**10th Grade American Government Syllabus**

**Course Description:**

**How the American people govern themselves at national, state and local levels of government is the basis for this course. Focus will be on the three branches of government and their impact on the students. Emphasis will also be placed on the government’s role in the history of the United States on such topics as suffrage, the equality of treatment before the law, civil rights movement and also the impact of political parties.**

**Evaluation:**

**Your grade in this class will be based primarily upon your performance in various activities, tests, quizzes, projects, and class participation. Grades are based on a point system and each assignment has a point value. The object is to accumulate as many points as possible to receive the best grade. Before every test you will play a review activity worth bonus points and each test will have possible bonus questions on it. NO OTHER EXTRA CREDIT WILL BE ISSUED. The grading scale is as follows:**

**93-100=A 85-92=B 75-84=C 65-74=D Below 65=F**

**My Expectations:**

**1) You will arrive before the bell rings, sit down, and take out materials you need and prepare for class. Any violations of this rule will result in detention. Once you are seated you will remain in that seat until you are dismissed.**

**2) You are required to do all assignments and turn them in on time. That means the period of class you are in. That does not mean at the end of the day, later in the period or the next morning before 8:00 AM. You may email any assignment that you would like but note that it is late if the assignment is not turned in before class. If you have emailed the assignment to the wrong address it must show up in your sent folder to receive credit.**

**Note: When emailing an assignment please put down what assignment you are turning in.**

**3) Please consume all snacks and drinks before entering the classroom.**

**4) Restroom privileges are only for emergencies. I will document all restroom emergencies so this right is not abused.**

**5) There will be no cell phone usage in the classroom. All students 9-12 will be utilizing the 1:1 initiative so there is no need for cellular devices.**

**6) Any plagiarism will be dealt with according to the policy of David Anderson Jr./Sr. High School.**

**Absence:**

**When entering class with a blue slip, please wait till I call for them. Please do not put it on my desk, podium or hand it to me in the hallway. When I enter I will call for them and also go over missed assignments with you.**

**In the event of an absence, it is the responsibility of the student to determine what assignments need to be completed. The assignments are listed on my web site and I also have them completed at least a week in advance if you know you are going to be out ahead of time.**

**Students will be afforded one day to complete make up work for each day of an excused absence. Assignments submitted after this time will be considered late and no credit will be issued.**

**Technology:**

**In this class you will need access to the Internet regularly. The school is providing Net Books and Laptops to all high school students. If you need access to a computer at school, please ask me for a pass to utilize during your Study Hall. Also the Media Center is open every morning at 7:30 AM and also after school till 3:30 PM.**

**There will be no excuses that I left my Net Book or Laptop at home. Also they must be charged before you come into class because it is too much of a distraction with cords and students in unassigned areas trying to charge their computers.**

**Tentative Schedule:**

**August 25th – Orientation**

**August 26th-4th: Enlightenment**

**Note: Labor Day Weekend is August 29th – September 1st**

**September 5th: PARCC Assessment**

**September 8th-17th: Road to the Constitution**

**Note: 2nd PARCC Assessment is September 11th**

**September 18th-26th: Basic Principles of the Constitution**

**September 29th- October 8th: Structure and Functions of the Federal Government**

**October 8th-10th: Brown v. Board of Education**

**Note: No school on Monday October 13th for Columbus Day**

**October 14th-17th: Lean on Me**

**October 20th-24th Raisin in the Sun**

**Note: 1st nine weeks ends October 24th**

**October 27th-November 5th: Role of the People**

**November 6th-14th: Civic Involvement, Participation and Skills**

**November 17th-21st: Freedom Song**

**November 24th-25th: Time Capsule Project**

**Thanksgiving Break is November 26th- November 30th:**

**December 1st-10th: Executive Branch**

**December 11th-12th: Primary Source Writing Assignment**

**December 15th-19th: The 60’s**

**Note: Winter Break is December 20th-January 4th**

**January 5th-14th: The 60’s Project**

**January 14th-16th: Mid Terms**

**End of second nine weeks is Friday January 16th**

**No School January 19th- Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

**January 20th-28th: Legislative Branch**

**January 29th-30th: OGT and PARCC Review #1**

**February 2nd-11th: Judicial Branch**

**February 12th: OGT and PARCC Review #2**

**A) President’s Weekend is February 13th-16th**

**February 17th-20th: Supreme Court Project**

**February 23rd-March 4th: Government and the Economy**

**March 5th-6th: OGT and PARCC Review #3**

**A) Note: American Government Performance Based Assessment is scheduled between March 2nd and 13th**

**March 9th-20th: OGT Prep**

**A) Note Social Studies OGT is Friday March 20th**

**March 20th is end of 3rd Nine Weeks**

**March 23rd-27th: The 70s**

**April 1st and 2nd: PARCC Review #1**

**Spring Break is April 3rd-6th**

**April 7th-16th: Ohio’s State and Local Government**

**April 17th-24th: Malcolm X**

**April 27th-May 1st: PARCC Review #2**

**End of Course Exams are Scheduled sometime between May 4th-15th**

**May 4th-8th: Time to Kill**

**May 11th-15th: Hotel Rwanda**

**May 18th-22nd: Genocide Project**

**A) No School on May 25th for Memorial Day and Finals are May 26th-29th**

**I am looking forward to a very exciting and challenging school year. Internet policy has changed so please only email me assignments. If your parents have any questions please have them contact me by phone or via email.**

**Various emails:**

**1) To access class assignments and information please access the following web site:**

[**http://rwitman-.wikispaces.com**](http://rwitman-.wikispaces.com)

**2) Send assignments or contact me at:**

[**ron.witman@omeresa.net**](mailto:rwitman137@gmail.com)