

# Government Syllabus – Fall 2025

**Instructor:** Kelly Stevens

**E-mail:** [kelly.stevens@sausd.us](mailto:kelly.stevens@sausd.us)

**School Website:** [Segerstrom High School Website](#)

**Text:**

Shea, Daniel M., et al. *California MaGruder's American Government*. Pearson Education Inc, 2019.

**Pearson Online Access:** [Pearson Online](#)

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## Course Description

This course focuses on the principles and beliefs upon which the United States was founded and on the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. Students will explore major political ideas and forms of government throughout history and the world. A significant emphasis will be placed on the U.S. Constitution—its underlying principles, ideas, and the form of government it created. Students will develop skills in critical thinking, reading, writing, note-taking, collaboration, and public speaking.

## Course Objectives

- Understand the foundational concepts of U.S. Government.
- Analyze political systems and their historical context.
- Demonstrate critical reading, writing, and note-taking skills.
- Collaborate effectively in group settings.
- Apply knowledge through presentations and projects.

## Course Overview – Units

- Foundations of Government
- Political Behavior
- The Legislative Branch
- The Executive Branch
- The Judicial Branch

- Comparative Political and Economic Systems

## Course Expectations & Grading

Category	Percentage
Weekly Classwork/Practice (Notes, Current Events)	30%
Tests/Quizzes (Weekly multiple choice quizzes, Unit Tests)	60%
Participation	10%

## Suggested Materials

- Agenda provided by Segerstrom
- Pens, pencils, highlighters, colored pencils/markers
- College-ruled composition notebook for vocabulary and notes
- Chromebook

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✂ **Cut and Return** ✂

## Government – Fall 2025 Syllabus Acknowledgment

I have read and understand the syllabus for Government – Fall 2025. I am aware of the course expectations, grading policy, and required materials.

**Student Name (print):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name (print):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Mobile Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Language Spoken:** \_\_\_\_\_