

ADVANCED U.S. GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY
GRADE 12
(1 Semester - Graduation Requirement)

COURSE OVERVIEW:

This is a survey course of the workings and realities of the United States Government. The intentions of the course are to provide students with a general knowledge of the constitutional structure of the United States federal government; to make students aware of some of the significant political and social issues which are facing the U.S. and its citizens; and to engage students in the possibilities for political participation in a democratic form of government. Unit tests and small group seminar discussions will constitute the majority of the grade. In addition to successful completion of the regular course material, a passing grade on the Illinois Constitution exam is required for graduation.

UNITS OF INSTRUCTION:

- UNIT I - An Introduction to Government and Principles of the Constitution
- UNIT II - The Legislative Branch of the Federal Government
- UNIT III - The Executive Branch of the Federal Government
- UNIT IV - The Judicial Branch of the Federal Government
- UNIT V - Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship
- UNIT VI - Participation in Government

COURSE OUTCOMES:

1. Provide students with a general knowledge of the constitutional structure of the United States federal government. (14A, 14B, 14C, 14D, 14E, 14F)
2. Familiarize students with their constitutional rights as citizens and the limits and responsibilities of these rights in our society. (14A, 14F)
3. Acquaint students with some of the significant political and social issues which are facing the U.S. and its citizens. (14F, 16A, 16B, 16D)
4. Engage students in the possibilities for political participation in a democratic form of government. (14C, 14D)
5. Develop an understanding of the different branches of the federal government by focusing on the constitutional powers and modern interaction of the three branches. (14A, 14B, 14C, 14D, 14E, 14F)
6. Provide students with a general understanding of the Illinois Constitution and the Illinois State government. (14A, 14B, 14C, 14D)

MAJOR LEARNING EXPERIENCES TO ACHIEVE OUTCOMES:

	<p>The advanced course is designed to help students prepare for college in terms of educational decision-making. The teacher serves more as a facilitator than an instructor as students are expected to meet many of their responsibilities on their own. Earning an above-average grade in Advanced Government suggests that a student is likely to perform well in similar college courses. Special attributes of students who do well in Advanced Government include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The ability to read and take notes effectively2. The ability to communicate orally effectively3. The ability to organize and manage one's time successfully4. Participation in various simulations, including a mock Supreme Court, a mock Cabinet, mock trials, and a government simulation.5. Timed debates over various social and political issues.6. Class discussions and seminars7. Research-based papers
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ADOPTED TEXT OR PRINCIPAL MATERIALS USED:

<p>Remy, Richard C. <i>The United States Government: Democracy in Action</i>. Glencoe, 2000. (adopted 1999)</p>

(11/10/03)
(07/08/99)
(04/06/95)