



## Civics – Coon Rapids High School

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Room 303  
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### Overview

Civics is a one-term course that is usually taken during the freshman year. Its intent is to provide students with the understanding and knowledge of the American government at the state and federal levels. The content of this course examines the role our government plays in our lives and how we can positively affect it as well. A heavy emphasis will be placed on; personal rights and responsibilities, citizenship, the role of government, the Constitution and Bill of Rights, and the three branches of the U.S. government.

Objectives include:

1. Students will understand the role of the different American government agencies.
2. Students will acquire a comprehensive understanding of checks and balances within our government.
3. Students will understand the role of American diplomacy, both foreign and domestic, and both successful and unsuccessful attempts at using it.
4. Students will be able to envision the future role of the U.S. Government and its new roles it will play in our citizen's lives.

### Class rules

1. Be on time.
2. **Be prepared.**
3. Participate.
4. Treat everyone else the same way that you would like to be treated yourself.
5. Do not disrupt the learning of others.

Hall passes will be given out sparingly.

Discipline will be handled in the classroom and occasionally by school administration.

No food or drink is allowed in the classroom.

Classroom plagiarism policy is consistent with ISD #11, which can be found in the student handbook.

## **Outline**

### *Unit One – Foundations of American Government*

Describe the basic types and formations of different governments.

Explain the formation of the American Republic.

Analyze and understand the Constitution and its Amendments.

### *Unit Two – Citizenship*

Describe and understand the basic rights as citizens of the United States.

Examine questions surrounding the rights of the accused and protection under the law.

### *Unit Three – Participating in Government*

Examine the formation and roles of different political parties.

Analyze and assess election procedures and their results.

Explain the roles interest groups play in our government.

## **Community Service**

As part of the Civics course, each student is required to complete 5 hours of community service. Failure to complete these hours will result in a 5% grade reduction.

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## **AH Connect**

To access student grades, use AH Connect

(<http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us/education/dept/dept.php?sectionid=29371>).

All Social Studies teachers will be posting grades on AH Connect.

Please use AH Connect to access grade updates for your student.

## **Teacher Contact:**

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The best way to contact your teacher is by email. Emails are generally returned the same day. At times phone messages are or can be delayed.

## Grades

The Civics class will consist of lectures, discussions, group projects, individual research, readings, films, student presentations, document work, quizzes and exams. Points are awarded accordingly.

Assignments turned in late will be given partial credit. Learning is your responsibility. Accountability provides opportunity for maturity.

Retakes: at teacher's discretion.

Make up work for absences are two days for each school day missed.  
Grades will be determined by using the following percentages:

A	93 – 100	A-	90 – 92		
B+	87 – 89	B	83 – 86	B-	80 – 82
C+	77 – 79	C	73 – 76	C-	70 – 72
D+	67 – 69	D	63 – 66	D-	60 – 62

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ (print name), have read the syllabus and have discussed it with my parent/guardian. I agree to follow and be responsible for all of the rules listed above for my Civics classroom this term. If I do not follow these rules I also agree to the consequences that may be given.

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: / /

Additional information my teacher should be aware of:

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