



South Texas ISD

**Science
Academy**

GRADES 9-12 | MERCEDES

900 Med High Dr. Mercedes, TX
956-565-4620

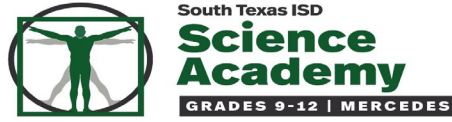
Credits per Semester	.5 credit per semester
Instructor	Instructor: Mr. John Danielson Conference Period: 2A and 2B Email: john.danielson@stisd.net
Course Description/Objectives	<p>AP Government and Politics, Spring 2021</p> <p>Objectives: In U.S. Government, the focus is on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded on the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local level. Students will be expected to analyze the major concepts of republicanism, federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, and individual rights. Students will also be expected to analyze the impact of individuals, political parties, interest groups, and the media on the American political system, evaluate the importance of voluntary individual participation in a democratic society, and analyze the rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.</p> <p>Assessment: <u>Summative Assessments</u> will take place throughout the entire semester. Students will be assessed using the following tools. Exams will cover the chapters and the course will end with a semester exam. Classwork, and when assigned, homework as well as quizzes will be used to evaluate their understanding of the material. Oral discussions and question and answer sessions will also be used to ensure that all students have a grasp of the material being covered. Two types of <u>Formative Assessments</u> will be used in this class and these will not be graded. Students will be given a written Formative prior to each chapter, and during the course of the unit individual whiteboards will be used to evaluate comprehension of the material.</p>
Required Instructional Materials	Access to It's Learning for class material and assignments. Access to Zoom for interaction with teacher and peers. Notebook or binder to maintain notes and information. Any additional material or guidance will be placed in It's Learning.
Instructional Methods	Lectures, multimedia elements, class discussions, projects, individual assignments, cooperative learning, etc.
Grading Procedures	<p>The academic year is divided into four quarters or nine-week periods. The weight for each nine-week period will be 37.5 percent and the semester exam will weigh 25 percent.</p> <p>There will be a minimum of 3 grades per student during each three weeks progress report grading period, as per district guidelines.</p>



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	<p>This course will be comprised of 3 grading categories: Major Assessments 50%, Minor Assessments 30%, and Daily Work 20%.</p> <p>What constitutes major, minor, and daily work is determined per course. [Examples: major assessments= test, project; minor assessments=quiz, engineering notebook; and daily work= notes, maps, homework]</p>
Cell Phone and Technology Policy	<p>Students are allowed to bring their own technology devices (laptops, iPads, tablets, etc.) to school. Use of these devices in the classroom is at the discretion of the teacher. Science Academy is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen devices.</p>
Assessments	<p>Frequently during the year, formative assessments will be given. These will be in the form of homework, written or oral quiz, readings and discussion, student writing, or tests. Feedback will be given on all formative assessments.</p> <p>The formative assessments are critical to learning because they provide feedback as to what essential learning we will focus on next. They will help influence and shape the process of learning while we still have time to improve before test or grades are given.</p>
Retesting Procedures	<p>Retests will be available to students upon receiving a failing grade. There may be prerequisites set by the teacher. The time and date for all retests is determined by the teacher. Any retesting assignment must be completed within one week of an excused absence.</p>
Homework & Late Assignments	<p>All assignments are due at the designated time. Homework is due at the beginning of the class hour.</p> <p>Late assignments due to absences: If a student is absent the day an assignment is due, the student shall receive a due date for the next class meeting. Assignments submitted electronically are due before the beginning of class time on the scheduled due date. Students who are absent on the day an assignment is given will need to turn in the assignment within the same time frame originally set by the teacher. Work turned in during this time shall receive full credit.</p> <p>Late assignments not due to absences: Late assignments should be turned in within a one-week period, but a deduction of 10 points will be applied per day (not class period).</p>

***All district guidelines/policies supersede campus guidelines/procedures/systems.**



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