

U.S. GOVERNMENT

RCAS POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Students will be required to follow all RCAS policies and procedures. To view the RCAS High School Student Handbook, click [handbook](#).

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

U.S. Government covers the duties and responsibilities of American citizenship. It will emphasize the importance of having a government, the significance of political participation and influence, and the basic foundations of our federal government. Also included will be studies of local, state, and tribal governments. This is a required semester course.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Students will make connections and synthesize the relationships between major movements and occurrences in government and between different types of government.
2. Students will integrate the idea that respect for others and for other's beliefs is a basic tenet of the United States Constitution and the basis of all democratic societies.
3. Students will comprehend the freedoms and restrictions in a democratic society and will assess those voted in to carry out the policies in our society.
4. Students will explain, compare and contrast, and analyze the historical principles and philosophical purposes and various forms of government.
5. Students will explain the historical impact of primary founding documents including but not limited to, the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. Bill of Rights and subsequent amendments.
6. Students will explain how the Constitution organizes the government of the United States.
7. Students will understand the fundamental principles of America's democratic republic and the United States Constitution and the inherent conflicts that may arise.
8. Students will understand the ways in which a citizen can use their basic rights to influence the decisions of the republic.
9. Students will define the elements of how U.S. foreign policy is made and understand the international challenges and influences of the United States government.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:

Rapid City High School has three expectations for our students.

BE COURAGEOUS

BE RESPECTFUL

BE PRESENT

1. Only **KIND** words and actions will be exchanged in this classroom.
2. **ATTENDANCE** is critical. This social studies classroom is interactive and participatory centered. You will be expected to attend class on a regular
3. Every student is expected to communicate with me if there are **ANY** concerns or problems. **PLEASE** do not wait until things become unmanageable. I truly care about you and want only success for you.
4. When I am talking you are engaged and listening with no side conversations.
5. When you are talking, we are politely listening with no side conversations.
6. Please do not copy another's work and please do not give your work to somebody else to copy. You are cheating yourselves and others out of an opportunity to learn!

REMEMBER! Your academic life will be much easier if you turn your work in promptly! I will help you in any way I can to help you stay on top of your work in this class and take that worry and stress away.

RECYCLING! IT'S IMPORTANT (: There are two trash cans by the door. One is labeled for Recycling and the other is labeled for Trash. Thank you from a treehugger.
(Me)

CELL PHONE AND ELECTRONICS POLICY: When the bell rings all cell phones and earbuds will be stored in a cell phone pocket holder for the duration of the class. Please take the blue card with the number on it so you know where your phone is stored. If there is a personal/family reason you must have access to your phone during class please let me, your Advisor and/or Administration know so steps can possibly be taken to accommodate the situation. This should be done before classes start for the day.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION IN THIS MATTER!

GRADING

(As mandated by the Rapid City Area School District)

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
0-59%	F

TEXTBOOK

Magruder's American Government

There may be content related articles found and implemented. These will be available for student/parent viewing through Canvas or upon parent/student request for a paper copy.

REMEMBER! HIGH SCHOOL IS ONLY ONE STEP IN THIS JOURNEY WE CALL LIFE. IN ORDER TO SEE BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL, YOU NEED TO SET GOALS FOR THE THINGS YOU WANT TO DO. WITHOUT GOALS AND DREAMS IT IS HARD TO IMAGINE YOUR FUTURE!!! YOU CAN ACHIEVE AND DO ANYTHING YOU WANT TO DO. IF THERE IS ANYTHING I CAN DO TO ASSIST YOU IN YOUR JOURNEY, PLEASE LET ME KNOW!

LASTLY: Please print your name, sign and date and turn in.

I have read and understand this class overview.

STUDENT NAME: PRINT: _____

SIGN: _____

CLASS PERIOD: _____ **DATE:** _____