**United States Government**

Course Syllabus

**Educator**: Mr. Hackett **Email**: winston.hackett@polk-fl.net

**Classroom #:** Rm. 04-004 **Office Hours**: M Tues W F, 2:00pm – 3pm

**Course Description**: The primary content for the course pertains to the study of government institutions and political processes and their historical impact on American society. This includes, but is not limited to, the functions and purpose of government, the function of the state, the constitutional framework, federalism, separation of powers, functions of the three branches of government at the local, state and national level, citizenship, and the political decision-making process.

**Course Content:**  The course will cover 7 major topics (units)

1. Foundations of Government

2. Legislative Branch

3. Executive Branch

4. Judicial Branch

5. Civil Rights & Liberties and Foreign Relations

6. Obligations of Citizenship

7. State & Local Government

**Materials:**

* Notebook
* Folder
* Pens and/or Pencils
* Sticky Notes (post-its)
* Set of multi-colored highlighters (yellow, green, pink, blue preferred)
* Internet capable device (if possible)

**Assessments:**

* Unit Tests
* Quizzes
* Classroom assignments/daily engagement/note checks
* Mini-projects

**Assignments/ Activities:**

* Note taking
* Reading of textbook or other materials, such as articles.
* Group Work including device research (you will be able to use your internet capable device to complete these assignments in class) if you do not have a device you must work with a partner.
* **Extra credit opportunities will arise throughout the year.**

**Grading:**

 Unit Tests – 35%

 Quizzes – 15%

 Class Assignments – 20%

 Class Engagement/Note Checks – 15%

 Mini-projects – 15%

**Make-up Work Policy:** It is the responsibility of the student to manage his or her make-up work (you must get the assignments, take the make-up tests etc.). Do not expect your teacher to automatically inform you and schedule your make-up work. Come see me if you are behind and need to discuss it. Tests must be arranged to be made up with the teacher.

**Discipline:**

If a student is not acting appropriately in accordance with the student handbook, school policy, class expectations/rules, and plain common sense, there are consequences as follows:

\*1st occurrence – student-teacher conference

\*2nd occurrence – phone call to parent(s)/guardian

\*3rd occurrence – detention, work detail, or choice room

\*4th occurrence – referral for disciplinary action

\*I reserve the right to escalate through the discipline ladder as I see fit. You have my respect, so please do not lose it by acting out in class. My respect is hard to earn back. We can have a fun, but studious learning environment. Class expectations are posted in the classroom.

Here’s to an awesome semester!

Sincerely,

**Mr. Hackett**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Contact: Number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_