

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
KAMIAKIN HIGH SCHOOL  
FALL 2016-2017  
Web Page: chadpotter.weebly.com**

This course will introduce students to the philosophical tenets, institutions and functions of the American political system.

Units of study:

- I. Ideological Background
- II. Election Processes
- III. Legislative Branch
- IV. Executive Branch
- V. Judicial Branch

Materials: **Textbook: American Government (Magruder 2010)**

Various videos from Learn360, Safari Montage, and Discovery Classroom

Various newspaper and magazine articles

Film: 13 Days Rated PG-13 (edited for language)

**GRADING (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Quarters):**

- Quarter grade will consist of the following:
  1. Homework
  2. Quizzes and Tests
  3. Daily Participation
- Semester grade will include:  
10% Final Exam  
10% Semester Project  
80% Q1 & Q2 Combined

**Grade Scale:**

A = 93-100%	B+ = 87-89%	C+ = 77-79%	D+ = 67-69%
A- = 90-92%	B = 83-86%	C = 73-76%	D = 60-66%

B- = 80-82%      C- = 70-72%      F = 0-59%

**Extra Credit**

- Extra credit activities may be offered during the semester as appropriate academic opportunities arise

**Behavioral expectations:**

- No talking during instruction. Asking appropriate questions about the material being covered is encouraged. As classes can be quite large, the raising of hands becomes necessary. Peer harassment (including verbal, gestures, or physical) will not be tolerated. No profanity is allowed in this classroom.
- Food and beverages (except water) will not be allowed in class.

- **No inappropriate use of cell phones or head phones are allowed in class. Phones and head phones will be confiscated if abused**
- Disruptive behavior will result in the following steps:
  - Verbal warning
  - One on one discussion
  - Office referral
  - Parent conference
  - Removal from class
- Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the class period unless otherwise stated. Late work will NOT be accepted without an acceptable excuse for absence or tardiness.
- Attendance and attitude are important. In order to participate in class, students must attend class. Refer to the “Student Attendance Policy” in the student planner. Please don’t let attendance problems keep you from passing this required course. **Please refer to RCW 28A.600.030**
- Make up tests will be given if the missing work was missed due to an excused absence or tardy. It will be done in classroom before or after school or during instructors planning period. You will have as many days as you were absent to complete your make up work. It is best to make arrangements ahead of time with instructor to do make up work.
- Cheating will not be tolerated. Cheating will result in a grade of zero points. Copying the assigned work of another student is just as much cheating as copying an answer on a test. When taking tests, students must attend only to their own papers, keeping those papers on the desk in front of them and taking reasonable care to not let other students see their tests.
- Students are to be in class when the bell rings. Tardiness causes disruption of the class and is to be avoided. Repeated unexcused tardiness will result in disciplinary actions.
- Students are expected to behave in accordance with the guidelines outlined in the student planner.

After reading the class syllabus for U.S. Government class, please sign below and return to your instructor. By signing, you are giving your consent for your young adult to view the videos and films for this course. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent phone (Work/Home): \_\_\_\_\_

Please take a note of contact information:

Sincerely,

Chad Potter

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