



South Windsor High School
 161 Nevers Road
 South Windsor, CT 06074
 (860) 648-5000
 website: www.southwindsorschools.org/highschool

2023 - 2024 COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Course Name:	Civics/American Government
---------------------	----------------------------

Teacher Name(s)	Email	Phone
Lindsay McGinn	lmcginn@swindsor.k12.ct.us	(860) 474-3371

Course Description: This course will examine the United States government and engage students in the civic process. Students will study the foundations of the U.S. government including the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights, the branches and structure of government, and focus on the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and linkage institutions such as elections, media and interest groups. It is expected that students will engage in continual civic discourse where they are demonstrating their ability to understand varying opinions, diverse beliefs and cultural differences by demonstrating respect for self and others. They will gather, assess and analyze information to solve problems and take informed action. Presentations, debates and discussions are key components of this course. Students will complete Project Citizen, a civic engagement project, in which they will develop deeper connections with their voice, public policy and engage with the South Windsor community. This project may be finished outside of normal class hours. Additionally, students will apply their knowledge to research a contemporary governmental issue at the local, state, or national level.

Vision of the Successful Student And Core Competencies: The successful student will develop an appreciation for citizenship, engage in the study of civic processes, rules, and laws; examine civic and political institutions; and apply civic virtues and democratic principles. Collaboration, critical analysis, consistency and good study habits will enhance student success.

Connection to the Portrait of a Graduate: This course will aim to support SWPS Portrait of a Graduate. *South Windsor Public Schools cultivates passionate learners and responsible citizens who will demonstrate resilience, innovative thinking, personal wellness, and social consciousness as they strive to achieve their dreams in an ever-changing world. These tenets represent the guiding principles that our community believes are important for a graduate to be successful.*

Materials and Resources to Support Student Learning:

There will be a multitude of resources used in this class including readings, application activities, simulations, visual graphics and video clips.

Evidence of Student Learning:		
Assessments	80%	<p>Might include activities that allow students to demonstrate mastery and application of taught concepts and skills such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Performance tasks ● Quizzes or tests ● Source analysis ● Research Papers ● Socratic Seminars
Learner Tasks	20%	<p>Might include opportunities to practice skills and demonstrate growth such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DQBs/FRQs ● Debates, presentations or speeches ● Student products including: websites, podcasts, slideshows, etc. ● Essays or other writing tasks ● Research tasks ● Reflections and learning logs ● Homework ● Class notebooks ● Feedback to peers ● Other class specific practices/tasks

With teacher permission, students will be given opportunities to retake certain assessments/assignments.

Late Work: The late work policy will be determined and communicated at the course level by the classroom teacher.

Please refer to the Bobcat handbook for the academic integrity code.