CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT

Instructor: Amy Lawhorne

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Course objectives:

This is a high school level American Government course with a heavy emphasis on the Constitution of the United States. We will cover all the Constitutional foundations such as the Origins of Liberty, Federal Supremacy, the Declaration of Independence, the Preamble, State Sovereignty, Separation of Powers, Property Rights, Checks and Balances, etc. We will also study the three branches of government, the Bill of Rights and will spend ample time studying each amendment. By the end of the course students will be able to identify the three branches of government, the difference between a mandate/edict/executive order and a law, understand the constitution and how to protect their rights as Americans, and have a working knowledge of the Judicial system.

Classroom expectations:

In-person attendance is necessary as videos will be shown during most classes before the lecture/discussion. Classroom time will be divided between videos, in-person lectures, and hands-on projects. Make-up work (papers, tests) will be accepted up to one week after due date; however, any video lectures that are missed will be the responsibility of the student to arrange a private viewing time at Class Source, outside of normal classroom hours. Students should be able to take notes, ask questions, research independently, turn in written essays and participate in discussions.

Curriculum/supply fees:

There is a one-time supply and copy fee of $30. The fee is due by the 2nd class meeting. Students will receive the curriculum once payment is received. We will be using a video series called *Constitution Alive!* by Rick Green of The Patriots Academy. All students will be provided with the corresponding student workbook and a copy of Pocket Principles (a pocket-sized book of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence). The fee also covers all copy fees and handouts. No textbook is required for purchase.

Grading:

Attendance/class participation: 25%

Quarterly projects: 25%

Homework/Essays: 25%

Tests: 25%

Supplies needed:

Notebook paper, a notebook or computer to take notes; pens & pencils