

7th Grade - Civics
Mrs. Miller
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715-854-2721 Ext 486 (School)

Welcome!

This course will dive into our government. We will cover our government's origin, its makeup, and how it works for us. It requires an active, thoughtful, and analytical mind. My goal with this course is to teach you how to be active citizens and show how you can impact the world around you.

You will find this class to be very different from most classes. You can expect to have a dynamic and interactive experience every day while we learn the functions of our government. We will be learning what it means to be active and successful citizens as well as how we as citizens participate in government. We will have academic conversations in order to have a greater understanding of civics. We will address our reading, social, and communication skills. Throughout the year we will be given assessments on not only what we learn, but how we learn and think about the information.

CLASSROOM RULES:

1. Be prepared and on time. This means being in the classroom when the bell rings with all your materials.
2. Treat yourself, others and teachers with respect. Be appropriate with what you say and ask. Think before you speak.
3. Be honest with your work and with me.
4. Follow the school rules in the handbook.
5. Listen when someone is speaking.
6. All Technology will be used only for classroom work.
7. Please reread the CELL PHONE/SMARTWATCH policy in the handbook.

Supplies Needed:

1. Binder/Folder
2. Planner
3. Writing utensil
4. Highlighter (optional)

Attendance:

Attendance is a very important aspect of this class. We will progress fairly quickly through the material so if you are absent it is important you catch up on what you missed immediately. If you are absent it is your responsibility to catch up with class notes and reading. You may get notes from classmates, but the reading needs to be done on your own time. Any handouts or homework assignments are located in the Civics folder on the back of my door. You have the number of days you were absent to complete the missing work.

Assessment:

How will I be graded? You're graded on assessments, homework, and participation in class. You will earn points for each based on the importance of the material to be mastered. Your grade will be determined by using the grading scale listed below as well as what each grade is at that percentage.

A 94-100	B+ 87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69	F 0-60
A- 90-93	B 84-86	C 74-76	D 64-66	
	B- 80-83	C- 70-73	D- 60-63	

Assessments: These are your tests, quizzes, and projects.. Oftentimes tests and quizzes are short answers as well as writing. Spelling and grammar will be part of the grade. Projects are seen in many formats. These will have high expectations.

Homework: You are expected to turn them in on time. You will lose one point per day if the assignment is late. If your name is not on it when it is turned in it still counts as late. Notes do count as homework assignments. There will be note checks throughout the year.

Re-Do Work / Extra Credit: You can fix any homework and tests and re-turn them in for half credit. There will be extra credit opportunities on most homework assignments; take advantage of them!

** A homework assignment for this class is going to be to attend a town and/or school board meeting. You will need to attend one meeting per semester (2 for the year). You will need to bring a printed agenda from the meeting that was signed and dated by a board member, trustee, or principal or superintendent that was at the meeting. This is a mandatory assignment.

Participation: You will get a weekly participation grade. You are expected to do what is asked of you in class. This includes answering questions, working during work time, following class rules etc. You should consider yourself part of our team. It is important for you to actively participate in class to help yourself and others learn the material. If you have questions, speak up! Chances are if you are confused about something someone else is too. Mistakes will happen; it is through mistakes we learn.

** A part of your participation grade will be based on your participation in a weekly current events game. You will need to stay up to date weekly on current events (news). This will range from news stories in politics, entertainment, sports, etc. The game will be played every Friday and will be part of your grade.

*** You need to familiarize yourself with skyward and how to check your grades regularly.

TIPS FOR SUCCESS!

1. Use Your Planner!! Even if we don't have homework, write down what was done in class. This will help you stay caught up on assignments and will help you understand "where we are".
2. Makeup work is your responsibility. Check assignment board and due dates regularly. Talk to your classmates to find out what you missed. Ask Mrs. Miller for an explanation or if there is anything else you are responsible for in getting caught up. You need to take responsibility. There is NO EXCUSE for not knowing what is going on.
3. Tests, quizzes, and assignments are based on assigned readings, lectures, and class discussion. Task completion and participation will be a key for success.
4. Always do your best. Never be afraid to ask for help.

Homework Assignment:

Return this page of the syllabus signed by Friday, September 6th.

I have read and understand the syllabus:

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____