COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT

MR. ROCKEFELLER – 19th Year

**KAMIAKIN HIGH SCHOOL**

**Fall 2018**

This course will introduce students to the philosophical tenets, institutions and functions of the American political system.

**Units of study:** I. Ideological Background IV. Executive Branch

II. Election Processes V. Judicial Branch

III. Legislative Branch

Materials: “Magruder’s” *American Government* - textbook

Various newspaper and magazine articles

**Class Website:** https://kahs-rock.weebly.com

Includes calendar, links to all assignments, online text, bonus assignments, remind101, etc.

**Grade Scale: This class is a graduation requirement.**

93=A 87=B+ 80=B- 73=C 67=D+

90=A- 83=B 77=C+ 70=C- 60=D

**1st Quarter, 2nd Quarter, and Semester Grade:**

* All class assignment, homework, quizzes, and tests will be “Total Points.” Your points earned divided by total number of points possible equals the current Quarter’s grade.
* **90%** of the student’s *Semester grade* will be 1st and 2nd Quarter scores – “Total Points.”
* **10%** of the student’s *Semester grade* will be determined by performance on the **Final Exam.**

**Class Participation:**

* Every day you have the opportunity to earn points for participation. To ensure that you get your daily points, you need to bring your materials (book, paper, binder, pen, etc.), take notes, and participate in class discussions and activities. Each quarter will have a “participation grade.”

**Semester Portfolio:**

* Students need a 3-Ring Binder and 5 dividers. The signed syllabus (student and parent/guardian) will be up front. The 5 sections are Lecture notes, Lecture Reviews, Vocabulary, Chapter work/Packets, and Miscellaneous. The Semester Portfolio will be equal to one unit test and is scored at the end of the Semester. Grade is based on signed syllabus, 5 dividers, neatness, completeness, and organization.

**Progress Reports:**

* Computer printouts of student progress will usually be posted on Mondays. It is important that you maintain an awareness of your standing, so that you can get any questions cleared up and so that do not get into trouble academically.

**SSR:**

* Students are expected to bring SSR reading materials to class every day. Students are expected to silently read once they have completed the day’s assignment or activity.

**Missed Work/Retakes:**

* If a student has an excused absence and the class is given a new assignment during the time missed, he/she will have as many days as he/she was absent to complete the work.
* Missed Quizzes or Retakes will be done in room 507 before or after school or during lunch. It is best to make arrangements ahead of time to do this. You have to the end of the current unit to make-up a missing quiz.
* If you fail a quiz, you may retake the quiz using your notes and/or vocabulary work to earn a passing grade (a “D” grade). You have to the end of the current quarter to retake a quiz.

**Behavioral expectations:**

* Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the class period unless otherwise stated. **Late work will NOT be accepted**, with the exception of ZAP days (student can earn ½ credit).
* Attendance and attitude are important. In order to participate in class, students must attend class. Refer to the “Student Attendance Policy” in the student planner.
* Students are to be in class before the bell rings. Tardiness causes disruption of the class and is to be avoided. **Tardiness will count as .5% deduction in the Semester’s grade per tardy.** The total deduction for tardiness will be made on the last day of class.
* Cheating will not be tolerated. Cheating will result in a grade of zero points. Copying the assigned work of another student is just as much cheating as copying an answer on a test.
* KaHS’s Social Studies department is committed to **Bell-to-Bell Learning**. Don’t pack up early and line up at the door.
* Things that are not allowed in class: **Food, candy, snacks, pop, juice, drinks, gum (if I see it/hear it), cell phones during lectures and quizzes/test.** **In the case of a cell phone issue:** If I see it, I will take it away and you can retrieve it at the end of the school day. Failure to turn over your cell phone will get you sent to ISS. Water in a plastic bottle is acceptable.
* For minor behavior problems students will be given a verbal warning upon first offense. Second offense will result in detention or office referral. Third offense will result in office referral.

**Contact info:**

* Parents and students are encouraged to communicate with teachers at Kamiakin High School. My e-mail address is **richard.rockefeller@ksd.org**.

**After reading the class syllabus for Mr. Rockefeller’s Government class, please sign below and keep in your Binder.**

Student signature date

Parent signature date