

# Crook County School District

where students dream, learn, & succeed



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|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>School</u> : Crook County High School            |              | <u>Instructor</u> : Conner Booster                                                   |
| <u>Course</u> : AP American Government and Politics |              | <u>Email</u> : conner.booster@crookcountyschools.org                                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                 | Trimester #1 | <u>Phone</u> : 541- 416-6900 (Ext. 3122)                                             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                 | Trimester #2 | <u>Methods for Communicating with Families</u> :<br>-Phone<br>-Email<br>-Conferences |
| <input type="checkbox"/>                            | Trimester #3 |                                                                                      |

## Course Description:

- AP U.S. Government and Politics is a college-level, two trimester, course that not only seeks to prepare students for success on the AP Exam in May, but also provides students with the political knowledge and reasoning skills to participate meaningfully in discussions and debates that are currently shaping American politics and society. It is important to note that this course is not a history course; it is a political science course that studies the interconnectedness of the different parts of the American political system and the behaviors and attitudes that shape this system.
- AP U.S. Government and Politics accomplishes these goals by framing the acquisition of political knowledge around enduring understandings and big ideas about American government and politics that can be applied to a set of disciplinary practices and reasoning processes. By the end of the course, students will be able to analyze current and historical political events like a political scientist and develop factually accurate, well-reasoned, and thoughtful arguments that acknowledge and grapple with alternative political perspectives.

## Learning Standards/Targets:

- Constitutionalism (CON)
- Liberty and Order (LOR)
- Civic Participation in a Representative Democracy (PRD)
- Competing Policy-Making Interests (PMI)
- Methods of Political Analysis (MPA)

**Course Outline:** The AP Government and Politics curriculum as defined by the College Board is comprised of the following units:

- Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy (15-22% of the exam)
- Unit 2: Interactions Among Branches of Government (25-36% of the exam)

- Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (13-18% of the exam)
- Unit 4: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs (10-15% of the exam)
- Unit 5: Political Participation (20-27% of the exam)

Complete Guide For Course (From College Board). Known As The Course And Exam Description (CED):

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap-us-government-and-politics-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

#### Instructional Materials:

- Core Texts:
  - Krutz, Glen S., and Sylvie Waskiewicz. *American Government*. OpenStax, Rice University, 2023.
- \*\*\*This is the primary text for the course\*\*\*
- Films, Videos/Other Electronic Media:
  - Included on the Video Links Resource Page (Last Pages)
- Other Supplementary Curriculum (Articles, etc.):
  - A variety of relevant and educational multi-media materials will used in this course. Students will be exposed to an array of viewpoints from reputable sources.

*\*\*\*Students will be required to participate in independent research, online, connected to current events. Common reputable sources used for these activities include The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, UpFront Magazine, NPR, Reuters, The Associated Press, etc. These sources will be examined by CCHS admin. prior to their use in the classroom.\*\*\**

All Instructional Materials must comply with CCSD School Board [Policy IIA](#) & [Policy IIA-AR](#). A copy of core and supplemental curriculum will be available in the curriculum office for review.

A classroom teacher receiving a complaint regarding instructional materials shall try to resolve the issue informally through the discussion of the original assignment or the opportunity for an alternative assignment.

#### Notification of the Right to Object to the Use of Material:

*Any resident of the district may raise objection to instructional materials used in the district's educational program despite the fact that the individuals selecting such materials were duly qualified to make the selection and followed the proper procedure and observed the criteria for selecting such material.*

*The first step in expressing objection to materials is consultation with the classroom teacher or library staff and providing a written complaint. The district official or staff member initially receiving a complaint shall explain to the complainant the district's selection procedure, criteria and qualifications of those persons selecting the*

material. A classroom teacher receiving a complaint regarding instructional materials shall try to resolve the issue informally through the discussion of the original assignment or the opportunity for an alternative assignment. The materials shall remain in use unless removed through the procedure in section 4. F. (2) of this regulation.

The teacher or library staff receiving the initial complaint shall advise the principal of the initial contact within 24 hours, whether or not the complainant has apparently been satisfied by the initial contact. A written record of the contact shall be maintained by the principal and sent to the superintendent's office.

In the event that the person making an objection to material is not satisfied with the initial explanation or an alternative assignment, the person raising the questions will meet with a building administrator who will provide a Request for Reconsideration form.

For more details, see [CCSD School Board Policy IIA-AR](#).

#### Citizenship, Classroom Rules, Behavior Expectations:

- The Board expects student conduct to contribute to a productive learning climate. Students shall comply with the district's policies, administrative regulations, school and classroom written rules, pursue the prescribed course of study, submit to the lawful authority of teachers and school officials and conduct themselves in an orderly manner during the school day and during district-sponsored activities.

Careful attention shall be given to procedures and methods whereby fairness and consistency without bias in discipline shall be assured to each student. The objectives of disciplining any student must be to help the student develop a positive attitude toward self-discipline, realize the responsibility of one's actions and maintain a productive learning environment.

- See [CCSD Board Policy JFC](#) for more details.

#### Grading System:

- The district's grading system shall be based on Board-adopted course content and is designed to enable the student and parent to clearly know how well the student is achieving course requirements at the student's current grade level or course content level, and be based on the student's progress toward mastery of a continuum of knowledge and skills outlined in Oregon State Standards. Absenteeism or misconduct shall not be the sole criterion for the reduction of students' grades. Behavioral performance shall be reported separately. The district will use letter grades (A,B,C,D,F) that can be converted into a 4 to 0 reporting system in grades 6-12. All AP courses are graded on a 5.0 grading scale.
- Grades will be based on many factors, such as: basic instructional assignments, both oral and written; results from various assessment instruments, including critical content short cycle assessments as well as quizzes and exams; class participation; special assignments; research; activities of various types of kinds and special contributions.
- See CCSD School Board [Policy IKA](#), [Policy IK](#), & [Policy IK-AR](#) for more details.

#### Grading Scale:

- A+: 100-98 A: 97-93 A-: 92-90
- B+: 89-88 B: 87-83 B-: 82-80
- C+: 79-78 C: 77-73 C-: 72-70
- D+: 69-68 D: 67-63 D-: 60-62
- F: 59-0

#### Course Grading Criteria/Weighting

- Assessment, Projects, Quizzes, Assessments of Learning Standards: 70%
- Daily Homework & Practice Assignments: 30%

### Extra Credit

- None

*\*[Policy IK-AR](#): Achievement of learning standards will be assessed separately from behavior.*

### Make Up Policy:

- 1) **Assessment Retakes:** [Policy IK-AR](#) Teachers will provide students with multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of each standard. Students will be provided with at least two opportunities to retake assessments. A student who retakes an assessment will not be penalized. Teachers can modify assessments (more rigorous to account for greater time allowed for preparation.) Teachers will determine student requirements for assessment retakes that align with Policy IK-AR.
- 2) **Homework/Daily Work:** Achievement of learning standards will be assessed separately from behavior (i.e. attendance, disruption, late work, tardiness, preparation, effort, attitude, etc.).

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to submit their own work on assignments, projects, reports, and examinations. Prohibited acts of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to the following:

- Giving unauthorized assistance to other students
- Receiving unauthorized assistance from other students
- Reproducing, reformatting, or paraphrasing the work of others as your own (plagiarism)
- Using or sharing prohibited study aids or other written materials on tests or assignments
- Sharing false information or knowingly misleading another to reach a false answer or conclusion

Consequences for Plagiarism/Cheating include the following:

- A 'zero' on the assignment
- A referral to the front office
- One attempt to re-do the assignment

\*Please see [Avoiding Plagiarism](#) for instruction and examples regarding how to recognize and avoid plagiarism.\*

### How to Do Better in Class

One common question from parents is “How can my student do better in class?” In general, the best advice is to be sure that all assignments are complete and turned in on time.

Here are a few other suggestions.

- Help your student review the night before a quiz or test using the Quizlets and Kahoots linked on Google Classroom.
- Talk with your student about current events. Explain your views and ask your student for his or her perspective. There are lots of great resources. I listen to NPR news, read the *New York Times* and *Washington Post* online, and read [The Bulwark](#) and [The Dispatch](#).
- [Podcasts](#) are a wonderful resource for current events, too.

**Final Note:**

This class is meant to be a learning experience for you. AP US Government is a challenging college-level course designed to give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The goal is not only to teach you about the essentials of American Government, but also to give you exposure to the college lecture/discussion experience. This process may be frustrating for you at times. If you are having a particularly difficult time or just need some extra guidance in maneuvering through this course, don't hesitate to discuss the matter with me. It is my hope that you enjoy this experience and that you become lifelong participants in our democratic system. Be sure to use every resource I have made available to you. These resources include the class site, the assigned readings, Google Slides and web links, etc.

It is imperative that students complete the reading assignments in a timely manner. Time spent on AP Gov. outside of class should include completing the assigned reading, taking notes on that reading, reviewing notes taken from prior discussions and studying for each of the unit tests, etc.. Failure to complete reading assignments will result in lower test scores, as a selection of test questions will come directly from the assigned reading. Additionally, these readings are meant to enhance the learning experience in this class. If a student fails to read an assignment, further grasp of the topic will not be achieved.

**I have read the above syllabus and understand the requirements for this course.**

**Parent Printed Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature**\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Printed Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature**\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments/Concerns:**

## **AP GOV Video/Film/Podcast Resources**

[https://www.youtube.com/embed/7FbkwrhW\\_0I](https://www.youtube.com/embed/7FbkwrhW_0I)

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/S-pqaTO7ofw>

<https://radiolab.org/podcast/radiolab-presents-more-perfect-one-nation-under-money>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/-0bTfARvod8>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/To8PwGTMB0Y>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/Sus-so0j4-M>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/INFNOSzik14>

<http://livingroomcandidate.org/>

<https://www.npr.org/2018/09/10/645223716/on-the-sidelines-of-democracy-exploring-why-so-many-americans-dont-vote>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/UFqIn0eyyHM>

[https://www.youtube.com/embed/Wro-1G5gb\\_Y](https://www.youtube.com/embed/Wro-1G5gb_Y)

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/-4KmSsKxFJU>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/bJ-qjYLMFYM>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/cet3NcNNSc4?t=181s>

[https://www.youtube.com/embed/\\_95I\\_1rZils](https://www.youtube.com/embed/_95I_1rZils)

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/Cnh-136QqO8>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/W9H3gvnN468>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/8A5Njnl3t4k?t=12s>

<https://www.c-span.org/classroom/document/?6434>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/barQHoh3krc?t=1s>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/YcUDBgYodIE>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/bGLRJ12uqmk>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/QZZwoObFMhU>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/Mky11UJb9AY>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/tEczhfLwqM>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/-E4TUQ4THIE?t=2608s>

(Play from 0:00 - 49:07)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k-ejS8K6Ex4>

(Play 2:07 - 49:55)

<https://www.annenbergclassroom.org/resource/key-constitutional-concepts/>

(Play 23:04 - 41:47)

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/OZSGMMUC7FQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/JRtJXnsUYBc>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/hSszixvo7d8>

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/J7xXIS7gYKE>

*\*For all courses that articulate with a college or university, it is required that the syllabi match the accrediting institution, rather than the CCSD syllabus model.*