

## HIGH SCHOOL

**Course Syllabus:** Ag. Government/Econ  
**Course Instructor:** Ms. Ashley  
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**Classroom:** Room 208  
**Website:** <http://msashleysscience.webs.com>

**Description of Course** - This course prepares students with an understanding of the institutions of American government. Students will compare systems of government in the world today and analyze the history and changing interpretations of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the current state of the legislative, executive, and judiciary branches of government within the context of the field of agriculture. An emphasis is placed on analyzing the relationship among federal, state, and local governments with particular attention paid to important historical documents such as the Federalist Papers. This course also requires the completion of a student project (Supervised Agriculture Experience Project -- SAEP) and participation in leadership activities through FFA as described in the state guidelines of all agriculture programs. This course is aligned to the California Content Standards in History-Social Science and the California Standards for Agriculture Education. Rationale for Course - America's agriculture industry is the mainstay of the United States. An understanding of the American political process and its influence on agriculture and the individual will strengthen the students understanding of the constitution and our forms of government. This course represents the culmination of civic literacy as students prepare to vote, participate in community activities, and assume the responsibility of citizenship. This course differs from the "regular" government course in that it offers content in an agriculture setting allowing the school agriculture lab to become an integral part of the course.

**Supervised Agricultural Experience Project (SAEP) & Record Book:**

All students are required to participate in an SAE project which will allow the active application of science based principles in a "learn by doing" environment. The project will be documented in the FFA Record Book. The Record Book (properly updated and correctly completed) is worth 10% of the total grade earned. This will be primarily an in-class activity, but the activities & participation recorded will be extracurricular. This SAE may consist of a project in the field of agriculture, science, or industrial technology, and will allow students to experience career skills in the industry. **Examples** include metal or wood shop projects, customer service, horticulture, community service, gardening, working in floral design, landscaping, and livestock (breeding or market animals). **There is a minimum requirement for 30 hours (10 hours per 6-week grading period second semester) to be completed for first year Ag members and 60 hours for second, third, and fourth year members. (10 hours per 6-week grading period first and second semester)**

To clarify... you must have a **MINIMUM** of 30 hours per semester - NO "roll over" of hours for advanced members. Fall semester starting June 1<sup>st</sup> and ending Dec. 14, 2020. Spring semester Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> 2021 through May 21, 2021. Seniors submission date is May 12, 2021

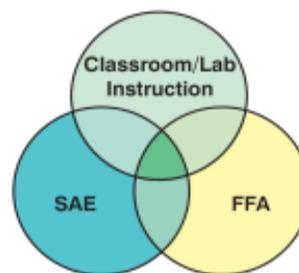
## FFA:

All students in the State of California enrolled in an Agriculture class are members of the FFA (Future Farmers of America). FFA is an organization that makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. The FFA is an integral part of every agricultural class. Every student's grade will be enhanced by participation in this organization. Meetings, events, field days, fundraisers, conferences, community service, and competitions are just a few of the ways students can become involved in the FFA. **There is a minimum requirement of 3 FFA Activities per semester. (1 activity per 6-week grading period). If you are (or think you might be) interested in raising a livestock project in spring, you are required to complete 50% of all Fall FFA activities.**

### Grading Policy

A+ = 98% - 100%  
B+ = 88% - 89%  
C+ = 78% - 79%  
D+ = 68% - 69%  
F = 59% or below

A = 95% - 97%  
B = 85% - 87%  
C = 75% - 77%  
D = 65% - 67%



### Assessment Methods

Assignments	40%
Tests and Quizzes	25%
Labs & Projects	15%
SAE & Record Book	10%
FFA Activities	10%

### Homework Assignments

All homework assignments/projects are to be done in blue ink, black ink, or in pencil. The writing must be legible. If I cannot read your handwriting, or the assignment is completed in a color ink other than blue or black, it will be returned to you and asked to be redone. (The professional world uses blue or black ink and, when completing the assignments for my class, so should you.)

All papers must have your name (first AND last), class, period, and date in the upper right hand-corner (or in designated areas) or no score will be given.

All homework assignments are to be turned in on the due date stated unless prior arrangements have been made and approved by me. Late assignments may be subject to a 10% reduction (1 letter grade) in the total points value possible FOR EACH DAY the assignment is late (up to 3 days). **No late work will**

***be accepted after the final assessment when that unit is completed without prior consent. NO EXCEPTIONS***

Following an EXCUSED absence it is your responsibility to make up missed work. For each day of an excused absence, you will have the same amount of time to make up work. For example if you are absent one day... you will be allowed one day to make up missed work; two days of excused absence you will be allowed two days up to 7 days. After that NO work will be accepted for that absence, unless prior arrangements have been made. **It is your responsibility to come to me and ask for the assignment(s).** In addition, current lecture notes will be available on this website which will be accessible for you to record in your binder when absent. Hard copies of Class notes may be requested, however they are not be removed from the classroom. It is your responsibility to enter this information into your science notebook as soon as possible, especially prior to test and/or before a notebook check. Notebook checks may be random so make sure you keep your notebook up to date and bring to class on a daily basis. (Notebook grades, SAE & record books as well as FFA activities will significantly affect your grade).

Plagiarism or copying another's work is unacceptable...PERIOD! All of your work is to be completed by you, using your own words. Plagiarism or cheating during a test will result in a score of zero for that assignment or test. In addition, anyone assisting someone in cheating will also receive a zero for the assignment or test. The appropriate administrative personnel will be notified. Academic dishonesty will be noted on your academic record.

### **Class Rules & Expectations**

1. You are expected to be **on time**, ready to work when the bell rings!
2. Please come to class **prepared** for the day's lesson with assignments completed, your binder, pen/pencils and paper (Especially on test days).
3. Be **respectful** to your teacher, your classmates and to yourself
4. There is **NO eating, drinking, or gum chewing** in the classroom/lab.
5. Students will be allowed to use cell phones as a learning tool for specific assignments only.

### **Teacher/Student Responsibilities**

1. Present the content in a variety of ways over a workable period of time so that every student is given an opportunity to assimilate and communicate his/her knowledge of the information and succeed in our class.
2. Arrangements can be made with me to provide after-school tutoring for students who require extra help or need to retake a formative quiz.
3. Contact parents consistently via **School Loop** to keep them informed of assignments and projects due, scheduled tests, failing grades, and both positive and negative behaviors.
4. Print and post grades every Thursday (anonymously with student ID #s)
5. Return parent calls/reply to parent emails within 24 hours.

### **Student Responsibility**

1. Come to school EVERY DAY, on time with your Science 3-ring binder, your own pencils and a positive attitude!

2. PUT AWAY ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES UPON ENTERING the classroom. These devices are a distraction to your learning as well as your surrounding classmates!!! You may ONLY have such devices out according to my directions. If you are not compliant, these will be confiscated and require parent/guardian pickup in the discipline office before 3:00 PM. Consider this as your warning!
3. Record your grade EVERY Thursday on your Semester Grading Sheet.
4. Complete each class and homework assignment neatly and on time. Study for quizzes/tests in plenty of time to perform well on these assessments.
5. Abide by the Don Lugo Dress Code. Inappropriate clothing will be reported and you are subject to school code consequences
6. Do your own work - no cheating or plagiarizing! Come to after school tutoring when you need help.

**Parents and Students:** Please sign and return this page only to indicate that you have carefully read the entire syllabus. If you have any questions regarding this syllabus, please contact me using the contact information provided on the first page. TO PRINT THIS PAGE please right click, click on print then only print out page 3.

Thank you very much for your help and support! I'm very much looking forward to working with you this year.

**Student Signature**

I have read my course syllabus. I understand that I will be held responsible for following all of the rules, regulations, and policies explained therein. (Suggestion from Ms. Ashley...It's a good idea to keep the syllabus in your notebook and use it as a reference tool as needed).

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature**

I have read the course syllabus. I understand that my child will be held responsible for following all the rules, regulations, and policies explained therein. I will use the syllabus (found in my son/daughter's notebook) as a reference tool when necessary.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Information: Please supply the following information so that I may contact you and keep you updated on your student's progress.

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Important Telephone 3: Daytime: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening: \_\_\_\_\_ or Work:

\_\_\_\_\_ Which number do you prefer I use for contacting you? \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (if you prefer to communicate this way) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Please write any information that you would like to share regarding your son/daughter to help us have a positive and successful school year:

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