



# Chandler Unified School District

## SOC400 US/AZ Government and Constitution

### SY 2023-24



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## Course Overview

### Course Description

This course uses inquiry to explore how to become active citizens by exploring the history, principles, and foundations of our republic. It will enable students to think about the multiple levels of government through a comprehensive study of civics from many angles and perspectives while paying attention to related current events. Students will acquire knowledge of the responsibility as a citizen to the

### AP/IB/Dual Enrollment

This not an AP, IB, or Dual Enrollment course.

### Prerequisite/Fee(s)

None

### Course Materials

- A single-subject spiral notebook
- District-issued laptop

### Adopted Resource(s)

Magruder's American Government (Pearson)

*\*An asterisk will indicate a resource containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions. CUSD has determined that all resources listed above are of exceptional educational value.*

## Site and Faculty Information

### School name and address:

Perry High School, 1919 E Queen Creek Rd, Gilbert, AZ 85297

### Building principal:

Heather Patterson  
patterson.heather@cusd80.com

### Teacher:

Dr. Arthur Ornelas, Jr. BA, MEd, PhD  
ornelas.arthur@cusd80.com

**Office hours:** T-Th 2:15pm to 3:30pm

## Course Access

This course is taught in-person at Perry High School. Students will have access to the curriculum and instruction in the classroom. Google Classroom is the primary location for students to access material when absent from classes taught in person.

## Help

### Academic Support

- Contact the teacher to schedule an appointment during office hours
- [Ed Tech](#) support for students, parents/guardians, and community link ([cusd80.com/Page/45109](https://cusd80.com/Page/45109))

### Mental Health Support

- CUSD mental health support [cusd80.com/Domain/10528](https://cusd80.com/Domain/10528) or 480-573-8808 (talk or text)
- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 9-8-8 hotline
- 24-hour Crisis Line Talk: 602-222-9444, Text: 741-741

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## Student Conduct, Success, and Responsibilities

### Student Handbook

Students must follow the policies and procedures established in the Student Handbook. Copies of the handbook can be found at [cusd80.com/handbooks](https://www.cusd80.com/handbooks). Printed copies will be provided upon request.

### Student Responsibilities

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CONTROVERSIAL TOPICS: All government systems are laden with the righteous & the unrighteous; the mundane & the tantalizing; persecutions & liberties; politics & religion. Some content in this class deals with current real-world, controversial issues. It is vital that everyone is respectful of each other's opinions, backgrounds, beliefs, and world views. There will be a lot of agreement and disagreement on topics. Listening is essential to communicating. Everyone is to be valued and respected.

1. You will engage in several different types of activities; from assignments you will complete at home to discussions to synchronous class assignments.
2. Show up to class on-time and prepared each day with all homework is done, assignments are read.

### MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS & ACTIVITIES

1. Students will be assessed with class assignments: FRAMEWorks, quizzes, unit tests, discussions, activities, and projects.
2. Length of online assignments will vary daily, but students should expect some type of homework on a regular basis.

### STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND EXPECTATIONS:

You are expected to conduct yourselves appropriately. The purpose of a school is to provide all students with an opportunity to learn in a safe and orderly environment. This environment is established by providing students with clear explanations of expected behavior.

### Late work

Assignments submitted 1-day late, can earn 70%. After that, it zeros out in the gradebook. If you're absent and I grade that day's assignment, I put a "0" in the gradebook. I do this because it motivates you to get the assignment completed and to me. I don't do this to be mean.

Assignments on UNEXCUSED absences will earn a "0" in the gradebook and cannot be made up, so be sure to have your parents call the attendance office to excuse your absences.

## Assessments and Assignments

Students will complete assessments during each unit of study to assess their understanding. Students will complete the CUSD Common Final at the end of the first and second semesters. The Common Final will count for 20% of the student's final semester grade in grades 9-12 and 10% in grades 7-8 (some exceptions may apply at the Junior High level). Common finals will be in ELA, Math, Science, Social Science, and World Language.

Final exams will be given during the CUSD Jr High/High School Early Dismissal days in December and May, as identified on the [District Calendar](#).

If students are requested to participate in a survey, the survey questions will be provided to parents/guardians seven days before student contact.

## Grading

### Grade Percentage

A	B	C	D	F
90% - 100%	80% - 89%	70% - 79%	60% - 69%	<60%

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### **Quarter grades**

Students will engage in several different types of activities; from assignments you will complete at home to discussions to synchronous class assignments.

### **Semester grades**

Semester grades are calculated using 40/40/20: Each quarter accounts for 40% of the semester grade and the final exam accounts for the remaining 20%.

## **Units of study**

### **Units for SOC400 US/AZ Government and Constitution**

Foundations of Government  
The Beginnings of American Government  
The Legislative Branch  
The Executive Branch  
The Judicial Branch  
Elections, Voting and Voter Behavior

*\*An asterisk will indicate a unit of study containing sexually explicit materials per legislative definitions.*



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## Parent/Guardian

### Acknowledgment

Parents/Guardians should indicate if they "Acknowledge" or have a "Potential Conflict" with their student's participation in the following units by checking the appropriate box for each unit of study listed. Students cannot opt out of a standards-based unit. Marking "Potential Conflict" will prompt the teacher to make contact regarding assignment alternatives.

Unit of study	Acknowledge	Potential Conflict
Foundations of Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Beginnings of American Government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Legislative Branch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Executive Branch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Judicial Branch	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elections, Voting and Voter Behavior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**By signing and returning this form**, the parent/guardian acknowledges they have reviewed the resources and units of the study included in the syllabus.

- As the parent/guardian, I understand that I may contact the teacher if I have questions about the resources, content, or units of study.
- As the parent/guardian, I understand I can check my student's grades in Infinite Campus anytime during the school year.

Student name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return this page to your student's teacher.***