



US Gov/ Contemporary World

Instructor	Ms.Drewes		Course Description: U.S. Government Course Description: Welcome to Social Justice Pathway Government and Contemporary World History! First semester we will be looking at the structure and function of government as well as evaluating the degree to which the U.S. government upholds our country's fundamental values (equality, diversity, freedom, justice). You will have the opportunity to closely follow the General Election and a specific election of a tight race. Contemporary World History Course Description: Second semester, we will emphasize post-colonial history and nation building of the non western world. The aim is to provide an understanding of world politics, history and current events through an examination of various region's unique history and geography. History is based on interpretation—each person sees the same event differently. Our job will be to explore and deepen these interpretations about our increasingly globalized world. In the Pathway, your English and History classes are closely connected, so expect to read novels from the time period studied in history, and use reading and analysis skills from English class to understand primary documents in your History class.
Room #	803 (Periods 5 & 6)		
E-mail	cdrewes@pausd.org		
Phone	(650) 329-3701		
Website Resources	Schoology, Infinite Campus, Turnitin.com, Paly.net, Google Sites		
Texts/ Units	<p>Fall Semester:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Foundations of Government: Constitution and Federalism 2. Election Process, Roles of Government and Voting Rights 3. CSPAN Project 4. Justice System 	<p>Spring Semester:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Decolonization, independence and the birth of new nations. 2. Nation case studies 	

Overview of Course Work

1. In-Class Components: Process work (ex: annotation, station rotations, discussion)
2. Unit Assessments: Culminating unit activities (ex: essays, presentations, mock trial, debate)
3. Unit Reflection: Identifying connections between in-class work and assessment performance.

- Writing: Structured social science writing with evidence and reasoning

Focus Skills

- Media Analysis: identifying argument, bias and perspective.
- Research: Use primary and secondary, qualitative and quantitative, sources. Derive a narrative understanding using multiple sources related to one topic.