River City Science Academy

7th Grade Civics Syllabus

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<http://mskanecivics.weebly.com>

Welcome to seventh grade civics! I look forward to a great school year ahead filled with fun and learning. This letter is to provide both the student and parent with some general information about how to succeed in this social studies course.

**Textbook:**

Civics, Economics, and Geography – Florida Edition

McGraw Hill

**Class Website:**

[www.mskanecivics.weebly.com](http://www.mskanecivics.weebly.com)

Our class website is an important resource; refer to it often. You will find important documents and links, homework assignments, and much more.

**Course Description:**

The primary content for the course pertains to the principles, functions, and organization of government; the origins of the American political system; the roles, rights, responsibilities of United States citizens; and methods of active participation in our political system. The course is embedded with strong geographic and economic components to support civic education instruction.

**ICIVICS.ORG:**

The iCivics website is a useful website where students can play online games that relate to the standards and topics we are learning in civics. This is a great resource to review for upcoming assessments. Students are encouraged to play these games and explore this resource at home regularly.

**Interactive Notebook (Composition Notebook):**

Students should obtain **TWO** composition notebooks (One will not be needed until the second semester) that they will be responsible to bring to class EVERYDAY.

* This notebook will hold class notes, important handouts, and study resources.
* This notebook serves as a take-home study guide for all exams. It is VERY IMPORTANT that students review their notebooks on a regular basis.
* We will set up the notebook together in the class. The right side of the notebook pages will always be used for note-taking, while the left side pages will be used for reflection and processing the information on the right.

**History Fair Project/Participation:**

Students will create a history fair project, which they may place in the River City Science Academy History Fair. Students will engage in this research project utilizing primary and secondary sources. Project due dates and expectations will be sent out in November, final projects will be due in January. Ample class time will be given for completion of the project but some aspects of the project may need to be completed at home. Students have five different types of product options for their projects: 3-D exhibit, historical research paper, documentary project, web page or live performance. The theme for this year’s history fair is Rights and Responsibilities in History.

**Materials needed in class EVERYDAY:**

* (2) Composition Notebooks
* Color Pencils
* Scissors
* Blue/Black Pen
* Glue Stick
* ½ inch binder with notebook paper
* Boys-1 ream of Copy Paper
* Girls- Box of Tissues

**Classroom Expectations:**

1. Respect your teacher, your classmates, and yourself.
2. Listen and follow directions the first time given.
3. Be on time and prepared to learn every day.
4. Raise your hand and wait to be called on to speak.
5. Follow the River City Science Academy Code of Conduct.

**Late & Make-up Work:**

All make-up work (work assigned while a student is absent) must be turned in to the teacher within **five days of returning to school**. **A Make-Up/Late Slip is to be attached to all make-up work that is turned in (Look on website for a slip).** **The assignment will NOT be graded if an Make-Up/Late slip is not attached**. It is the student’s responsibility to pick up make-up work. There is a bin in the classroom that the make-up work is in. It is updated daily. If it is an Interactive Notebook assignment that was missed, look at another notebook in the classroom for reference. I will be keeping an updated sample copy. **Each day an assignment is late, 10 points will be deducted from final assignment grade**.

**Hall Pass Policy:**

Students are given four hall passes every nine weeks. Students will not be given additional passes due to the access between periods. Therefore, students must use their hall passes wisely.

All students can experience success in school with effort, focus and positive communication. Please do not hesitate to call or email me if you have any questions or concerns about your student’s progress in my class. The best way to contact me is via email at: jkane@rivercityscience.org .You may also reach me at the school at (904) 855-8010. All assignments and due dates will be posted on my classroom website. Please check this often for information regarding your student’s class work and projects. The web address is: <http://mskanecivics.weebly.com>

I look forward to an exciting year with your student! After you have read this syllabus, please complete the information on the syllabus, and return it to me by Friday, August 23, 2012, as it will be one of the first pages in your child’s Interactive Notebook.

Sincerely,

Jessie Kane

**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Period:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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

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

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

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