

Civics Course Description

Description:

Civics is a one semester, required course for freshmen. This course will serve as a preview to your other required social studies courses and as a key building block for your 12th Grade Government course. Students will be expected to stay informed on current events.

Website: <https://mrsbohlwchs.weebly.com/>

Learning Management Systems: Google Classroom

Textbook & Support Readings: *We The People* (Center for Civic Education);
The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation

Materials:

You should bring your Mac (charged), headphones (ear buds), notebook, and pencil or pen everyday to class. I will let you know if additional materials are needed for class. You may want to have a folder.

Classroom Procedures:

- *Be in the classroom before the bell rings to start class
- *Place cell phones in pocket chart when entering room
- *Be in assigned seat when the bell rings
- *Record weekly activities in student planners
- *Quietly work on the posted Daily Bell Ringer when the 2nd bell rings
- *Headphones and other electronic devices should not be used during class unless otherwise indicated
- *Other classroom expectations such as restroom (hallway) passes and makeup work will be discussed during class

Grading: Your grade will be focused on how well you master the South Dakota Civics Content Standards. All classroom activities and assignments (C.A.); special projects (S.P.), and unit tests (U.T.) will relate back to your understanding of one or more of these standards. Your quarter grade is based on a percentage that is determined by the number of points you have earned for the class divided by the number of points that was possible. We will use the high school grading scale. Your semester grade will be determined as follows: 1st Quarter (40%); 2nd Quarter (40%); Semester Assessments (20%). You may access your in progress grade through Infinite Campus.

(Continued on Back)

Course Units & Essential Questions:

Unit 1: Introduction to Civics

- *What is the purpose of government?**
- *What are the types of government?**

Unit 2: Early Historical Influences on American Democracy

- *What experiences shaped the Founder's thinking about government?**
- *What are the fundamental principles of American democracy?**

Unit 3: The Philadelphia Convention & U.S. Constitution Overview

- *What happened at the Philadelphia Convention?**
- *Why is the U.S. Constitution known as a "Bundle of Compromises"?**

Unit 4: The Organization the United States Government

- *What are the basic principles of the U.S. Constitution?**
- *How is the U.S. Government designed to separate and divide powers?**

Unit 5: The Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

- *What are the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship?**
- *How does the U.S. Constitution protect basic rights?**

Unit 6: Global Applications

- *What is the role of the United States in global relations?**
- *What international organization does the United States belong?**

Comprehensive Assessments:

- *U.S. Citizenship Test**
- **Who is a Good Citizen?* Short Essay**
- **We The People* Mock Congressional Hearing**
- *Vocabulary Test**
- *Traditional Semester Test**