



Government Honors Syllabus

Course Details

Course Code: 333000HH

Subject: Social Studies

Required Prerequisites: None

Suggested Prerequisites: Students of U.S. Government Honors should have prior learning experience with Social Studies courses, such as United States and South Carolina Studies, and World Civilization in the lower grade levels, and the United States History in the high school level.

Recommended Grade Levels: 11th or 12th grade

Duration: Semester

Course Availability: A listing of when this course is offered in the current school year can be found on the [VirtualSC Current Course Offerings page \(opens in a new window\)](#).

Class Times: This course has scheduled instructional meetings. Information on scheduled meetings for each course is communicated by the teacher. Recordings of these meetings will be available for students unable to attend. Students should expect to spend 7-9 hours a week working on this course independently, in addition to any live meetings, and are expected to meet the deadlines posted in the course pacing guide.

Textbook: [American Government \(opens in a new window\)](#). *US History.org*, 2017. Accessed 8 Nov. 2016. [[CC BY 4.0 \(opens in a new window\)](#)]

Required Course Materials: None

Outside Websites: A list of links to websites and online textbooks used in this course can be found here: [VirtualSC Course Links Document Folder \(opens in a new window\)](#). Students will need to be able to access all these links to view all course materials.

Final Exam: Students in this course take a VirtualSC final exam. Details on scheduling and taking final exams can be found on the [Final Exam Page \(opens in a new window\)](#) of the VirtualSC webpage.

Course Description

Many topics in the news every day are about the United States government. Domestic and foreign policy issues, such as the response to the COVID crisis and the actions of U.S. troops around the world, create headlines daily. To be an informed, contributing member of society, you need a working knowledge of how the government functions and how it impacts lives. In this course, you will learn the foundations of democracy, the structure of government, the political process as well as the rights and responsibilities of a citizen of the United States. You will practice critical thinking skills that will prepare you not only for college but also for the rest of your life.

The curriculum used in this course is guided by the 2020 [Social Studies College and Career Readiness Standards \(opens in a new window\)](#).

Scope and Sequence

- Orientation & Introduction
- Unit 01 - The Nature of Government
- Unit 02 - Foundations of American Government
- Unit 03 - Federalism
- Unit 04 - American Political Attitudes and Participation
- Unit 05 - How Do Citizens Connect with Their Government?
- Unit 06 - Congress: The People's Branch?
- Unit 07 - The Presidency: The Leadership Branch?
- Unit 08 - The Bureaucracy: The Real Government
- Unit 09 - The Judicial Branch
- Unit 10 - Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- Unit 11 - Policy Making: Political Interactions
- Unit 12 - State and Local Government

Students will be sent a full list of assignments and their due dates at the beginning of the course.

Current pacing guides for this course can be found on the [Current Course Offerings page \(opens in a new window\)](#) on the VirtualSC website.

Course Grades

The final grade in this course results from the following:

- Coursework: 80%
- Final Project: 10%
- Final Exam: 10%

Each unit in this course counts equally (approximately 8.33% each) towards your coursework grade.

VirtualSC Details

Information on VirtualSC student guidelines, policies and technology requirements can be found in the [VirtualSC Student Support Portal \(opens in a new window\)](#).