***Ms. Nicol Gonzalez***

***Civics/ Civics (ADV)***

***2021-2022 SYLLABUS***

***Somerset Academy South Homestead Middle/High***

***Email:*** [***ngonzalez@somersetacademysh.com***](mailto:ngonzalez@somersetacademysh.com)

***Room 220***

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to provide students with a practical knowledge and understanding of the study of the American government, and its direct connection to its citizens. It’s important for students to connect with the democratic process as citizens of the United States.

Students will be able to apply knowledge of the US Constitution and demonstrate their understanding of how the American system of government functions on the local, state and national levels as well as the impact on individual citizens. Students will also be able to demonstrate their understanding that US citizens have both rights and responsibilities in order for our government to maintain order in our society

**Grading Policy:**

1. **A**=90-100
2. **B**=80-89
3. **C**=70-79
4. **D**=60-69
5. **F**=0-59

**Grading Scale:**

The grading scale is as follows:

Students will be assessed in the following areas: classwork (5%), homework (5%), quizzes (20%), projects (15%), online components (15%), and tests (40%).

**Learning Outcomes:**

By successfully completing the seventh grade, students will have a mastery of several different subject-specific and cross-curricular skills. Students will be able to establish a purpose for reading, make inferences and predictions, use self-questioning to promote active reading, and identify cause and effect relationships.

**Course Expectations:**

There will be a major assignment due every 2 weeks whether it be a test, report, or a project. All students will be given 2 additional days to make up a major assignment if late (with a progressive grade penalty of 5 points per day).

Students with an excused absence from school will have the opportunity to make up missing work at the rate of one day for one day missed, with a maximum of five days. Students who are absent but had prior notice of a major assignment must complete the assignment on the first day back to school. Students will receive a zero for any major or minor assignment not made up within the allotted time.

Statement for Academic Dishonesty: Academic integrity is fundamental to the activities and principles of our school.  *No student shall cheat or copy the work of another. Plagiarism; the use of another person's original ideas or writings as one's own without giving credit to the true author, will be considered cheating and the student will be subject to academic discipline that may include loss of credit for the work in question.*

**Homework Policy:**

Homework will be given Monday through Thursday. Students will be required to read 20 minutes each night in addition to 25 minutes of other assigned homework.

**Required Supplies:**

5-Subject Notebook

Composition Book (Journal)

College-Ruled Paper

Blue/Black Ink Pens

Copy Paper

Bring you own Computers to class

**Notebook:**

You will be responsible for maintaining your Notebook throughout the year. The purpose of creating these notebooks is to help you organize your material and to make sure you have this material to study for unit and semester tests. It is your responsibility to keep your notebook up to date so that you can find your materials quickly and to be able to review prior to a test.

**CLASSROOM NORMS/EXPECTATIONS: What Works for Me**

*EVERYONE WILL HAVE ASSIGNED SEATS.*

●      RESPECT—Respect others, their property, and their right to learn.  Students are expected to treat other classmates and the teacher with respect and courtesy.

●      RESPONSIBILITY—Come to class every day with the required materials. Be prepared and ready to participate. If you are absent from class, you are responsible for your make-up work. I will not hunt you down.

●      BELL-TO-BELL—Be seated and on task when the bell rings and wait for me to dismiss you (not the bell) at the end of the period.

●      ASSIGNMENTS—Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Please place in designated class period trays at-back of the room.

* PROFANITY- NO profanity will be tolerated!

●      LEAVING THE ROOM—Visit the restroom, water fountain, etc., on your own time. If you must leave the room, first ask permission and passes will be given at teacher’s discretion.

●      CELL PHONES—See above information regarding “respect.” Unless I direct you to use them, they need to be put away in the bin provided or in your bookbag. Any phones out without permission will be confiscated and will be given back at the end of the class.

**Electronic Devices:**

Electronic devices (computers) will only be able to be used for educational purposes at allocated times.

**Disciplinary Plan:**

Below you will find a reference table that outlines each step of the disciplinary plan and its corresponding consequence.

| **Offenses** | **Consequences** |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Verbal Warning |
| 2 | Behavior Notification ,  Parent Contact |
| 3 | Grade Level Appropriate Essay , Behavior Notification ,  Detention Issued- Wednesday after school |
| 4 | Detention Issued- to be held Saturday, Parent Contact |
| 5 | Referral-sent to office  Anything after will be dealt by administration and parents. |

**Communication:**

Email and direct message are the best way to contact me. My email address is: [ngonzalez@sometacademysh.com](mailto:ngonzalez@sometacademysh.com). I will make every effort to respond to any communication within 24 hours or through Colegia direct messages. It is our policy to contact you regularly to share successes and to discuss challenges experienced by your child.

**Class Topics:**

Citizenship and Government in a Democracy

Roots of American Democracy

The Constitution

The Bill of Rights

The Citizen and the Community

Civil and Criminal Law

Political Parties and Politics

Voting and Elections

Influencing Government

State Government

Citizenship and the Internet

Congress

The President and the Executive Branch

The Judicial Branch

Local Government

Dealing With Community Issues

Legal Rights and Responsibilities

What is Economics?

The American Economy

Demand and Supply

Business and Labor

Government and the Economy

Money and Banking