

IAL Government

2014 Syllabus

Course Facilitator

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Class Website: <http://iamjwal.com/government/>

Course Description

Students will explore the fundamental principles of American government through a self-guided examination of American seminal documents and political institutions. Collaboration is a key component of the course, so students will utilize group discussion, case studies and media analysis to develop a deeper understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. The course will also contain a service component, guided by students, that models civic participation.

Weekly Schedule

On most weeks, the class format will align with the schedule below.

Monday - Wednesday

Students will be introduced to a question or series of questions that they must explore and attempt to answer.

Thursday

Students will be required to submit an electronic summary of their observations/questions/conclusions for grading. Those summaries can be turned in here: <http://iamjwal.com/government-summaries/>
Most of the classroom time will be spent in a group discussion.

Friday

Fridays will be spent focusing on logic, rhetoric and community service.

Student Evaluation

- Research Summaries — 60%
- Quizzes, Independent Study Projects (ISP), Presentations and Discussions — 40%

Academic Integrity & Late Work Policy

- Cheating and plagiarism, both of which can take many forms, should be avoided at all costs. Students will be using technology on a regular basis, but each assignment must demonstrate a student's original thoughts or be cited appropriately. Students who violate these policies will receive a zero on their assignment.
- No late work will be accepted. Quizzes and research must be made up within 3 days of an absence. No exceptions.

Sign and return this slip to indicate:

_____ I have read the course syllabus and agree to its terms.

Student Name:

Signature:

Date:

Email Address:
