

Civics Literacy

Course Description:

The state of North Carolina has designed Civics and Economics to teach students the skills and knowledge necessary to become effective citizens. This semester-long course examines citizenship, government, politics, law, and economics in the United States. The study of Civics Literacy is crucially important to students as the world we live in experiences such massive political, social, and economic change. This course is required for graduation and will equip students with the basics needed to function in our society as a responsible citizen.

Essential Objectives/Standards:

- **First Grading Period**
 - Students will be able to outline early American history from the time of the first British colonies to the development of the US Constitution
 - Students will recognize the US Constitution as the “supreme law of the land” and be able to describe how the Constitution organizes the framework of our government
 - Students will be able to identify the three branches of the federal government and describe how each branch can “check and balance” the powers of the other branches
 - Students will be able to identify the principles that form the foundation of American democracy
- **Second Grading Period**
 - Students will examine the role of government at the national, state, and local levels and describe how all three share governing duties
 - Students will be able to identify the foundations of the American political system and understand the role of political parties in making policy
 - Students will examine the foundations of the American legal system and understand the role of the legal system in upholding our laws and settling disagreements
- **Third Grading Period**
 - Understand the role of government in both federal and state economies.
 - Explain how the role federal and state governments play in economic decision-making impacts economic mobility, status, and quality of life of individuals living in America.
 - Summarize the role of the United States and North Carolina in the world economy.

Major Evaluative Techniques:

Evaluation will be comprised of assessments of learning course objectives and standards by comparing/contrasting, understanding cause and effect, as well as analysis. Assessments will include participation in class discussion and group activities, group/individual presentations, individual assignments/projects.

Rules and Requirements:

A. Everyone must do their part to make the classroom a learning community. Attendance is paramount to your success. Adhere to SWHS rules and policies in the handbook. Respect and responsibility are critical to accomplish course objectives.

- * **Be punctual**
- * **Be responsible**
- * **Be polite**
- * **Be involved**
- * **Be prepared**
- * **Be respectful**

B. Behavior infractions will result in the following consequences:

1. **Verbal warning**
2. **Student conference**
3. **Parental contact**
4. **Discipline Write Up**

C. Bring necessary material to participate in class each day, a planner (optional), three ring binder, folder, or notebook, writing instruments, and laptop (make sure laptop is charged every day). Being organized is the key to be successful in this class and in life.

Grading Policy/Procedures

Evaluation will be based on active participation, preparation, performance, and quality of work. Methods of evaluation may include teacher evaluation, self-evaluation, and/or group evaluation.

A. A total point system is used whereby assignments are given a point value. The percentage grade of any assignment can be determined by dividing the number of points earned by the number of points possible.

B. Complete all assignments on time.

- Absences: take responsibility to obtain and make up work missed due to absences. All work will be on Teams and will be placed in the Absent work channel on Teams.
- Late work is accepted at the discretion of the teacher.
- Extra credit is not given on an individual basis or for students who choose not to complete assigned work.

Dear Students and Parents

Welcome to Civics Literacy. My name is Jaimie Hall, and I am your student's Civics teacher for this semester. Your student has received a syllabus for my class, we have gone over rules/expectations for my classroom, and my grading policy, please read over and if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

I strongly encourage you to read over the attached syllabus with your child and the necessary materials they need. Please be an active participant in your child's learning. Students need encouragement and positive feedback to be successful.

To guarantee a means of effective communication please fill out the bottom portion and mark down which method of contact works best for you, detach, and send back with your student.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the school or email me.

Thank you,

Jaimie Hall

jaimie.hall@onslow.k12.nc.us

Student Name Printed _____

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Name Printed _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent/Guardian contact information _____
