to turn in missing assignments will result in a zero for a grade. (Special arrangements can be made for extended absences)

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# Late work policy:

# Please remember that in order to be prepared for class you need to complete assignments on time. If you are unable to make the deadline. If you are unable to meet the deadline you may submit the assignment for a max grade of an 85 for up to seven days past the due date. After the seven days has past the assignment will no longer be accepted. If the assignment has already been returned to students you must come in during one of my two offered tutoring days and complete the assignment, or an alternate assignment, with me in class This does not apply to students who are absent. If student is absent the day an assignment is due the work will not be counted late, but the assignment must be turned in the day they return to school to avoid late penalties.

# Other Requirements:

# Classroom needs

1. Chromebook
2. Notebooks: You are required to bring a three-ring binder with loose leaf paper to class **EVERYDAY**.  You need a good supply of college rule composition paper.  All notes, handouts, and homework will be kept in this notebook.
3. Pencil, Blue/Black Ink Pen, and highlighter
4. Flash drive or online storing capabilities

**Respect**

Respect is very important to my class.  We discuss very controversial issues with a wide array of viewpoints and beliefs. The rule to remember here is that you DO NOT have to agree with me or anyone else in class, but you may NOT disrespect someone because he or she sees things differently.

**KEEPING CONNECTED (REMIND 101)**

**REMIND 101 – please join remind 101, which allow you to directly contact me about the assignment or the class. Text the code below using the phone number below.**

**Number: 81010 Code: @87d6be**

**Student Name:**  Last:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ First:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete and return by the second day of school.**

# Attention Parents- PLEASE READ!!!

In Civics Literacy there always class debates and discussions on the issues that we as Americans face. Many of these issues can be very controversial, such as immigration, war, or religion in schools. First and foremost, I will never tell your child what to think or believe. That is up to them to decide. I am always willing to accept that we all can agree to disagree as long as it is done respectfully. My role is as a facilitator who provides information from both sides of an argument. My hope is that it will stimulate discussion with you and their peers, as well as get them to think about what they want out of their country, state, and community. Also, that your children will pay attention to what is happening around them and become involved in making it better. From time to time I may ask them to poll you and others on political beliefs or issues. This will be done anonymously so no one will know who gave what opinion. Please be honest and open with them about your beliefs.

I look forward to meeting you. Please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions, concerns, or comments. You play a vital role in the success of your child in Civic Literacy. Please sign off that you have read through the syllabus with your child. I look forward to having a great year.

Thank You!

Andrew Hultberg

**Parent/Guardian Contact Information:**

Parent/Legal Guardian 1 (Please Print Name): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Cell)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Work)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Best way to reach you (phone or email):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian 2 (Please Print Name): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Cell)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (Work)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Best way to reach you (phone or email):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*\* Please sign below stating that you acknowledge and understand the expectations and requirements of this course as outlined in the syllabus.**

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Legal Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_