

7th Grade Civics - Course Syllabus for 2022-2023

August 17, 2022

Dear Archimedean Middle Conservatory Civics Students (and Parents),

Welcome to a new academic year at Archimedean Middle Conservatory! It is my great pleasure to have you in my Civics class this year. Together, we will have a year full of learning and growth. As President Lincoln once said, “Let no feeling of discouragement prey upon you, and in the end you are sure to succeed.” I want to assure you that I am always available to provide guidance and support with the topics we cover in class. Not only is my main goal to teach our students Civics, but to challenge students to reach your maximum potential. Your success in my class is *always* my number one priority. As you step into this important part of your school life, please take the advice that Archimedes once said, “Rise above oneself and grasp the world.” As this school year begins, I want to share with you some important information regarding this class:

Course Description:

Civics/American Government is a required course by the State of Florida. At the end of the year, there is a required Florida End of the Course Exam (EOC). The focus of this course is to: A) prepare students to learn about their civic rights and responsibilities as thoughtful, informed, and participant citizens and residents, and, B) to pass the Civics End of Course Exam (EOC) that is required by the State of Florida.

Civics educates and informs students about the rights and responsibilities of US Citizenship and Residency. In addition, it provides a framework for competent and responsible participation in our local community and in our representative democracy. This class also teaches you the historical development of our governmental and political systems, and the importance of the rule of law. Students will learn the details of the United States Constitution; Federal, State, and local government structure; and the rights and responsibilities of all those who live in the United State of America. Students will also actively investigate local, state, and national issues, read historical documents, research primary and secondary sources, participate in discussions, and develop informed arguments using a variety of credible sources and writing techniques.

Teacher’s Name & Email: Toufic Zakharia. You can reach me at: Toufic.Zakharia@archimedean.org

Class Materials

- Paper: College ruled notebook, Lined Paper (loose leaf or pad)
- Folder: Folder for keeping homework assignments
- Writing Utensils: Pencil, pen, eraser, colored pens/highlighters (to organize your notes)
- Studying: Flash cards (to help you study)
- Printing: 1 package of copy paper & Printer ink (helpful to print assignments when needed)
- Miscellaneous: A box of wipes, Dry erase markers.
- Projects: Other items to be determined later in year for projects

Disciplinary Strike System

Students will be given a strike for the following negative behaviors in the classroom.

Every 5 strikes will lower the conduct grade **one letter grade**.

- A. Playing with items such as plastic bottle and other items that disrupt the classroom.
- B. Whistling or making noises in the classroom.
- C. Talking back or being disrespectful to the teacher.
- D. Insulting other students or being disrespectful.
- E. Not raising his/her hand and interrupting the teacher or others who are speaking
- F. Standing up without permission.
- G. Using, expressing, or displaying profanity or derogatory language
- H. Not putting their full name and date on their assignment.
- I. Not writing legibly on their assignments.
- J. Playing games, surfing the internet, drawing, or doing non-class activity on IPAD or devices
- K. Not putting down their IPADS or electronic devices when asked to in class.
- L. Not wearing the proper uniform, not following school policies and safety protocols
- M. Eating in the classroom.
- N. Sleeping in the classroom.
- O. Walking about or out of the classroom without permission.
- P. Making a mess, littering, or not cleaning up after yourself in the classroom
- Q. Not participating in class when instructed to do so
- R. Any other behavior or issues that may disrupt the class

Topics covered by Florida Standards:

- Topic 0: Welcome – Introductions, Policies, Expectations, Procedures, Civics Overview
- Topic 1: Civics & Citizenship
- Topic 2: Foundations of Government
- Topic 3: Creating the U.S. Constitution
- Topic 4: Political Participation
- Topic 5: Monitoring Government
- Topic 6: Organization and Overview of the U.S. Constitution
- Topic 7: Branches of Government (Articles 1-3) and the Legislative Process
- Topic 8: Constitutional Amendments
- Topic 9: Impacts of Law and Legal System
- Topic 10: Federalism
- Topic 11: Public Policy
- Topic 12: Forms vs. Systems of Government
- Topic 13: Globalization
- Topic 14: EOC Review & Exam
- Topic 15: Being an Economically Responsible Citizen/Resident

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Toufic Zakharia, 7th Grade Civics Teacher, Archimedean Middle Conservatory (AMC)