

# United States Government

2022-2023 Syllabus



**Teacher – Dylan Wince (he/him)**

## **Contact Information**

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## **Course Description**

This course is designed for students to explore the roles and responsibilities of citizenship. In order to become engaged citizens, students will use inquiry to explore a knowledge of history, principles, and foundations of our republic. Students will analyze the foundations of government, structures and function of government, institutions of national government, law making processes, media, interest groups, political parties, media literacy, citizenship, civil liberties, and civil rights. We will be following the TUHSD Scope and Sequence.

## **Classroom Expectations**

Mr. Wince will always see you as a human, first. Mr. Wince will strive to meet your needs of safety, acceptance, joy, and being challenged intellectually, daily. You and the experiences you carry with you, make you who you are. Bring all of you, every day. Your experiences will help us find connections with the content throughout this course. Mr. Wince is excited to get to know you and for the opportunity to be a positive experience of your learning journey!

During this course, a goal Mr. Wince's is to help you encounter varying perspectives, question who is telling the story and who benefits from that telling. Another goal is to facilitate your finding of the human connections that can help us better understand context for why events happened and what happened because of how they were handled. My hope is that you will find value in asking questions and where that can lead your individual learning and our collective understandings.

When we reach the end of our time together, my hope is that you will have felt success in being reflective learners who see value and opportunities for learning in all situations. Being willing to learn helps all of us to go down the path of being good people, who understand that everyone and everything has a story to learn.

## **Equity and Inclusion Statement**

This classroom is a space that welcomes all identity on continuums of; ethnicity, socio-economic class, immigration status, medical status, religion, mental health, gender, and sexual orientation.

## **Classroom Routines**

Smiles and Frowns - Building Community

The first five or so minutes will be a time for students to evaluate where they are in their day, share with the class why they are feeling that way and to develop empathy with what is happening in other's lives. A simple designation of Smiling/Frowning/Pass and why will help our classes, over time, develop a positive classroom culture. I learned this activity from Monte Syrie, an English teacher I follow who teaches in Washington.

### Current Events - Building Awareness

Learning our content should help us better understand why and/or how things are happening around us that shape our current world. You will be asked to think about how these events are shaped through historical and political events throughout our country's history.

### Direct Instruction and Individual/Group Time - Building Knowledge

There will be a mixture of direct instruction that is whole group or small group/individual sessions for instruction. Mr. Wince will not be speaking to you showing you how smart he is. Our time will be used to see, hear, listen to information and then reflect how that impacts our understanding moving forward.

### Daily Learning Reflection - Being Reflective Learners

Each day I will ask you to complete a Daily Learning Reflection to document your thinking from the activities and interactions throughout the class period.

## **Evaluation of Learning**

Mr. Wince values learning and is striving to create an environment, with ALL students, that allows you, students, to be creative risk takers and collaborative learners.

Feedback (written and verbal) on learning will be prioritized to focus on growth of understanding.

You will be asked to daily participate in the Daily Lessons with taking notes, Common Formative Assessments (CFAs), Unit Written Assessments, Projects (individual/group), Personal Reflections and TUHSD Semester Exams. These will help guide our understanding of what is being understood and what we will need to continue to work towards.

Mr. Wince will strive to create multiple ways to demonstrate what you are learning throughout our time together.

## **Grading Policy**

Quarter Grades are based on a 10-point scale:

A = 90% or higher / B = 80-89% / C = 70-79% / D = 60-69% / F = 59%-50%

Semester grades are determined by the following percentages: Quarter 1 = 40%, Quarter 2 = 40%  
Final Exam: 20%)

## **Make-Up Work/Retakes/Homework Policy**

All work handed in will receive feedback and credit based on stated expectations.

There is a Feedback Process for edits to get to a proficient demonstration of learning.

Mr. Wince will not assign homework but you will be asked to complete any activities or lessons not finished in class.

## **Success for Everyone**

Mr. Wince truly believes there is enough success available for everyone. One person's success with their work does not mean that another student cannot be equally successful. My goal as your educator is for everyone to experience growth in their learning.

## Bell Schedules



2022-2023

Bell Schedules

TEMPE HIGH SCHOOL

Regular Schedule Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri		Min
*PER. 0	7:30 - 8:30	60
PER. 1	8:35 - 9:35	60
PER. 2	9:40 - 10:40	60
PER. 3	10:45 - 11:45	60
LUNCH (P. 4)	11:45 - 12:20	35
PER. 5	12:25 - 1:25	60
PER. 6	1:30 - 2:30	60
PER. 7	2:35 - 3:35	60
*PER. 8	3:40 - 4:40	60

Early Out Wed.		Min
Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 • Sep 7, 14, 21, 28 • Oct 12, 19, 26 • Nov 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 • Dec 7, 14 • Jan 11, 18, 25 • Feb 1, 8, 15, 22 • Mar 1, 8, 22, 29 • Apr 5, 12, 19, 26 • May 3, 10, 17		
*PER. 0	7:30 - 8:30	60
PER. 1	8:35 - 9:18	43
PER. 2	9:23 - 10:06	43
Advisory	10:06 - 10:36	43
PER. 3	10:41 - 11:24	43
LUNCH (P. 4)	11:24 - 11:59	35
PER. 5	12:04 - 12:47	43
PER. 6	12:52 - 1:35	43
PER. 7	1:40 - 2:23	43
*PER. 8	3:40 - 4:40	60

Assembly Schedule		Min
*PER. 0	7:30 - 8:30	60
PER. 1	8:35 - 9:26	51
PER. 2	9:31 - 10:22	51
PER. 3	10:27 - 11:18	51
Assembly	11:23 - 12:07	44
LUNCH (P. 4)	12:12 - 12:47	35
PER. 5	12:52 - 1:43	51
PER. 6	1:48 - 2:39	51
PER. 7	2:44 - 3:35	51
*PER. 8	3:40 - 4:40	60
Aug. 26th / Dec. 2nd / Feb. 24th / May 5th		

\*Student Request Class Period.

Half Day (No Lunch)		Min
*PER. 0	7:30 - 8:30	60
PER. 1	8:35 - 9:10	35
PER. 2	9:15 - 9:50	35
PER. 3	9:55 - 10:30	35
PER. 5	10:35 - 11:10	35
PER. 6	11:15 - 11:50	35
PER. 7	11:55 - 12:30	35
*PER. 8	12:35 - 1:35	60
Fri., Sept. 2nd, 2022		
Wed., Sept. 14th, 2022 - Dist. Inservice		
Wed., Feb. 1st, 2023 - Dist. Inservice		
Fri., Feb. 17th, 2023		

Semester Finals Early Out (No lunch)		
<b>Dec 20/May 22</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
Period 1	8:35am	10:00am
Nutrition Break	10:05am	10:25am
Period 2	10:30am	11:55am
<b>Dec 21/May 23</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
Period 3	8:35am	10:00am
Nutrition Break	10:05am	10:25am
Period 5	10:30am	11:55am
<b>Dec 22/May 24</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
Period 6	8:35am	10:00am
Nutrition Break	10:05am	10:25am
Period 7	10:30am	11:55am

Homecoming (Buff Bash) Date - Oct. 14th		Min
*PER. 0	7:30 - 8:30	60
PER. 1	8:35 - 9:10	34
PER. 2	9:15 - 9:50	34
PER. 3	9:55 - 10:30	34
LUNCH (P. 4)	10:30 - 11:05	35
PER. 5	11:10 - 11:45	34
PER. 6	11:50 - 12:25	35
PER. 7	12:30 - 1:05	34
Assembly/Buf Bash	1:05-3:35	150
*PER. 8	3:40 - 4:40	60

## Learning Resources

Online Textbook – *United States Government: Our Democracy* (McGraw Hill) will be accessible through Schoology. As a class, we will walk through how to access the online textbook.

Other – Other resources (*primary/secondary sources, articles, etc.*) will always be posted in the appropriate folders within the Schoology course.

## Technical Support

In the event that you need technical support, please take the following steps:

1. First, contact me, Mr. Wince. Please be as specific as possible on where you are stuck or what the issue is, and I will do my best to assist you.
2. Second, see the “Technical Support” folder in the Schoology course. This will include links and contact information that you will need to resolve your issue.
3. Third, contact Tech Support, [thssupport@tuhsd.k12.az.us](mailto:thssupport@tuhsd.k12.az.us) Again, please be sure to be as specific as possible when describing the issue.