Government/Econ Syllabus 2016 – 2017

Teacher: **Ms. O’Cuddehy** Room: D13

Email: [christin-ocuddehy@hphsjaguars.com](mailto:christin-ocuddehy@hphsjaguars.com) Office Hours: M & F from 2:45 – 4:45

Website: [www.sites.google.com/a/hphsjaguars.com/ocuddehy](http://www.sites.google.com/a/hphsjaguars.com/ocuddehy) Phone: (916) 395-5010 ext. 501413

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to educate and empower students to participate in our democracy from the individual level to the national. In support of the Senior Project, this class will focus on civic action from research of community issues to development of action plans addressing those issues. Students will critically survey themes related to social, political, economic, and cultural processes and how the individual can advocate for change. The emphasis in this class is on critical thinking and collaborative problem solving through research and academic discussion. Students will be expected to present their findings in a variety of ways to our school community and professional community partners as part of this class and their senior projects.

**GRADING**

Success in this class is greatly dependent on collaboration and interaction. Nobody solves the world’s problems alone. One of the major goals of this class is to develop students’ skill at high-level, academic inquiry and discussion. Students will be graded on daily participation in structured class discussions as well as openers, class activities including writing assignments, and homework. Performance assessments will consist of researched presentations and projects and at least one multi-page paper in APA format.

* **Grading Scale**
  + A = 90-100%
  + B = 80-89%
  + C = 70-79%
  + D = 60-69%
  + F = 59% and below
* **Grading Categories**
  + **40%** - Participation – including class and homework
  + **40%** - Projects, Papers, & Performance Assessments
  + **20%** - Quizzes & Tests

**Student grades are available 24/7** through the Infinite Campus online Parent Portal and Student Connection accessible via the link at the SCUSD website (www.scusd.edu). If you need help accessing this information or navigating the website please contact the front office.

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

Students will be held to high expectations of behavior and communication which will be explicitly taught, modeled, and practiced in this class.

* We will treat ourselves and others with respect at all times in our speech and our actions.
* We will continuously work to improve our skills and abilities.
* We will be on time and prepared to work with all necessary materials every day. Tardiness and absences put students at a disadvantage academically.
* We will adhere to all rules and policies as laid out in the Student Handbook. This includes but is not limited to plagiarism/cheating, electronic devices, dress code, and food/drinks/gum.

**CLASSROOM PROCEDURES & POLICIES**

## Getting and Turning in Assignments

* All work should be neat and legible without “confetti” attached. Poor quality work will not be accepted.
* **Due Dates:** Assignments are expected to be turned in at the beginning of the class period.
* **Late Work:** Any work not completed in class is due at the beginning of the period the following day. I do not accept any **daily** work late. Long-term assignments and major projects may lose up to one letter grade for lateness.
* **Make-Up Work**: Every student is responsible for acquiring missed work due to an EXCUSED absence. Students will have one class period for every day missed to receive full credit on make-up work.
* **Missed Tests**: Students who miss a scheduled test must complete the exam the day they return to school. **Final Exams will not be given early**. Students must be present on the day of the scheduled final to receive credit.
* **Planned Absences**: Please let me know one week in advance of planned absences so that I have time to prepare assignments. It is the student’s responsibility to get these assignments before the planned absence.

**General**

* **NO FOOD OR DRINKS**
* **NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES!** Devices should be put away before entering class and remain out of sight. No charging phones during class. Please do not call or text your student during class time. In an emergency, please call the front office or the classroom phone (916) 395-5010 ext. 501413
* **Bathroom**: Students will receive two bathroom passes per semester. Unused passes can be turned in for extra credit at the end of the semester.
* Personal grooming is to take place on personal time **outside the classroom** only. Because many students suffer from asthma or allergies, strong smelling lotions and personal care products should not be used during class.

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

CHEATING and Plagiarizing will not be tolerated. If you are suspected of cheating, plagiarizing, or using unauthorized electronics on any kind of work, you will receive a zero on the assignment and a referral. Academic dishonesty is defined as giving or receiving answers during assignments, tests, or quizzes or turning in work without proper attribution to sources.

**SUPPLIES & MATERIALS**

Students are expected to come to class prepared and ready to learn.

*The following materials are required* ***DAILY:***

* Calendar/Agenda (provided by HPHS)
* Writer’s/Reader’s Notebook (provided by HPHS)
* 3-ring binder with dividers (or other system for organizing notes, handouts, and work product)
* pens (blue/black only) and/or #2 pencils
* binder paper
* Access to a computer either at home or through the school. If you do not have a home computer, please arrange time to use a school computer outside of class time. Lack of a home computer does not excuse students from computer work. It is the student’s responsibility to schedule computer time.

Class Contract Page

I understand and agree to follow the expectations and procedures for Ms. O’Cuddehy’s class as described in the course syllabus.

Student: (print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student: (signature) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: (print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: (signature) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Dear Parent or Guardian,**

Please indicate below how you wish to be contacted and when your best availability is.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to be contacted by phone / email. I prefer to be contacted by phone / email.

(Please circle one) (Please circle one)

The best time to reach me is: The best time to reach me is:

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Please use the space below to provide any additional information or instruction about how and when to contact you. (If you need more space please use the back of the page)