SCPA 2024-2025 Mr. Marsh, Room 172 marsh.john@somersetcollegeprep.org

Civics Syllabus

**Materials Needed:** notebook or composition book, pen, folder, flash drive, internet access (virtual students need a camera and mic)

**Class Objectives:** Civics is the study of citizenship and government. American Civics incorporates U.S. History, Economics, Geography, Politics, and U.S. Foreign Policy. Through the subject matter, one should be able to understand: the origins and functions of government, the rights and responsibilities that we have as citizens, government policies and political processes, and the organizations and functions of government. Civics fosters critical thinking skills, developing arguments, and debate skills through the content presented. Content will cover what is needed for a student to succeed on the Florida (EOC) End of Course examination in Civics.

**Grade Breakdown:** Civics will have grades broken down in percentages as follows:

EOC Test = 30% added to the semester average.

Tests = 25% Quizzes =15% Homework/Classwork =20% Papers/Projects/Presentations =25% Bell work/Notebook =15%

**Tests/Quizzes:** Tests will be given to assess student knowledge on topics. Tests will be announced well before the test day to provide ample preparation. Students should always review and study for tests adequately since tests hold the most weight in the overall grade breakdown. Quizzes are only half as important as tests in weight. Two quizzes combined average a test grade. Quizzes may or not be announced before they are given. An announced quiz should not take more than an overnight review/study session to succeed on.

**Homework/Classwork:** Homework or home studying is meant to reinforce what was learned in the classroom. Homework may consist of completing a worksheet, researching a topic, studying for a test or quiz. Homework in this class should not be viewed as “busy” work. Homework is used to access the students’ knowledge of topics or extra time to study/review a subject (outside of the classroom). Students will have the opportunity to work on homework in class. Classwork will be given more frequently than homework and it can come in many varieties, including group and individual assignments. Assignments may start in the classroom but requested to be finished as homework.

**Papers/Projects/Presentations:** Throughout the year, students will be asked to complete a paper, presentation, or project. A good example of a “project” is the History Fair. Students in Civics may be required to participate in History Fair, which will be an ongoing step-by-step process throughout the year. Requirements of a paper, project, or presentation will be explained in detail before a due date.

**Bell work/Notebook/Participation:** Bell work is introductory work at the beginning of class. Notebooks are for taking notes. Normally key concepts, Civics based terms and definitions, and pertinent information on the subject may be placed within, and at times, required to be in the notebook. Students need not ask to take notes in their notebooks, they may do so freely. Required notes will be checked for a grade. Participation in class counts as a grade and is encouraged.

**Internet Signal/Access:** Students are expected to have internet access at home for access to Colegia, Google Classroom, Quizlet, etc.

Failure to have access at school or at home can lead to academic penalties. Please resolve and report issues quickly and efficiently.

**Late Work: Late** work can hurt a student’s grade. If a student has an excused absence for a day, he or she has one extra day to complete the assignment, with no penalty. Students will receive no credit for undone routine homework/classwork. Students lose 10% of the grade for every day a project/paper that is late.

**Class Behavior/Food:** Students who are misbehaving in class: talking, passing notes, play fighting, dancing, sleeping, or anything else that is deemed disruptive or disrespectful by the teacher, will be asked to stop, given a recorded warning, and or given a detention. Food will be eaten at lunch in and around the cafeteria at lunchtime, not in the classroom. Students will not be allowed out of the classroom without permission and an agenda purchased at the main office or a hall pass approved by the teacher. Cell Phones or other electronic devices will NOT be seen, heard, or used during class time without prior permission by the teacher. There is a cell phone cubby for each student to place their device during the class period and will be expected to use it. Consider this cell phone policy your 1st warning. Detentions will be given for unauthorized cell phone use. Cheating, plagiarism, and AI created assignments will not be tolerated.

I have read and understand what is expected (print your name, student) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signatures:

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Student Signature:

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