

U.S. Government (Half Credit Course—9 weeks)

Instructor: Ms. Skelly

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REMIND CODE: _____
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Course Description:

U.S. Government Studies the principles of the American system of government so that you can understand the rights and responsibilities that come with U.S. citizenship. The course teaches you what the Constitution really means and looks at the various branches of government and the roles they play. You will also learn how laws are enacted and how your civil rights are protected under law.

*The Alabama High School Course of Study will guide the class calendar. Access your standards at :
<http://alex.state.al.us/browseSS.php>*

Rules

1. **Be ON TIME** to class. This means **SEATED AND WORKING WHEN THE BELL RINGS.** If you are in the room but **OUT OF YOUR SEAT** without permission when the bell rings, you are **TARDY**. No exceptions, no discussions, no arguments. You can do it!

*The procedures for tardies may be found in the Parent-Student Information Guide.

2. **Be ON TASK** at all times. **LISTEN** carefully when directions are given and follow them closely. **STAY IN YOUR SEAT** unless instructed otherwise. A participation grade will be obtained through ClassDojo.

*A student who chooses to sleep, talk, text, work on assignments for other classes, etc. will have points deducted.

3. **NO FOOD** or **DRINKS** during instruction. This gets both you and your classmates off task and has the potential to create a mess, and spread germs. *only bottles of water with lids are acceptable

*Clean up after yourself. If you make or see a mess, **DO NOT BE AFRAID TO TELL THE TEACHER.**

4. **Electronic devices should be stored AWAY** unless given permission to use. I have a charging station at the front of the room. Once phones are on the charge they are not touched or moved until the end of class. On **TEST** days **ALL** phones must be placed in the phone caddy for the duration of the block period.

5. **Go to the restroom BEFORE or AFTER class.** Students have multiple opportunities throughout the day. **DO NOT** come into the classroom to put down your belongings, then ask to go the restroom. My answer will be “don’t be tardy”

6. **You must RESPECT your classmates**, the teacher, and yourselves. Respect others’ opinions, ideas, belongings, personal space, etc. Disrespect will not be tolerated. Be kind; be courteous. Always remember: It’s Nice to be Nice!

Note: All other school rules apply. Consult your Student/Parent Information Guide. *

Materials: Students need to bring **ALL** material to **EVERY** class.

Required Material	*Requested Materials
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Three ring binder with dividers ---<i>Bellwork</i> ---<i>Notes/classwork</i> ---<i>Vocab./map</i>• Paper• Pens/Pencils• **Color pencils/markers (optional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clorox wipes• Kleenex Tissues• Paper towels

TEXTBOOK:

United States Government *Democracy in Action* (Glencoe) textbook will be used in class.

Grading:

Grading will be calculated on a point system that includes major grade (tests/projects) and daily grades (quizzes, class work, homework, bell work). At the completion of each nine weeks students will take a final cumulative exam (exemptions based on TCSSBOE policy). Virtual assignments through Schoology and/or in class assignments will be tabulated for a comprehensive grade in PowerSchool *****THIS IS A 9 WEEK, HALF CREDIT COURSE.*****

Attendance and Make-up Work:

- Students are expected to attend class in accordance with the attendance policy listed in the Code of Student Conduct.
- We will be following the TCOBE policies.
- Make up work will be available on the back counter in a file box (with a pink label). Students are expected to check this box and the class calendar after they have been out for any missed assignments. Make up test/quizzes should be rescheduled with Ms. Skelly after school.

Expectations

- Tests will be given at the end of a unit study. Students will know in advance about an upcoming test. The test format will include multiple choices, matching, true/false, identification, short discussion. All major points assignments (including tests) will be on the class calendar in Schoology and in the classroom.
- Projects may be assigned throughout the year. Students will have to use teamwork, internet resources and information given in class to complete projects. All projects will be graded using a rubric.
- Participation is required and students will receive weekly points. Participation will be based on actively participating in class discussion, activities, or Schoology assignments.
- Homework and assignments are due at the beginning of class in the basket near my desk. **Late work (any assignment turned in after initial collection) will have points docked
- All class work is due at the end of class unless accommodations have been allowed for extension. Extensions will be completed for homework and must be turned in at the beginning of class the following school day.

Discipline Procedures:

All discipline issues will follow the Tuscaloosa County School System along with Hillcrest High School's Code of Conduct.

Code of Academic Honor and Integrity:

Each student is required to abide by the *Hillcrest High School Code of Academic Honor and Integrity*. The *Honor Code* is outlined below.

Hillcrest High School Code of Academic Honor and Integrity**Statement of Purpose**

At Hillcrest High School, we build excellence one Patriot at a time by conducting ourselves with honor in all aspects of academic and personal life. This code is established to foster an authentic learning culture where teachers and students seek academic, social, and personal integrity.

Mission Statement

Building Excellence, One Patriot at a Time.

Honor Statement

As a Hillcrest Patriot, I have neither given nor received inappropriate aid on this assignment/test.

Honor Pledge

As a Hillcrest Patriot, I pledge to conduct myself with integrity by upholding the principles of the Honor Code.

Schoology and Contact Information:

- **Students:** If you have a question or would like additional help do not hesitate to ask. I can be reached by Remind, e-mail jmskelly@tcss.net, or through Schoology.
- **Parents:** To monitor student progress, grades, and assignments please check PowerSchool online as much as you prefer. For nightly homework, class notes, study guides and assignments students should keep an up-to-date agenda that reflects the class calendar. At any time should you have a question or concern, I would encourage you to e-mail me at jmskelly@tcss.net.

– Ms. Skelly