**AE Logo.jpg Civics 5 Credits**

Course Description: Civics This online based course offers students knowledge of the founding principles and moral values of American democracy as it was developed by the founding fathers and expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other democratic documents. Students will explore how the government functions and the role of the individual citizen, complete with rights and obligations, as part of our democracy. They will develop an understanding of the unique roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government and the relationship among the national, state, and local levels of government, as well as the powers and procedures of each. Students will become familiar with the landmark U.S. Supreme Court interpretations of the Constitution and its amendments and will analyze the impact of those decisions in our society. Students will apply their learned knowledge to understanding of the concrete areas of foreign, domestic, and economic policy of the United States. They will explore timelines to perceive linkage of events in history and their impact on structures of government. Students will become familiar with primary and secondary sources as they gather evidence from relevant documents and historical texts seeking reasons/explanations for the designing of our government’s structure.

Course methodology:

This is an online based course in which students will gain proficiency in understanding our representative democratic republic.  Students will engage in writing, creating visual projects, reaching out to legislators, and the discussion of documents and ideas from multiple sources.

Acting as a facilitator, the instructor will guide students through each unit of study. Students will be expected to actively seek assistance when needed. Ultimately, students will be responsible for completing all assignments and activities in order to receive credit.

Learner Resources: Blended learning: Programmed Logic for Automated Teaching Operations (PLATO), textbook (Magruder’s *American Government*), Internet resources, books

Methods of Evaluation

* Writing assignments
* Short answer assignments
* Discussion
* Projects
* Lesson assessment
* Mastery tests, Unit Posttests

Grading:

A= 90+%

B= 80+%

C= 70+%

Below 70% corrections required

***US Government/Civics Class 5 Credits***

**PLATO: Internet site:**[**https://ple.platoweb.com**](https://ple.platoweb.com)

**Account Login:   SCAS1**

**Plato Login:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (first initial, last name)**

**Password:  password**

* **If this is your first PLATO class, you must start with the Student Orientation. Otherwise you may skip it.**
* **Many web pages throughout the tutorials require you to type an answer, click “Submit”, and self-correct. Do all of these unless the syllabus says to skip them.**
* **On pages you skip, you may need to type an X in the blank assignment in order to progress to the next page.**
* **Remember, some pages need to be printed and handed in to your teacher.**

**To access Youtube links, you must sign in on the computer using the Username of GED and the Password of password.**

***Record Sheet for Civics Name:***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Type of assignment** | **Date Completed** | **Teacher Initials** | **Hours** | **Grade** |
| **Unit 1 Foundations of US**  **Democracy (1.5 credits)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Political Systems Tutorial Skip pg 5, 11, 19 Print pg 25 when completed  Do Mastery Test  Project #1 | Writing  Short answer  Objective  Compare/contrast  Research |  |  |  |  |
| Development of Democracy Tutorial skip pg 10, 19, 26  After doing the Tutorial but before taking the Mastery Test, watch this video:.  The Boston Tea Party Explained: U.S. History Reviewed:  Hip Hughes  [www.youtube.com/watch?v=fUgARhCWvdI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fUgARhCWvdI)  Do Mastery Test  Project #2 | Video  Writing  Short answer  Objective  Creative expression  Research |  |  |  |  |
| Writing the Constitution Tutorial  Do either pg 14 or pg 21  Do Mastery Test  Project #3 | Short answer  Objective  Writing  Research |  |  |  |  |
| Constitution/Bill of Rts Tutorial skip pg 5, 21  On pg 20 do Part A  Do Mastery Test  Project #4 | Writing  Short answer  Objective  Research  Analysis |  |  |  |  |
| Take Unit 1 Posttest | Objective |  |  |  |  |
| **Unit 2 Branches and Levels of Govt (1.5 credits)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Legislative Branch Tutorial Skip pg 21 On pg 23 do 1,2,3 Do all pg 29  Do Mastery Test  Project #5 | Short answer  Objective  Writing |  |  |  |  |

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| Activity | Type | Date Completed | Teacher Initials | Hours | Grade |
| Executive Branch Tutorial Do all p14, print. Skip p39.  Do Mastery Test | Short Answer  Objective |  |  |  |  |
| Judicial Branch Tutorial  Skip p30.  Do all p40, print.  Do Mastery Test  Project #9 | Short answer  Objective  Compare/Contrast |  |  |  |  |
| Local, State, National  Govts Tutorial Skip p12. On p39 do Parts A and B  Do Mastery Test  Project #8 | Short answer  Objective  Research |  |  |  |  |
| Take Unit 2 Post test | Objective |  |  |  |  |
| **Unit 3 Civil Rights, Citizenship,**  **Civic Participation (1 credit)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Civil Rights Tutorial Do all p33, print  Do Mastery test  After doing the Tutorial and Mastery Test, do Project #10. To begin, watch this intro to Martin Luther King Jr’s “I Have a Dream” speech.  Martin Luther King, Jr’s “I Have a Dream” Speech / History: History  [www.youtube.com/watch?v=\_IB0i6bJIjw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_IB0i6bJIjw)  Then watch the entire speech and complete the project. I Have a Dream speech by Martin Luther King, Jr HD (subtitled) (Remastered) [RARE FACTS](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFJ4mb3Qjup0DRjAzV7W_8Q)  <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vP4iY1TtS3s>  Project #10 | Short answer  Objective  Writing  Analysis |  |  |  |  |
| Political Parties, Elections,  Elected Officials Tutorial Do all p15, print. Skip p30  Do Mastery Test  Project #7 | Short answer  Objective  Research  Writing |  |  |  |  |
| Citizenship, Civic Participation Tutorial  On p25 do Parts A and D  Do Mastery Test  Project #6 | Short answer  Objective  Research  Writing |  |  |  |  |
| **Unit 4 Foreign And**  **Domestic Policy (1 credit)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foreign Policy Tutorial  Skip p13  Do all p16, print  Do Mastery Test | Short answer  Objective |  |  |  |  |
| Domestic Policy Tutorial  Do p 22 Question 1, Question 2 A, B, C, and Question 3, print  Do Mastery Test | Short answer  Objective |  |  |  |  |
| Government and Economy Tutorial Skip p15 On p19 do A,B,C, E  Skip p27  NO Mastery Test | Short answer  Writing |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unit Activity/Final  Do p5 Parts A, B, C, D, and F | Essay |  |  |  |  |
| No Post test |  |  |  |  |  |

**Civics Projects**

Use your textbook for a resource as you do these projects, as well as internet sources.

Project 1 (Chapter 1 :(CA American Govt 12.9)

Read about the ideas of Locke and Hobbes:

**Hobbes                                                                      Locke**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1)      Absolute monarchy  2)     All people are born with rights that they relinquish to the monarch in return for protection.  This is known as social contract.  3)     Believes that people are wicked, selfish, and cruel and will act on behalf of their best interests.  4)     People cannot be trusted to govern themselves, and an absolute monarchy demands obedience in order to maintain order.  5)     The purpose of the government is to keep law and order.  6)     Because people have no say in their government, they can do nothing if the monarch is abusive. | 1)      Democracy  2)     All people are born with certain inalienable rights: life, liberty, and the right to own property.  3)     Believes that people are by nature good and that they can learn from their experiences.  4)     People can be trusted to govern themselves.  Locke believed that if provided with the right information, people will make good decisions.  5)     The purpose of the government is to protect individual liberties and rights.  6)     The people have the right to revolt against an abusive government. |

Write 1 paragraph for each question below.  Provide examples and details.

* With which idea do you agree, and why?
* Which idea had more influence on the founding ideas of the U.S.?

Project 2 (Chapter 2): (CA American Govt 12.1)

Make a poster about a Founding Father. Include the following:

* The name and picture of the person
* Illustrations and 1-2 sentences for each of **3** things he did.
* One additional picture showing something he did that directly applies to your life. Along with 2-3 sentences explaining how it relates to you.

Project 3 (Chapter 3): (CA American Govt 12.3.3)

Write 1 paragraphto support each statement below. Support your answers with quotes from the Constitution.

* The Constitution is an economic document. Find 2 quotes as evidence that this is true.
* The Constitution is a political document. Find 2 quotes as evidence that this is true..

Project 4 (Chapter 4): (CA American Govt 12.2)

Create a PowerPoint or Word document about the Bill of Rights. (9 separate slides or pages)

Choose 3 rights you have as an American. For each one, tell: what does the amendment provide, what are its limitations, and what is its importance to all citizens.

Project 5 (Chapter 5): (CA American Govt 12.3,12.10)

Select one of your Members of Congress. Write that person a letter about a topic you care about, one that concerns you. Turn in one copy to your teacher for grading and one copy to be mailed to that member.

Project 6 (Chapters 6, 9, 21): (CA American Govt 12.3, 12.10)

Write 1-2 paragraphs in response to each statement below.

* Explain why Jim Crow laws were legal. Cite court cases that legalized them and support your answer with a quote from each case.
* Explain why they later became illegal. Cite court cases that ruled them illegal and support your answer with a quote from each case.
* Explain the importance of Jim Crow laws in their effect on millions of Americans.

Project 7 (Chapter 7): (CA American Govt 12.9)

Write one paragraph for each bullet point.

* What is a Primary and what is a caucus?
* What is the purpose of a national political convention?
* What is the Electoral College?
* Which system does the U.S. use to elect a president, direct or indirect elections?
* What are the pros and cons of our electoral system?

Project 8 (Chapters 10, 13, 14) (CA American Govt 12.4)

Utilizing Internet resources, complete the attached handouts regarding your legislators.

Project 9 (Chapter 18): (CA American Govt 12.5)

Compare the legal cases *Plessy v. Ferguson* with *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka.*

Write a paragraph to answer each of these questions.

* How are they similar and how different?
* What explains the difference in the decisions handed down by the courts?

Project 10 (Chapter 19, 20): (CA American Govt 12.5.4)

Follow the two internet links on the school computer to listen to Martin Luther King, Junior’s “I Have a Dream” speech. Then answer the following questions in 2-4 paragraphs.

* What does the speech tell you about the state of civil rights in the U.S. during the 1960’s?
* Does his speech still apply to the U.S. today? Why or why not?

**Civics Project #8 Who Represents Me?**

President of the United States

Name:

Party:

Address:

Website:

Comment Phone Number:

My U.S. Senator

Name:

Party:

Address:

Website:

Comment Phone Number:

My U.S. Senator

Name:

Party:

Address:

Website:

Comment Phone Number:

Who is the President of the U.S.Senate?

The Majority Leader?

Majority Whip?

The Minority Leader?

Minority Whip?

My Member, U.S. House of Representatives

Name:

Party:

Address:

Website:

Comment Phone Number:

Who is the Speaker of the House?

The Majority Leader?

Majority Whip?

The Minority Leader?

Minority Whip?

My State Governor

Name:

Party:

Address:

Website:

Comment Phone Number:

My State Senator

Name:

Party:

District:

Address:

Website:

Comment Phone Number:

My Member, State House of Representatives

Name:

Party:

District:

Address:

Website:

Comment Phone Number:

My Local Official (Mayor/Council Member)

Name:

Party:

Title:

Address:

Website:

Comment Phone Number: