

August 15, 2018

Mr. Jeff Carrow
American Government / Economics
Syllabus, Expectations, and Evaluations

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year at Bear River High School. As seniors you can be proud of the educational accomplishments you have achieved. Your final year promises to be filled with additional challenges and memories as you complete this phase of your life and look forward to adulthood.

Perhaps there has been no more important time in our history to better understand the principles, origins and functions of our government. As we move deeper into the 21st Century, our knowledge and understanding of The Constitution and the principles of democracy becomes a mandatory part of responsible citizenship.

In addition, the practical study of economic principles and responsible money-management will not only help the student with their own finances, but will provide a basis of knowledge emphasizing the importance of economics in the power and politics of the entire world community.

American Government and Economics are classes that will also include the implementation and completion of the **Senior Project** in which all students are required to pass in order to graduate from Bear River High School.

A brief overview of the **American Government** class content includes the following areas:

Principles of Government; History of American Government; The Constitution; Federalism and the division of power; Political Parties; Voters and the electoral process; The Legislature; The Presidency; The Judicial System; The Senior Project.

The **Economics** class content includes the following areas:

Economic Terms and Concepts; Markets and Global Competition; Supply, Demand and Pricing; Government and Economic Policy; Money and Banking; Income, Employment and Labor; Personal Economic decisions and responsibility.

Classroom behavior and expectations:

Respect - Respecting yourself, your fellow classmates and your teacher will automatically equate to a positive academic year.

Grading Policy - Grades are an important measure of academic effort and achievement. We will employ a wide variety of assessment methods to obtain an evaluation of each student's progress throughout the year. Points will be earned through: class participation, projects, group work, tests and quizzes, homework, and the senior project. Semester grades are cumulative from the previous quarter. Standard percentage grading scales will be used.

Absences and Tardies - Standard school policy will be used for missing class and makeup work. Studies have shown repeatedly that the number one factor in a student's success is regular attendance.

Electronics - Computers are to be kept away until instructed by the teacher. Students should only use the computer for class-related work. Cell phones are not allowed out in class at all.

Cheating - Students caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero for the assignment and lose extra credit opportunities.

Employability Mark - An employability mark is earned in lieu of a citizenship grade. Students are assessed on punctuality, productivity, teamwork skills, positive work ethic and acceptance of authority.

Commitment - Being a productive student at Bear River takes effort, time and commitment. Government and Economics are important core academic classes that require initiative, critical thinking and determination. I look forward to working with all of the young adults in this class during this important time in history.

Feel free to contact me at any time with comments or concerns regarding our class.

Sincerely, *Jeffrey Carrow* 268-3700 ext. 4623 E-mail: jcarrow@njuhs

**Mr. Carrow – Government/Economics
Grading Policy – 2018/2019 School Year**

Percentage Breakdown:

93% and above = A

90 - 93% = A-

87 - 90% = B+

83 - 87% = B

80 - 83% = B-

77 - 80% = C+

73 - 77% = C

70 - 73% = C-

67 - 70% = D+

63 - 67% = D

60 - 63% = D-

Below 60% = F

Quarter and Semester Information:

The grades, point totals and percentages will be maintained on a cumulative basis for the entire semester. The point totals for the first and third quarters will simply continue to the second and fourth quarters respectively.

Assessments:

We will use a variety of assessments, projects, tests, homework and assignments throughout the school year. The various assessments will be weighted on a point basis. The more important assignments/projects will have a higher point value than daily classwork.

Approximate Breakdown of Assignments:

Tests – 30 percent

Projects – 25 percent

In-class assignments – 15 percent

Homework – 15 percent

Portfolio / Notebook – 15 percent

Note: If you have any questions feel free to contact me at 268-3700 ext. 4560

E-mail: jcarrow@njuhsd.com

Sincerely, *Jeffrey Carrow*