



**UNION GROVE HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Course Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Kristen Tilson                      **Room #:** 123                      **Year:** 2021-2022

**Course Name and Code:** Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics

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*This is the best way to contact me.*

**Textbooks Used:** AMSCO. *United States Government and Politics*, 2nd edition, 2019.

**Supplementary Texts or Special Materials:**

- 1 ½ or 2 inch binder
- highlighter
- pen/pencil
- post-it/sticky notes (\*optional for taking notes in textbook)

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**Course Description:** AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, and interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study the U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court Decisions, and other text visuals to gain an understanding of relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project.

**Course Outline and Content:** AP U.S. Government and Politics is equivalent to a one-semester introductory college course in U.S. Government. The units are as follows:

- Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy
- Unit 2: Interactions Among the Branches of Government
- Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- Unit 4: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs
- Unit 5: Political Participation

**AP students are strongly encouraged to take the national examination.**

**Special Assignments and Projects:** Students will maintain a notebook for class.

- Quizzes will be given at the discretion of the teacher and may either be announced or unannounced.

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*Unity      Grit      Helpfulness      Self-Respect*

- Tests and/or projects will be given at the end of each unit. The tests will be similar in form to the AP exam to prepare the students for the test.
- Semester exams will be given at the end of each semester.

**Classroom Rules and Discipline Procedures:** All students must adhere to the rules and expectations outlined in the Henry County Schools student handbook and the Union Grove High School student handbook addendum.

**Hall Pass Policy:** Students are required to utilize and display the standard issued UGHS pass at all times while out of the classroom, failure to do so will result in disciplinary consequences. Students are also required to fill out the Google form prior to leaving the classroom and document their return time on the same form. Teachers will not give out hall passes during the first ten minutes or last ten minutes of class. It is the teacher’s discretion to allow or deny a hall pass request.

**Chromebook Policy:** It is an expectation for students to have their charged Chromebook with them every day. Failure to do so will be regarded as “not being prepared for class.”

**Make-up Policy:** You are responsible for finding out what you missed and making up the work.

1. Make-up and absences policy can be found in the student handbook.
2. Excused absences may have one day per excused absence to complete missed work.

**Grading System:**

Semester Grading (A)	Semester Grading (B)
<p>1<sup>st</sup> Semester Grading Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· 40 % Assessment Tasks (Tests &amp; Projects)</li> <li>· 40% Practice Work (Quizzes, Homework, Classwork)</li> <li>· 20 % Final Exam</li> </ul>	<p>2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Grading Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· 40 % Assessment Tasks (Tests &amp; Projects)</li> <li>· 40% Minor Assignments (Quizzes, Homework, Classwork)</li> <li>· 20 % Final Exam</li> </ul>

**Cell Phone/Electronic Device Policy:**

The cell phone/electronic device policy begins when students enter the designated classroom area. All students will place all cell phones/devices in the teacher assigned caddy. During this time, cell phones must be turned off. Additionally, all smart watches or other electronic devices connected to the phone must be caddied until the end of class. Cell phones/devices will remain caddied until the end of class. Students will NOT be allowed to take their phones/devices out of the room when they have a hall pass to the restroom, media center, etc. Students will be allowed to use cell phones/devices before first period, during lunch, and during class transition.

**On Time Policy:**

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In order to be considered “on time” to class, the student must be across the threshold of the classroom or designated classroom area by the end of the tardy bell.

**Unit Repair Plan:**

Unit Repair is not offered for honors and AP classes.

**Exam Exemption:**

To encourage and reward excellent attendance, each student may earn the right to exempt one (1) spring semester non-state required final exam. Each student must meet clear guidelines to qualify for this exemption. Please see our school website for all requirements and guidelines.

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**\*\* Please sign off on Google form that you have read and understand the information above.**