Coach Herring Economics/Government Syllabus 2024-2025 Saraland High School

Course Description and Outline

**Economics and Government**

Economics and United States Government/Politics are the required twelfth-grade social studies courses needed to meet state graduation requirements. Each is a separate, half-credit course. This course is divided into two 9-Week Quarters, one for Economics, the other United States Government and Politics.

1. **Economics** focuses on the workings and institutions of modern-day economic systems and economic theory rather than consumer economics content. Once completed, the student should have an above average understanding of the functions of supply and demand in market economies, strengths and weaknesses of Capitalism, and the impact of government policies on the economy. Students apply the knowledge and understanding acquired in their study of economic factors over time to their study of contemporary problems in economics. The study of economics includes the use and interpretation of maps, charts, graphs, tables, and other expressions of statistical data.
2. **American Government and Politics** focuses on the origins and functions of government as well as the intellectual influences in the development of representative democracy in America. Through a detailed study of the United States Constitution, students become knowledgeable of the structure and workings of government at all levels, national, state and local. You will also learn the role of politics in creating public policies and the interrelationship between people, institutions and policies in the U.S. political system. The course will cover these topics through analysis of six principles: federalism, separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review, limited government, and popular sovereignty. Students will draw on their knowledge of US History, World History, and Geography as background information in their study of politics.

**Exams, Assignments, and Grading**

**Exams**: Tests are given at the end of each chapter completed. Tests are worth 100 points and are worth 60% of your total grade. In addition, there will be a cumulative Final Exam given at the end of each quarter weighted as 1/5th of your Total Grade. - Grade Scale: 100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69- 60=D, 59-0=E

**Chapter / Key Term Quiz:** Quizzes will be administered midway through each chapter and will consist of material covered in Notes as well as Key Terms from the chapter.

**Bellringer**: Every day when you enter the classroom there will be a Bellringer either on the board or accessible through Schoology. You are expected to write down or type the question and the answer daily. These will be checked each week at the end of the chapter.

**Notebook:** Students are Required to keep notes on class discussions and assignments. How you take notes is up to you. On occasion, I have allowed the use of notes on exams.

**Make Ups:** Make up tests will be given as quickly as possible after a student returns from an absence. Remember Economics and Government are 1/2 credit semester courses. Make-up exams are to be taken within 3 days of returning to school. Please meet with me to discuss an acceptable time for both parties. Failure to make an appointment for a make-up exam will result in a zero for that test or quiz. A letter grade will be deducted from presentations/projects turned in after class time on the due date. Projects or Presentations turned in after the due date will lose a letter grade for each day afterward.

**Cheating**: I consider copying test papers, homework, plagiarism, and allowing others to copy your work cheating. Cheating will result in receiving a Zero for the Assignment/Test. If a second tab is opened while taking an assessment on Schoology, you will receive a Zero for cheating.

**Attendance Policy**

Due to current circumstances all attendance will be handled in accordance with Saraland City Schools and Saraland High Schools updated policies.

**Required Materials**-Must be brought to class unless told otherwise:

Electronic Device (Laptop, Tablet, Phone), Notebook, Pen/Pencil (Any Ink Color is Fine except Red). On Quiz/Test days it would be more beneficial to have a Pencil when we use a Zip grade to record your answers but is not required.

**Class Rules**  
̈ Always be on time and at your desk when the tardy bell rings. ̈ Be in Uniform- with your shirts tucked in.  
̈ Bring device, books, and materials to class daily.  
̈ Complete and turn in assignments on time.  
̈ Do not talk while teacher is Instructing.  
̈ No Food allowed in class. Water is Acceptable.  
̈ No Profanity.  
̈ RESPECT OTHERS.

**Cell Phone Policy**

* Students are not allowed to have cell phones on their person during a test in this class. Students will be asked to turn their phones off and place them in the holder. The cell phones maybe used for a class assignment, if so, the students will be given permission for that day. If a cell phone is found on the student subsequent to the teacher asking for the phones to be turned in the teacher will assume the student has engaged in cheating on the assignment and a zero will be given.
* Parents are strongly encouraged to obtain the student’s PIN number from the office in order to remain informed of the student’s progress. The PIN number gives the parent/guardian access to the student’s grades at any time. In addition, the parent may contact me by email, [cherring@saralandboe.org](mailto:cherring@saralandboe.org) to discuss any concerns regarding the student’s grade or assignments.

**Generative Artificial Intelligence Statement**

This course will allow—in some cases, even encourage—the use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) techniques in some assignments. Unless otherwise indicated, the default is that this kind of use is prohibited. GAI use must be recognized and referenced. Academic misconduct will be the result of breaking this policy and could result in loss of credit for the assignment(s) as referenced in the cheating policy in the Saraland City Schools’ Student Handbook. It is the student's responsibility to follow the requirements of each course or assignment.