

Civics: Our American Government

Grades 9-12

Course Description:

This Civics course focuses on primary texts written during the pre-colonial era to the Civil War. Through these readings and discussion, the class will gain insight into the nation and culture in which they live. The goal is to assist the students in thinking critically and understanding their role as citizens in our democratic republic and the City of God. We will carefully examine and evaluate 1) the political philosophy upon which the foundation our government is built, 2) the Biblical idea of government and how our government compares, and 3) social issues that have presented problems to our culture such as racism and egalitarianism. The deeper goal of the class is to promote a love of learning in the students. This will be accomplished through the glimpses of godly virtues in the reading assignments and the excitement and challenge of class discussions employing Socratic-style questioning. We will also look at modern U.S. governmental structure and function to aid the student in becoming an educated citizen. Students will complete pre-class notes on the reading selections, a short reflection essay after the discussions conclude on the book, and a 4-5 page term paper dealing with a major theme in one of the selections.

Possible reading selections:

Wk. 1/2	Exodus
Wk. 3/4	Locke
Wk. 5	Hobbes
Wk. 6	Declaration of Independence & Constitution
Wk. 7/8	Romans
Wk. 9/10	Federalist/Anti-Federalist Papers
Wk. 13	Thoreau
Wk. 14	Autobiography of Frederick Douglass
Wk. 15/16	Lincoln

Cost per semester: \$150.

Materials fee: \$20.

Min. number of students: 10 Max. number of students: 15

Text: The info on purchasing the books listed above will be mailed with your confirmed registration. Students will need identical copies of these books for discussion purposes.

Instructor: Mr. Andrew Selby

(Please see the *Intro to Philosophy* course for Mr. Selby's biographical info)

This course is a single semester course and is worth 5 units.

CIVICS – Registration Form

The cost of this course involves a **Course Fee**, **Materials Fee**, and **Co-op Fees**.

Checks for all three must be submitted with your registration (reg) form.

Though most people make full payment at time of registration, APS allows installment payment checks. You may pay in full or in 2 installments.

ALL installment payment checks MUST BE INCLUDED with your registration form.

1. Payment of Course Fee: MAKE PAYABLE TO ANDREW SELBY

- 1 ck. in the amt of \$150 due @ time of reg. **or**
- 2 cks in the amt of \$ 75 due @ time of reg.

Make one dated reg-date and the other dated 11/1/06

2. Payment of Materials Fees for the year: MAKE PAYABLE TO ANDREW SELBY

- 1 ck. in the amt of \$20 due @ time of reg.

3. Payment of Co-op Fees for the year: MAKE PAYABLE TO “CASH”

- 1 ck. in the amt of \$16 due @ time of reg. **or**
- 2 cks. in the amt of \$ 8 due @ time of reg.

Make one dated reg-date and the other dated 11/1/06

Parent's Names

Phone No.

e-mail _____ @ _____ . _____

Student Name

Grade

Initial registration closes June 23.

Questions by e-mail: Melody @ zmelody@pacbell.net

Mail this registration form with **ALL payment checks** mentioned above **and SASE** to:

Mrs. Trish Kenney

28454 N. Incline Lane

Santa Clarita, CA 91390