**Civics and Economics**

**Mr. Gavins**

**Description:**

Students will develop an increased understanding of United States institutions of constitutional democracy, and the fundamental principles and values upon which they are founded. The skills necessary to participate as effective and responsible citizens, and the knowledge of how to use democratic procedures for making decisions and managing conflict will also be studied.

Students will also understand the role economic factors play in making personal life decisions, the ability to reason logically about key economic issues, and the knowledge and skills needed to manage personal financial resources effectively for a lifetime to ensure financial security.

**Classroom Procedures and Expectations:**

Each day will be adapted to accomplish the goals set for that day, however a typical day will go as follows:

* Students will arrive on time
* They should prepare for the learning activity which will have a research and typing/writing component. Chromebooks must be charged ready for use when you enter the classroom daily. Writing paper and black/blue pens should also be brought to class daily.
* Class time will consist of a learning activity and/or a discussion of the material, and other relevant assignments.
* Any classwork not completed in class should be finished as homework

Many of our lessons may require reading at home. If there is a reading assigned, then it should be completed as homework and students should be prepared to discuss what each has read.

Classroom rules include, but are not limited to, the rules of both Weddington High School and Union County Public Schools. It is my goal as a teacher to create a safe learning environment for all students.

* No cell phones—place in cell phone holder/caddy
  + Any cell phone seen outside holder will be confiscated and placed in teacher’s desk until end of the 4th Block.
  + Repeat confiscations will result in the cell phone being turned into the office and kept until a parent/guardian retrieves the cell phone.
* Behavior
  + Classroom disruptions will not be tolerated and will result in the following
    - Verbal Warning
    - Write up
    - Office referral
    - Parent phone call
* Chromebooks
  + The Chromebooks are an extremely valuable tool for learning history, however they should be treated with that respect.
  + Students should only use their Chromebooks as they are assigned
  + Any off task usage will result in the disallowance of use for the remainder of the block.

**Assignments:**

Assignments for the year will include research, written assignments and/or projects. All assignments should be turned in on time. Any late assignment will be docked 10 points for every day that it is late, with a maximum deduction of 50 points.

Homework/Classwork- The aforementioned assignments.

Tests/Quizzes- Assessments taken at the end of each chapter and/or unit.

Projects- Projects are meant to show a deeper understanding of the material covered. Each project should be treated in high regard and should produce high levels of work.

**Partner and/or Group work:**

Students will be allowed to work with a partner and/or other students on most assignments and projects, but have the choice to work alone. The expectation is that each student will learn what the other student(s) contributed to the assignment or project enough to successfully submit the entire assignment or project, whether online and/or in person. Successful submission includes answering questions from the teacher about the assignment or project even though the other student(s) are absent when the submission occurs.

Occasionally, the teacher may assign a student with a partner and/or a group for a specific assignment or project. Any problems which arise will be dealt with on a case by case basis.

**Grading Scale:**

* Homework/Classwork- variable points per assignment
* Special/Oral presentations- 25-50 points per presentation
* Tests/Quizzes/Projects- 20-25 points minimum for tests/quizzes.

**Movies/Videos:**

Although it is not a key focus in my class, videos and movies can be invaluable to the learning process in regards to history. With that being said, many of the movies with historical value are rated R. You will receive a video release form to allow your student to view these videos and movies, please return it signed. Any student that does not feel comfortable with a movie/video will be given an alternate assignment.

I am excited for the upcoming semester and I hope you are too. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me and I will respond as soon as possible.

Email: charles.gavins@ucps.k12.nc.us

Phone: 704-708-5530 ext. 1786

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent phone number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Video Release**

I allow my student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in activities involving movies/videos in class.

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_