



**KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES**

**HIGH SCHOOL COURSE SYLLABUS
U.S. GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (240110)**

Number of Credits: .5

Prerequisites

None

Course Description

This course is a survey of the U.S. Government Structure, systems and political processes focusing on constitutional structures and foundations. Content will include factors that influence U.S. Government. This course prepares students to become responsible/aware members of American society.

Relevance

U.S Government and Politics is a core academic course for graduation. Students in their pursuit of developing civic competence will develop an understanding of structure of power, authority, governance and their evolving function in contemporary U.S. society. Through the study of U.S. Government and Politics, a student will continue to develop their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills that will provide leverage and value in other academic disciplines and provide enduring skills for life beyond high school.

Course Standards

Standard A: Geography

Standard B: History

Standard C: Political Science and Citizenship

Standard D: Economics

Standard E: Behavioral Science

Standard F: Social Studies Processes

Most essential benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Lifelong Learning Standards

- Knowledgeable person
- Effective communicator
- Quality producer
- Complex thinker
- Self-directed learner
- Contributing citizen

Lifelong learning benchmarks may be viewed at: www.kusd.edu.

Course Outline

- I. Origins of the American Government
- II. The U.S. Constitution
- III. The U.S. Congress
- IV. The Presidency
- V. The Courts
- VI. Bureaucracies
- VII. The Media
- VIII. State and Local Government

Board-Approved Instructional Materials

Remy, Richard C., United States Government: Democracy in Action. Glencoe McGraw Hill, 2002

Parents as Partners

Encourage your son or daughter to read the newspaper and follow the news as it pertains to political developments. Encourage your son or daughter to become involved at any level in student government. Encourage reading about famous people of interest, particularly politicians. Go to www.kusd.edu and click on High School library Online subscription for reading, research, and other educational opportunities.

Methods of Assessment

Final exams should be cumulative in nature, emphasizing the most essential benchmarks for the course. Results of the final exam represent 20 percent of the final grade, but this single measure *may not* drop a student's grade by more than one letter grade. In courses that rely heavily on a major project, performance exhibition, etc., the project should be divided into stages or components and each of those should be graded separately, providing students with frequent and specific feedback.

Board-Approved Grading Scale

Excerpts taken from School Board Rule 6452

GRADING SCALE

A+=98-100 percent	B+=86-89 percent	C+=76-79 percent	D+=66-69 percent
A=93-97 percent	B=83-85 percent	C=73-75 percent	D=63-65 percent
A-=90-92 percent	B-=80-82 percent	C-=70-72 percent	D-=60-62 percent
			F=0-59 percent

MAKE-UP WORK

Students submitting work up to ten school days late without prior approval may receive up to two grades lower on the work than they would have received if the work had been submitted on time (i.e., B+ lowered to A D+). Student work submitted after ten school days without prior approval shall not be accepted for credit and shall be recorded with a score of zero.

Upon returning to school after an absence, a student has the responsibility within the number of days equal to the length of the absence or suspension to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. A truant student has the responsibility on the first day he or she returns to the course/class to meet with the teacher to develop a plan for making up missed work, quizzes, and examinations. Lower grades may not be given for late work due to excused absences, suspension, or truancy unless the work is submitted later than agreed upon deadlines.

See Rule 6452 in its entirety at: www.kusd.edu.



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