



# Franklin High School Government 2019-2020

## Contact Information

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Marc Appell</b>	<b>Substitute (Aug-Oct):</b>	<b>Geoffrey Greene</b>
<b>Rooms:</b>	<b>SS-014/M-131</b>	<b>Email:</b>	<b>ggreene@pps.net</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>(503) 916-5140 Ext. 84427</b>		
<b>Email:</b>	<b>mappell@pps.net</b>		

## **Course Description:**

This semester long required course is designed to establish an understanding of the structure, function, and responsibilities of our federal, state, and local governments. We will look at why and how our government works (or doesn't). We will gain tools that will help you enter the marketplace of ideas and the marketplace of goods as an educated participant. We will use past and present political, social, and economic issues to better understand the U.S. government and the world we live in today.

## **Class Objectives**

- Students will learn to gather, analyze, use, and document information from various sources, distinguishing facts, opinions, inferences, biases, stereotypes, and persuasive appeals during short and extended research projects. In addition, students will analyze an event, issue, problem, or phenomenon, identifying characteristics, influences, causes, and both short- and long-term effects during our in-class assignments and discussions. Students will understand:
- The responsibilities of citizens (e.g., vote, pay taxes)
- The role of government in various current events
- The pluralistic realities of society (e.g., race, poverty, gender, and age), recognizing issues of equity, and evaluating the need for change
- Documents and decisions related to the Constitution and Supreme Court decisions (e.g., Federalist Papers, Constitution, Marbury v. Madison, Bill of Rights, Constitutional amendments, Declaration of Independence)
- Foreign policy and evaluate its impact on the United States and other countries

## **Schedule of Topics/Units Covered:**

Principles of Government  
Forms of Government  
The US Constitution  
The Three branches of government  
The Bill of Rights  
Federalism  
Political Parties  
Voting participation  
State and local government  
Political engagement

**Proficiency Grading Scale:** All assignments and assessments will be based on a 10 point scale. Students will be able to repeat summative assessments one time during a tutorial period in order to improve their grade and demonstrate improved proficiency. Students may receive decimal grades on assignments to more accurately reflect their levels of proficiency (Example: 8.5= student is *proficient* and close to *highly proficient*)

<i>Highly Proficient</i>	<i>Proficient</i>	<i>Close to Proficient</i>	<i>Developing Proficiency</i>
9-10 (A)	8 (B)	7 (C)	0-6 (D-F)

**Weighting of Grades:**

Summative assessments such as tests, quizzes, essays, projects, and presentations will make up **60%** of the grade in this class. Formative assessments such as daily class work, discussions, and homework will make up **40%** of the grade in this class.

**Materials:**

1. Spiral or Composition Notebook: Students will be responsible for taking rigorous in-class notes in a spiral or composition notebook.
2. Folder
3. Pencil or pen

**Classroom Textbook:** students will have access to the textbook in class and will not be required to check one out from the library. Individual checkout is optional.

- Magruder's American Government

**Modifications and Accommodations:**

Students with IEP's and 504's will be permitted appropriate modifications and accommodations. TAG students will be provided opportunities for extended assignments and independent learning opportunities.

**Absences & Tardies**

When you are absent, it is your responsibility to get and complete any work you missed. The best way to do that is to look on the class calendar/website. If you miss a test, it is your responsibility to make up that test as soon as you return, outside of the regular period. Be on time to class.

**Cheating and Plagiarism**

Work you turn in needs to be your own. Cheating on or plagiarizing work will result in a consequence decided after a conversation with you, myself, and Student Management. As well, the dishonest work you turned in will not be accepted. If the work was formative, you will be given no credit and will NOT be allowed to make it up. If the work was summative, you will be allowed to make up that assessment for reduced credit.

**Cell Phones in Class**

As per the Student Handbook, cell phone usage in class is forbidden except when allowed by the teacher for academic purposes. Failure to follow these rules will result in the loss of such privilege and/or confiscation.

**Behavior** The way in which we'll all speak to one another in this class will be done with inclusivity, respect, and empathy. Everyone's story is valid and language that devalues someone's identity will not be tolerated. Instead, we will use language that respects all races, genders, and sexual orientations.

**We Strive to be Thoughtful, Responsible, Organized, Neighborly, & Generous**