

# **Gwynn Park High School**

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

2009-2010

## COURSE TITLE:

Local, State and National Government

## TEACHER:

**Mr. Michael Glick: (301) 372-0140 ext 289**

**E-mail: michael.glick@pgcps.org**

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Local, State and National Government is a year long course that offers an overview of the American system of government. There are no prerequisites for the course. The course content covers information about: the foundations of government; the United States political system; the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; citizenship rights and responsibilities; the structures and functions of state and local governments; and a global perspective on governmental relationships. This course is designed to help students become active citizens by understanding how their government functions and the effects it has on daily life. It is of utmost importance that students learn how to recognize and exercise their rights as citizens. The Local, State and National Government course is a graduation requirement for the state of Maryland. Students are also required to pass the Government High School Assessment (HSA) on May 20, 2010 in order to graduate.

## UNITS OF STUDY:

Unit I: Political and Economic Structures (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter)

Unit II: Foundations and Principles of Government and the Constitution (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter)

Unit III: Participation in Government (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter)

Unit IV: The Legislative Branch (2<sup>nd</sup> quarter)

Unit V: The Executive Branch (3<sup>rd</sup> quarter)

Unit VI: The Judicial Branch (3<sup>rd</sup> quarter)

Unit VII: Domestic and Foreign Policy (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter)

Intensive review for the Government High School Assessment (HSA) (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter)

### INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS AND STRATEGIES:

Instruction will be delivered using various teaching styles to address the varying learning styles of the students in a highly disciplined and structured manner in an attempt to prepare students for the Government HSA. Students will be assessed using selected response (multiple choice), brief constructed response, and analyzing political cartoons, charts, maps and graphs. Exams and quizzes will mirror the actual Government HSA. Exams are typically given following the completion of a unit of study, which varies by quarter. Students can expect a **minimum** of three exams per quarter. The number of exams may change (more exams) at my discretion, but students will be notified well in advance of such changes. Quizzes are typically given at **minimum** twice a week and will be both announced and unannounced. Again, the number of quizzes are also subject to change at my discretion.

### STUDENT EXPECTATIONS:

Each student is expected to attend every class, arrive prepared with the required materials from the list provided, participate in class activities, consistently review all LSN material and complete all questions/activities when assigned for homework and/or classwork. Students and parents are free to discuss any questions or concerns with me by scheduling a parent-teacher conference.

### GRADING FACTORS:

- **TEST/QUIZZES**                      **50% Test = 100 points & Quizzes = 50 points**
- **CLASSWORK**                        **25% All Classwork = 5 points**
- **HOMEWORK**                         **25% All Homework = 10 points**

### TEXTBOOK:

Remy, Richard. *United States Government Democracy in Action*. Glencoe, McGraw-Hill

### SUPPLIES & MATERIALS:

- LSN Textbook
- LSN Notebook (three ring)
- Notebook Dividers
- Loose-leaf paper (no rough edges)
- Blue or Black Ink Pens
- Two Folders with pockets or metal prongs
- Dictionary

### RULES and PROCEDURES:

- ID badges must be worn around the neck at all times as part of the school uniform.
- Be on time and in your seat before the tardy bell rings-if you are late you must have a pass.
- Be prepared for class-You must have textbook, notebook, paper, pens, folders, homework.

- Warm-ups are to be completed no later than ten minutes after the tardy bell. There will be no exceptions. Warm-ups cannot be made up if tardy for class.
- Raise your hand if you have something to say. Only one person will be speaking at a time. At that time everyone else should be politely paying attention. Manners are the hallmark of a civilized society.
- Do your own work! Copied work is considered cheating and will be 0.
- Homework is due at the beginning of class, not the middle, nor the end. It will not be accepted late.
- Follow all school rules and classroom rules-gum chewing, eating, drinking, CD players, Cell Phones, etc. will not be tolerated.
- Take care of your personal needs before class or after class. No passes will be given during the first fifteen or the last fifteen minutes of class.
- Always treat all others with respect and kindness.
- No abusive or profane language.

**Mr. Glick's LSN GOVERNMENT SIGNED SYLLBUS**

**PARENT SIGNATURE**

**TEACHER SIGNATURE**

**STUDENT SIGNATURE**

**ADMINISTRATOR**