**Syllabus – Civics**

**Ute Cline – Social Studies Teacher**

**Contact Information**

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**The Seven Virtues Of A Fairfield Knight**

Integrity – Upholding convictions at all times.

Generosity – Willingly sharing time, attention, wisdom, and energy to create a strong and diverse community.

Enterprise – The bold spirit of accomplishment.

Resolve – Determination; Firmness of purpose or intent.

Courage – Graciously committing to the challenges and sacrifices of difficult tasks.

Mercy – Creating a sense of peace and community through attitudes, words, and actions.

Scholarship – Pursuing meaningful knowledge and experiences for the benefit of self and society.

**Items needed for German Class:** One 3 Ring Binder and One Composition Book (for Journal Entries), Writing Tool (Pencil or Pen)

**Introduction of the Course**

Items needed for Civics Class: One three Ring Binder and One Composition Book (for Journal Entries), Writing Tool (Pencil or Pen)

Daily Journal Entries:

Warm up Activity – News headline of the day. Each day, students will write a one paragraph analysis as a journal entry reflecting the daily news headline and discuss the topic with their group and the class.

Grading:

Homework/Journal Entries 15%,

Participation 20%

Classwork 25%,

Projects/Quizzes/Tests 40%

**All assignments are expected to be turned in on or before due date.**

I reserve the right to make changes regarding the syllabus as the situation warrants.

1. **Foundations of Citizenship**

Unit Essential Question: What are the ideas and beliefs that Americans share? What does it mean to be an American citizen? What rights and responsibilities do citizens share?

1. A Portrait of Americans
2. American Society and Its Values
3. The Meaning of Citizenship
4. **Creating a Lasting Government**

Unit Essential Question: How colonists’ belief about citizenship and government led to the creation of the constitution that has guided or nation for more than 200 years.

1. America’s Political Heritage
2. Creating the Constitution
3. The Bill of Rights
4. Our Enduring Constitution
5. **The Federal Government**

Unit Essential Question: How do the three branches of government work and how does each check and balances the power of the other two?

1. The Legislative Branch
2. The Executive Branch
3. The Judicial Branch
4. **State and Local Government**

Unit Essential Question: How are state and local governments organized and what powers do they have?

1. State Government
2. Local Government
3. **Foundation of Economics**

Unit Essential Question: How does the American economic system work and how is it a basic part of our free society.

1. What Is an Economy?
2. Basics of our Economic System
3. Our Economy and You
4. **Government and the Economy**

Unit Essential Question: What role does the government play in our economic system?

1. Government’s Role in Our Economy
2. Money and Banking
3. Public Finance
4. **The American Legal System**

Unit Essential Question: What role does law play in our society?

1. Laws and Our Society
2. Criminal and Juvenile Justice
3. Civil Justice
4. **People Make a Difference**

Unit Essential Question: How do Americans, as a group and as individuals, make a difference in government?

1. Political Parties in Our Democracy
2. Voting and Elections
3. **The United States and the World**

Unit Essential Question: What does the world beyond our borders of the United States look like?

1. American Foreign Policy
2. One Nation Among Many