

# Rivera U S Government Class Course Syllabus

## Gilberto Delgado – Teacher

***Welcome Rivera High School Students,***

*To the Rivera High School U.S. Government Class. The study of government is for the purpose of understanding how the government influences our lives, and how we can become active participants in our governmental process.*

- A. Course Description:** Our goals and learning objectives for the course will be pursued through the course of 18 weeks (one semester).

Course Topics include:

### **Foundations of Government**

Foundations of Government  
Origins of American Government:  
The Constitution:  
Federalism

### **Mass Media in The Digital Age**

How Media Impact our Government  
Regulating Print & Broadcast Media  
The Internet and Democracy

### **Celebrate Freedom Week**

### **The Legislative Branch**

The Structure of Congress  
The House of Representative  
The Senate  
Congressional Committees  
Congressional Powers  
Congress at Work – How a bill becomes a law

### **The Executive Branch**

The Presidency  
Choosing the President  
    Presidential Qualifications  
Structure and Functions  
Cabinet Departments & Agencies

**A. Course Description cont'd.**

Course Topics cont'd.

**The Judicial Branch**

Federal & State Court Systems  
The Supreme Court of the United States  
    Selecting Supreme Court Justices  
Federal and State Court Systems  
Constitutional Freedoms

**Participating in Government**

Political Parties  
Voting and Elections  
Public Opinion and Interest Groups

- B. Course Objectives:** We will practice The Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) designated by the Texas Education Agency as necessary to comply with the Requirements to graduate from High School.

The **TEKS include reading comprehension and writing skills.** Reading being the key to education helps us understand concepts (big ideas, unifying themes, key fundamental understandings). The **students will be expected to read to summarize, define, explain, explore, examine, identify, and analyze,** the concepts of government.

The students will write to learn and learn to write using social studies skills, along with social studies terminology and concepts. The students will practice writing skills of **sequencing, categorizing, cause-and-effect relationships, comparing, and contrasting, finding the main idea, summarizing, making generalizations and predictions, and drawing inferences and conclusions.**

The development of oral skills will be practiced along with the writing skills, i.e., reading and/or presenting student assignments, etc.

- C. Assessment:** The student's grade will be assessed by averaging minor assessments (daily classwork assignments) and major assessments (textbook section quizzes, chapter tests and major class projects) **Minor Assessments = 33% and Major Assessments = 67%**
- D. Classroom rules and/or expectations:** Students should be prepared and on time to class, follow teacher's directions, write necessary notes that will help them remember information, review subject information, be assessed on understanding and knowledge of the TEKS, participate in the class discussions, and practice polite/respectful behavior.