**Civics & Economics, 2017 - 18**

Maggie DiPietro “Peach”, MAT C309

[Margarets.dipietro@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:Margarets.dipietro@cms.k12.nc.us) <http://msmithpeach.weebly.com/>

*"Every government degenerates when trusted to the rulers of the people alone. The people themselves, therefore, are its only safe depositories. And to render them safe, their minds must be improved to a certain degree."*

* *Thomas Jefferson, 1782*

1. Civics & Economics is a semester length Core course for 10th grade students. The curriculum covers the principles of American democracy, legal structure of the United States and principle of economics. Students should have completed World History in their 9th grade year in preparation for this course. As the course is a graduation requirement, 11th & 12th grade transfer students may be required to take the course as well. Additionally, students are required to complete one independent out-of-class project per quarter
   1. Students are required to take a midterm, final and state made examination
   2. Students will take a summative test for each unit and periodic announced and unannounced quizzes for students to check their progress.
2. The purpose of this course is to teach students the knowledge and skills necessary to become an informed and active citizen. As both a citizen and consumer, students need to understand the historical traditions of democracy, our Constitution as the written foundation of our nation’s laws and system of government, and the governing principles of the free market system and other economic systems throughout the globe. This course is a graduation requirement and will require students to be an active learner every day.

**III. Course Materials**

• Texts: Civics. HMH Social Studies

• Financial Fitness for Life. National Council for Economic Education

• Online: Teacher website can be found at <http://msmithpeach.weebly.com/>

* 3-Ring Notebook, Loose-Leaf Notebook Paper, Pens & Pencils, Highlighters, Note Cards

**IV. Expectations**

* If you attend class daily and pay attention, take notes and complete all assignments, and review your notebook nightly (15 minutes a night should do it), then you will pass both the final exam and this course. However, if you are often absent and tardy, seldom do classwork or review your notes, then your success cannot be guaranteed. My goal is that every student assigned to me will pass. I will call home and mandate that you come to additional tutoring, if you are not making adequate progress throughout the semester. I assess students through daily questioning in class, announced and unannounced quizzes and unit tests, and completion of written assignments.

**V. Course Outline -For each unit listed there will be a summative test**

I. The Foundations of American Gov’t

*A. Enlightenment and Documents*

- Locke, Roseau, Montesquieu, Paine’s ideas about government?

-Documents of English democracy

*B. Tensions in Colonies*

-Mercantilism >> Navigation Acts >> French and Indian War

-Taxation without representation; Declaration of Independence

C. *Constitutional Convention*

-New Jersey Plan v. Va. Plan

-Compromises of Constitutional Convention

-Slave Trade Comp/Commerce Comp

-3/5 Comp

-Great Comp.

-Electoral College

-Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison, P. Henry, G. Mason

-Ratification> federalists v. anti-federalists debate

-Federalist papers; Bill of Rights created

D. *Principles of the Constitution*

-Popular Sovereignty

-Rule of Law

-Judicial Review

-Limited Government -Social Contract, Voting, Impeachment

-Separation of Powers, Checks and Balances, Federalism

II. Constitution

* 1. Preamble & Articles
  2. Powers of the Three Branches Checks and balances
  3. How a bill becomes a law
  4. Amendments
  5. Judicial Review: Supreme Court Cases

1. The Individual’s Role in American Government
   1. Citizenship
   2. Civic Duties and Responsibilities
   3. Modern Political Issues (Performance Assignment: Argumentative Essay)
   4. Planks and Platforms
   5. Elections
   6. Propaganda
2. Law
3. History of Law
4. Types of Law
5. Enforcement of Law
6. Jurisprudence –Due Process
7. Courts – Federal only
8. Personal Financial Literacy
9. Intro to Econ
10. Managing a Checking & Savings Account
11. Budgeting
12. Credit
13. Insurance
14. Consumer Protection
15. Economics: Principles of a Market Economy
16. Supply & Demand
17. Equilibrium
18. Shortages & Surpluses
19. Circular Flow of Economic Activity
20. Economics: Government Intervention in the Economy
21. Economic Theorists
22. Types of Economies
23. Federal Budget &Measuring economic activity
24. Government Intervention in the Economy
    * 1. Business Cycle
      2. Taxation
25. North Carolina: Government & Economy
26. State government
27. Local government
28. NC Economy

**V. Grading**

a. Student Workload: On a nightly basis students should expect to spend at least 10-20 minutes reviewing notes & completing assignments. In order for student to assess their progress during each unit, unannounced quizzes will be given periodically.

b. Late Policy: There will be a 10% deduction per day for late assignments with a maximum penalty of 50%. After five days, students will be expected to complete an alternative assignment to receive 50% credit.

c. Breakdown of grades: With the introduction of PowerSchool, CMS has implemented a new grading structure. A student’s grade for the course will be based on 70% formal assessment (Tests, quizzes unit projects) and 30% informal assignments (class work, participation and homework).

**VI. Assessments**

1. Cumulative Quiz points should not be more than half the cumulative test points (ie more than 1/3 of the total 70%).
2. Students will receive an initial zero for an assessment or assignment they made no effort or which is missing.
3. Students who are absent on the day of a formal assessment (quiz or test) are responsible for scheduling a make-up test within five days of their return to school. **PLEASE NOTE**: This will be a different assessment than the one given on the original test date. It will cover the same content, but will be formatted differently. Make-up tests and quizzes may ONLY be administered before or after school.

**VII. Assignments**

1. I assign very little homework. I have designed this class so that most work can be completed during class. If a student fails to complete an assignment in class, it becomes homework.
2. Students receive an initial zero for an assessment or assignment they made no effort or which is missing.
3. If students are missing schoolwork due to absences, the student must initiate contact with the teacher within 10 days to arrange a schedule for making up work. If the student missed a due date due to an unexcused absence, they may be given less credit.

**VII. Classroom Expectations**

1. Students are expected to take notes in class daily. If students are absent they should copy notes from another student’s notebook. Even when absent, you will be accountable for day’s notes during announced and unannounced assessments. Students are expected to write the daily objective and date for each day that class meets.
2. Be ready to go at the bell with your notebook out. There will be a warm-up every day so get started as soon as you sit down. Students **MUST** bring their notebooks to class daily.
3. Check the board as you come in for instructions, assignments, objectives, and the agenda
4. **BE RESPECTFUL** in class. Please raise your hand if you have something to say.
5. I expect everyone to take this class seriously, pay attention, and exhibit good behavior. There will be **NO TOLERATION** of inappropriate behavior in my class. Every student can succeed in this class if you pay attention, give 100%, and turn your work in on time.
6. Assignments from other classes should never be worked on in our class, unless… you have asked permission, have finished your C&E coursework and are in good standing.
7. **Knight Time**: If you would like to sign up for KT, you must fill out the form on Ms. Peach’s website the Friday prior to KT. The first 15 students to sign up will be accepted as long as they are in good standing. **DO NOT** ask for a space the day KT begins. Planning is an important life skill that I hope I can help you hone.
8. Students will be assigned a Chromebook number. Students should only use that chromebook and be responsible for returning it to its proper storage slot each day it is used. The use of technology is a privilege, not a right.
9. If you bring your own technology, you will install the software DyKnow to use it in our class.
10. No food or drink other than water is allowed.
11. I dismiss the class, NOT the bell. Students should remain seated until I release you.

*Get EXCITED! It’s going to be a fantastic semester!*