

**Social Studies Grade 8 Civics and Economics**

Mrs. Parham

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**Course Description**

Civics and Economics will analyze the ways citizens affect the political, governmental, and economic systems of the United States of America. Students will do this through an examination of founding documents, principals, and the constitutions of Virginia and the United States. Students will also understand how to apply their rights, duties and responsibilities as citizens. Students will distinguish the different roles of the federal, state, and local governments. Last, students will evaluate and compare different economic systems, and the government's role in the United States economy.

**Grading Procedures**

**Semester Grading:**

<i>Classwork/Homework</i>	20%
<i>Quizzes</i>	30%
<i>Test/Projects</i>	50%

**SOL:** ([https://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards\\_docs/history\\_socialscience/](https://www.doe.virginia.gov/testing/sol/standards_docs/history_socialscience/))

**Unit List:**

- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Role of Government              | 6. Court System               |
| 2. Citizenship                     | 7. State and Local Government |
| 3. Foundations of the Constitution | 8. Economics                  |
| 4. The Constitution                |                               |
| 5. Political Parties               |                               |

**Civics Testing Dates (Semester 1)**

Mid-Semester Benchmark: October 15, 2025

End of Semester SOL: December 11, 2025

**Civics Testing Dates (Semester 2)**

Mid-Semester Benchmark: March 13, 2026

End of Semester SOL: May 2026 (exact date TBD)

**Required Materials**

Linton, Bree, and Leslie Swenson. *Our State and Nation: Civics and Economics*. West Palm Beach, FL. Five Ponds Press, 2017.

*Keep in classroom:* composition notebook, 3 prong folder

## **Respect, Responsibility, Kindness, Integrity, & American Citizenship**

### **Classroom Expectations: Show your BLUE**

**Be Respectful**

**Learn Every day**

**Understand Responsibilities**

**Encourage Everyone**

1. Be: Prompt: Be on time
2. Be Prepared: Have all materials everyday: laptop and work
3. Be Positive: If you think you will enjoy class, you will.
4. Be Productive: Complete all the assignments.
5. Be Polite: Say please, thank you, yes and no.

### **Late Work Policy**

There are two deadlines per quarter for late assignment submission. Any assignment that is not turned in by the respective 4.5 or 9 week reporting periods will remain a 0% in the gradebook.

For example, if an assignment was due week 2, it must be submitted by the 4.5 interim. If it is due week 6, it must be submitted by the 9 week report card date.