

Government Survey Course Description

The changing face of our government and our globe

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By the Time this class is finished students should have a basic survey of:

- A) What and why is government?
- B) How our government works- including a basic history, and a current perspective
- C) Citizenship.

3) Texts to be used

- ~Government handbook
- ~The Everything Government Book
- ~Relevant Websites

4) Grades will be based on

- 1) Handbook completion ~100 pts.
- 2) Weekly Paper (4)~50 pts. each
- 3) Final Test (take home) ~50 pts.
- 4) Participation in discussions ~50 pts.
- 5) Final Project – 100 pts

Total 500

All papers should be 2-5 pages, typed, and double spaced.

5) Field Trips: Dates & Descriptions

The Oregon Historical Museum, Courthouse

6) Weekly Schedule

Week 1

What is the function of government? History~ King, Parliament, Founders, 3 branches, constitution, bill of rights.

Paper: Pick and amendment-who, what, when, where, why.

Week 2

Why is it good? Democracy vs. Republic, the party system, legislation and lobbying.

Paper: What are some other systems of government (at least 4)? Compare and contrast.

Week 3

What is wrong with government? Where does it restrict us? The electoral college, the 2000 election, cooperate government, citizenship. Nationalism vs. Patriotism. Who are the major figures in governments and why are they significant.

Paper: Current event of your choice. -who, what, when, where, why.

Week 4

Design your own government? ~Letters to officials ~City, state and country improvements ~Create a way to engage civic involvement

Paper: Profile a government all star -who, what, when, where, why.

Week 5

Presentation of group projects, and findings. Summary Class discussions, Summery writings.

Daily Class Break Down

- A) Class discussion about thought ideas about the readings and what's being learned (50 minutes)
- B) Access the readings/projects on your own (50minutes)
- C) Reconvene as a class for the final discussion (5 minutes)

Videos

- ~The West Wing
- ~Bowling For Columbine
- ~Frontline

