

**GREAT NECK SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL  
COURSE EXPECTATION SHEET**

**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT  
COURSE: AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS - US**

The objective of this course is to provide students an opportunity to increase their knowledge and understanding of the constitutional foundations of government, the institutions of national government, the impact of the media on national politics, civil rights and civil liberties, interest groups, political beliefs and behaviors, and public policy.

To meet this objective, the course is designed to provide students with experiences in:

- analyzing and interpreting both primary and secondary sources
- note-taking from class discussions
- research
- essay writing in order to develop a facility in clear and precise expression

**TEXTS:**

American Government, Wilson & Dilulio; Perspective on American Government, Lasser

**TESTING:**

There will be at least two (2) major tests each quarter.

**GRADING:** A student's grade in this course will be based on several factors:

- participation in class
- homework
- essays and research assignments
- performance on tests
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**ATTENDANCE AND MAKE UP WORK:**

As part of your grade rests on classroom involvement, it is important that you make an honest effort to be in class, on time, everyday. For times that it becomes necessary to be out of class, or tardy to class, please follow the following school rules:

- (a) Should you have a prearranged absence, it is your responsibility to consult with your teacher before you are absent from class.

- (b) All make up work should be completed within one calendar week.
- (c) Since you are responsible for being prepared for class each day, it is strongly advised that you get the phone number of someone in your class in order to inquire about work missed during your absence. If a quiz occurs on the day that you return, you are responsible for taking it.

**ATTENDANCE PHILOSOPHY:**

Regular attendance and punctuality are expected. Cutting is not permitted. If you intentionally absent yourself from a class without legitimate reason you will not be entitled to make up any assignments or exams missed during that period. Intentional absences are a clear message that you are not interested in doing your best. Excessive illegal absence or any cutting will result in parental notification and will have a negative impact on how your class participation will be factored into your quarter and final grades.

**POLICY ON TARDINESS:**

It is very important that you make every effort to be in class on time everyday. Not only will you miss part of the class if you are late, but you will disturb others as you enter.

**RULES FOR TARDINESS:**

- (a) It is your responsibility to bring a pass if you are tardy to class.
- (b) Your teacher will determine procedures for unexcused tardiness
- (c) The student is reminded that participation and effort are considered a vital part of the final grade.

**EXTRA HELP:**

The regular help day is \_\_\_\_\_. When necessary, other arrangements will be made.

**PLAGIARISM STATEMENT:**

**Plagiarism** is defined as presenting the thoughts, writings, and ideas of other people as your own.

Integrity of the academic process requires that credit be given where credit is due.

Accordingly, it is unethical to present as one's own work, the ideas, representations, or words of another or to permit another to present one's own work without customary and proper acknowledgment of sources.

