

BANNEKER HIGH SCHOOL

Junior Achievement- Magnet Business Academy



Course Title: American Government
Instructor: Ms. L. Morgan
E-mail: MorganL2@fultonschools.org
Class website: www.msmorgangovernment.weebly.com

JA-MBA MISSION

The mission of the Junior Achievement Magnet Business Academy is to engage students in a rigorous course of study designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to succeed in the global economy.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In conjunction with the Junior Achievement of America, Banneker High Schools' JA-MBA is specifically designed to give high school students an in-depth understanding of the importance of economic success and financial literacy. Key concepts such as the importance of contracts, decision making, communication, and collaboration will be integrated in the course content.

American Government is in-depth study of the American political system. This course focuses on the foundation, principles, and structure of the American system of government; examines the role of political parties; examines social factors as they relate to the role of the citizen; and analyzes the decision-making process that are a part of the system of American political behavior. This course meets the state's Citizenship requirement for graduation.

Through project-based learning activities developed by both the teacher, as well as JA, students will apply critical thinking skills in realistic scenarios and will actively engage in project based learning to aid them in making informed decisions related to American Government.

The course is taught based on the Georgia Performance Standards (GPS), as prescribed by the Georgia Department of Education. A complete copy of the American Government/Civics GPS is available at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/standards/Georgia%20Performance%20Standards/American%20Government%202009-2010%208-14-2008.pdf>.

COURSE COMPETENCIES/ LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Students will identify their roles in civic life, politics and government.
- ✓ Students will identify the foundations of the American political system.
- ✓ Students will understand how the government established by the Constitution embodies the purposes, values, and principles of American democracy.
- ✓ Students will understand the relationship of the United States to other nations and to world affairs.
- ✓ Students will identify their roles in American democracy.
- ✓ Students will become familiar with current events at the local, state, national and international levels as they relate to government and how it functions.
- ✓ Students will become aware of the importance of civic participation in local elections.
- ✓ Students will be able to effectively demonstrate their learning in a written or oral format.

STAY CONNECTED:

Text @morgag to 81010 to receive class updates and visit [www.msmorgangovernment@weebly.com!](http://www.msmorgangovernment@weebly.com)

DAILY SUPPLIES

- ✓ **Organized** Binder
- ✓ Paper
- ✓ Ink Pen (Black or Blue **ONLY**)
- ✓ Pencil
- ✓ One sheet protector
- ✓ Highlighter

STUDENT EVALUATION

Summative Assessments - 25%
Interactive Notebook/ Quizzes - 15%
Homework - 10%
Classwork - 30%
Final Exam - 20%

EXPECTATIONS REGARDING ACADEMICS AND CLASSROOM CLIMATE:

PREPAREDNESS:

You are expected to be in your assigned seat, with your notebook [including paper and assigned homework completed], and a writing utensil on your desk when the bell rings. You will be considered “prepared” if:

- You are seated when the bell rings.
- You are prepared to discuss the past lesson and ready to discuss today's assignment.
- You have the materials needed for this class.

HALL PASSES:

Hall Passes are for emergencies **ONLY**. Students are allotted five hall passes per semester. Hall passes are given out to use the restroom or to attend to other emergencies, not to go to the vending machine. Hall passes will not be given during the first 15 or last 15 minutes of class.

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY:

Students are allowed to bring personal electronic devices to class; however, Banneker High School, nor JA will assume no responsibility for the loss or thief of such devices. Additionally, students may only use their personal electronic devices for instructional purposes, as directed by the teacher. Electronic devices should remain stored away until the teacher gives permission for their use. Unauthorized use of devices could result in detention, device being submitted to an administrator, or loss of device privileges for instructional purposes.

ATTENDANCE:

Your primary goal should be to attend class daily and on-time. The fun activities and the learning process are only beneficial if you are present for all of it. However, should you have to miss class for a valid reason keep in mind that it is **your** responsibility to see me **immediately** upon your return to school at the end of class or at the end of the school day. Do not request missing assignments during instruction. Students who miss class must attend the next tutorial session in order to make up work and receive credit. Documentation must be presented in the case of missed unit tests. Students who fail to meet standard on assessments must attend the next scheduled tutorial.

DETENTION POLICY:

The purpose of the detention policy is to deter inappropriate behavior and have an immediate response to such behavior. The detention policy will also serve as an alternative to suspension, help to eliminate disruptive behavior and preserve the high standard of behavior in the Banneker High School JA-MBA. The detention policy is devised as a means to address all issues that are most disruptive to the teaching and learning environment. These issues include, but are not limited to: tardiness, disrespect, failure to complete class assignments, horseplay, class cutting, and use of profane language. Students assigned detention will report to the teachers' classroom immediately by 3:35 p.m., and will remain in the classroom until 4:05 p.m. Students who fail to report for detention will be referred to an administrator and will be subjected to the disciplinary cycle.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT PLAN: SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Ultimate Goals	Teacher will...	Students will...	Reward(s)	Consequence(s)
Be respectful	Model the behaviors that we expect from our students.	use appropriate language (not make gang references, use profanity, insult others (including use of N-word), or make sexually explicit comments	1. Home Work Pass 2. Other (to be determined by teacher and/or student)	1. Verbal reprimand 2. Parent Contact: A phone call home (if behavior continues), an e-mail, or a letter to parents (inform parents of behavior) 3. A conference with parents through the counselor's office (discuss behavior and create a behavior improvement plan) 4. Contact grade level administrator
Be Responsible	Come prepared to teach from bell to bell every day	Come to class prepared (have all required materials, have assignments ready, be in class every day (be on time), pay attention, follow all school and county rules, use restrooms at appropriate times (during passing period or lunch, not during the first and last 15 minutes of class)	Same as above	Same as above
Be Reasonable	Be firm, fair and consistent	Demonstrate integrity (if you know better...do better), leave electronics at home, not engage in horseplay, fighting or yelling	Same as above	Same as above, except for fighting which is an automatic referral to administrator *Please note that horseplay may worsen and become a fight
Be Responsive	Listen to the concerns of students	Remain seated until dismissed by the teacher, participate (ask questions, answer when spoken to, follow teacher's instructions)	Same as above	Same as above

GUIDELINES FOR THE MAKE UP AND RECOVERY PROCEDURE

MAKE UP

The purpose of the make-up policy is to give a student the opportunity to receive specific tutoring of instruction missed and/or to complete assignments missed due to an excused absence. This policy is specially designed so that students with legitimate absences have an equal opportunity to master the coursework. At least one day out of the week is set aside for morning and afternoon Tutorial/Make Up. **Within five school days of the student's return from an absence, it is the student's responsibility to contact the teacher for make-up instruction and assignment(s), unless an alternative arrangement has been made before the 5 day deadline.**

DEPARTMENTAL POLICY FOR LATE AND MAKE UP WORK

The Social Studies department will accept late work up until five days after the missed due date. Ten percentage points will be lost for each day the assignment is late. **NO late work will be accepted after the fifth day.**

RECOVERY POLICY:

The purpose of the recovery procedure is to give a student an opportunity to continue to work on objectives not yet mastered and to be reassessed when the teacher and student determine that the student has mastered the material. As part of the recovery opportunity, the student may need to attend help sessions, work with a peer or volunteer tutor, or engage in additional assigned learning activities.

RECOVERY IS NOT THE SAME AS MAKE-UP. RECOVERY IS *IN ADDITION* TO ALL REQUIRED ASSIGNMENTS.

Guidelines

1. Every 6 weeks, a student progress report is sent home. If a student's performance shows an appreciable decline between these reports, the instructor will make reasonable effort to notify the student and parent (It is the responsibility of the parent to ensure accurate contact information is on file with the schools data clerk).
2. After notification, it is the student's responsibility to ask the teacher for a recovery assignment. Teachers will document by date when a student requests and/or receives recovery assignments.
3. The students must have completed all work required to date and put forth effort to meet all course requirements including attendance (no more than three unexcused absences per grading period, two for block schedule).
4. Students should complete recovery work within the grading period in which the student is failing and/or exhibiting significant decline in the cumulative average.
5. Students must complete all recovery assignments before the last ten (10) days of the semester.
6. Recovery opportunities must be directly related to the objectives that have not been mastered.
7. The grade on the recovery assignment will replace the failing or low grade for which the recovery is sought.

PROGRESS REPORTS:

Progress Reports will be provided to students and parents after the completion of 6, 12, and 18 weeks of the term.

I have read the aforementioned course information, and agree to abide by all expectations as outlined by Banneker High School JA-MBA and Junior Achievement.

Student Name (print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____