

# Middle School Civics, Government, and Economics

## Course Overview and Syllabus

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**Course Number:** SS2049

**Grade level:** 6-8

**Prerequisite Courses:** None

**Credits:** 1.0

### Course Description

Exploring the structure of the United States government on a national, state, and local level, this course challenges students to learn and understand fundamental concepts and philosophies that led to the creation of the United States Constitution. Students enrolled in this two-semester course analyze the political process, political parties, and influences that affect them both. Engaging, interactive content introduces economic concepts and encourages students to explore government and economics on a global scale. By instilling a thorough understanding of government and economics, this course inspires students to investigate what it means to be an American citizen.

### Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Explain what it means to be an American citizen and summarize the duties and responsibilities of citizens
- Demonstrate key understandings about the U.S. Constitution, including the principles behind it, its importance as the supreme law of the land, its structure, and how it is amended
- Examine the roles and responsibilities of government, at the federal, state, and local level
- Compare and contrast the major political parties in the United States and describe the presidential electoral process
- Examine the principles that underpin the U.S. economic system, and describe the effects of globalization on the world economy
- Explore a variety of career possibilities and discuss the role of education in providing the skills needed in the job market
- Use social studies skills to access, interpret, and apply information from a variety of sources

### Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks

- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

## Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, email, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on project, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop speaking and listening skills.

## Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	10%
Lesson Quizzes	20%
Unit Tests	50%
Cumulative Exams	20%
Additional	0%

## Scope and Sequence

When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson's link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below:

**Unit 1:** Introduction to Civics

**Unit 2:** The United States Constitution

**Unit 3:** Branches of Government

**Unit 4:** Government on the State and Local Level

**Unit 5:** The Role of the Citizen

**Unit 6:** Citizens and the Political Process

**Unit 7:** Economics

**Unit 8:** Global Government and Economics