

# **Course Outline: Social Science IV**

**“We meet on the level and part on the square.”**

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## ***What is the most important role of citizenship in our democracy?***

Students will pursue a deeper understanding of the institutions of American Government and our role in the globalized economy. The course includes a study of the Constitution, the legislative process, how the economy works, monetary and fiscal policy, and much more.

To help each student assume this responsibility, we will examine a yearlong essential question representing the culmination of civic literacy as students prepare to vote, participate in community activities, participate in the marketplace, and assume the responsibilities of citizenship. The course essential question is: What is the most role of citizenship in our democracy?

## **PBL Curriculum Approach**

The course goal is to answer the essential question. Students will participate in civic, economic and community related activities with the intent of providing them a foundation and possible answers to the essential question. The course is divided into five challenges to facilitate this.

The five challenges are:

- Challenge 1:** To preserve freedom and encourage responsible citizens
- Challenge 2:** To foster active participation and to deliberate with others
- Challenge 3:** To foster the flow of useful and timely information
- Challenge 4:** To make hard choices and find common ground
- Challenge 5:** Course Final

At the conclusion of each challenge, students will participate in a debrief process called the “Pentagon.” The debrief process includes

- (1) Positive Statement
- (2) Critical Thinking Questions
- (3) What worked
- (4) What didn’t work
- (5) Finding value

**Four Great Supports (from Instructor):**

- to ensure a challenging academic environment
- to provide support in creating a successful year
- to establish activities to encourage community relations
- and to provide assistance when needed

**Four Great Expectations (of Students):**

- be hardworking
- put iPoly and 2015 first
- help your peers
- have an open mind and be creative

**Grade Breakdown**

## First Semester:

- 25% Notebook
- 35% Model Assembly
- 35% Tests and Quizzes
- 5% Class Service

## Second Semester:

- 45% Notebook
- 45% Test and Quizzes
- 10% Class Service

Note: Senior Project is an independent course.

- Any proficient student is eligible for an overall AE in my course if they earn an overall AE on the projects each semester (first semester is Model Assembly and second is Senior Project).
- Late work: Your work is lowered by one grade per week it is late.
- Absent work: Email me with missing notebook numbers and assignment names.
- Turning in your make up work: Take a photo of it or complete it online and email it to me

**Course Expectations:**

- Play the roles the best you can in every assignment
- Maintain the course notebook daily and review what we did in class every night
- Do well when being assessed at the end of each problem
- Participate in class service (committee related) work all year
- Meet all expectations as outlined on the Accountability Contract