



Course Syllabus

Course Title: Government

School Year: 2024-2025

Semester(s): 1 and 2

Grade Level(s): 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Day(s) and Times: Mondays and Wednesdays, 12:00-1:00 pm PST

Teacher Information:

- **Name:** Keith Faulkner
- **Email:** Keith.faulkner@brancheslearning.org
- **Office Hours:** By appointment only
- **Phone Number** - N/A
- **Branches Learning Main Office Number:** (323) 955-0114

Class Materials - <https://brancheslearning.org/product/government/#Materials>

Course Description: Students in this course will have the opportunity to pursue a deeper knowledge of the American government and the philosophy behind the choice for a democratic form of government, allowing them to participate in society as a thoughtful, responsible and engaged citizen of the United States.

- This course is typically taken one semester, and Economics is taken the other semester.
- A-G credit may be earned for Blue Ridge and Heartland students. We recommend other students check with their school regarding A-G credit.

Course Units:

Unit 1: Origins and Foundations of American Government

Unit 2: The Constitution

Unit 3: The Three Branches of Government

Unit 4: Government by the People

Unit 5: Local & State Government



Course Expectations: Be prepared, attend from a quiet place, have your materials ready, have your camera on, be on time, participate, submit work in a timely fashion, treat others with respect, and ask for help when needed.

Grading Scale

High School, Grades 9-12

- A = 90% -100%
- B = 80%-89%
- C = 70%-79%
- D = 60%-69%
- F = 0%-59%

Final grades are determined by the quality and completion of assignments, attendance, and participation.

Important Branches Learning Policy Information

Camera Policy

Branches Learning requires students to keep their cameras on during live classes unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. Exceptions can be made in rare circumstances if the course teacher, supervising teacher (HST), and the parent all approve a camera waiver.

Headset Policy

Students attending live classes from a shared space must have a headset with a microphone to ensure the class is not disrupted by background noise.

Attendance Policy

Absences must be reported to the course instructor via email or sent to info@brancheslearning.org. Class recordings are available upon requests.

Attendance and participation are part of the final grade. Students who miss more than 40% of live classes may fail the course. Exceptions may be made if a pre-approved plan is in place.

Late Work

Assignments turned in after the due date will result in a lower grade unless pre-approved by the instructor.