



STUDENT INTERN RULES

SPIRIT OF THE RULES

The American Government Experience is an advanced, practical government workshop for youth. The ultimate goal of the experience is to provide the instruction and forum for students to become actively engaged in the political process. The group will encounter the public on occasion, and we will do so in a way that represents Christ in a manner pleasing to Him; and ourselves as serious young adult students. We will conduct ourselves with proper dress, responsibility, and etiquette.

DRESS

Gentlemen - Gentlemen shall wear suits or sport coats and ties. Dress Shoes must also be worn.

Ladies - Modesty is the key and may include suits, dresses, and skirts to the bottom of the knee; skirts or slacks with shirt-type tops or jackets. Tight-fitting/low-cut sweaters or slacks are inappropriate.

RESPONSIBILITY

Students will have the opportunity to be in contact with the real political world. Students are expected to take adult responsibility in all matters. Adult rules of professional etiquette, such as prompt return phone calls, notes of appreciation for any time or resources given, etc. will be expected.

KEEPING COMMITMENTS

Students should be at least 15 minutes early to EVERY meeting commitment. This obviously includes the class sessions, as well as EVERY other meeting the class may have. This will give the time necessary to meet up with the rest of the group, and will allow time for any unplanned inconveniences without being late. There will be a point system for achievement in the class. Point penalties will be levied for tardiness to, or absence from any commitment. Tardiness to an outside event will result in a net negative point total for that person for that event. As with any class that is over a year in length, circumstances beyond the instructor's control may cause a particular class meeting to have to be rescheduled. As much notice as possible will be given for any rescheduling that needs to occur.

ASSIGNMENTS AND ENGAGEMENT

Students will be expected to complete all assignments on time and with their best effort. Students will be expected to complete all reading assignments, and engage the class with their best insights and opinions.

POINT SYSTEM

The American Government Experience is designed to engage students into learning about the political process by actual experience. The points system is designed to insure that students have a high level of engagement and participation, over the course of the 12 months. Successful completion of the American Government Experience will not be attained by class time only, but ultimately by active political involvement. Students will need to earn 500 points by September 1st to continue the class. Students will need 1000 points for successful completion of the American Government Experience.

Mandatory Class Attendance and Op Ed Pieces (Graded)

A 750-word Opinion Editorial will be required at each of our six class sessions, as outlined on the Syllabus. Students should post their Op Ed pieces to the appropriate section on campaignforamerica.org prior to coming to class. Students should ALSO bring 10 copies of their Op Ed piece to the class, 3-hole punched. Each Op Ed Piece will be graded for overall presentation. Elements will include grammar, style, persuasiveness, relevance, etc. The minimum points rewarded for a mandatory Op Ed piece is 100, and the maximum is 125.

Based on the point totals outlined above, attendance and participation at American Government Experience classes, as well as completing the mandatory Op Ed pieces will allow a participant to earn a minimum of 600 to a maximum of 750 points. Additional optional opportunities exist for students to gain experience, which will lead to points toward their total.

Optional Experiences

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| • Unsolicited 750-word Op Ed (Graded)* | 60 - 75 |
| • Participation in Instructor-Led Extracurricular Activity
(We will plan to have 3, but there may be opportunities for more.) | 50 |
| • Substantive post (2 paragraphs) on Online Discussion Board | 15 |
| • Reading a Book on the Optional Reading List (Maximum 3 books for points)
Points will be awarded after book discussion with the instructor | 50 |
| • Political Position White Paper* (Graded - minimum 5 pages)
Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Role of Faith in the 2008 Republican Presidential Primary ○ Why Primaries are Democratic, and Caucuses Aren't ○ Bush's Global War on AIDS ○ A Way to Victory in Iraq | 200 – 350 |
| • Participation in Student-Initiated Political Activity*
Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Student contacted and participated on a political campaign ○ Student attended an issue group event or candidate event ○ Student attended a local city or county council meeting. | 150 |
| • Missed commitment (time or assignment) Excused absences
(family emergency) will not be penalized. | -150 |
| • Failure to complete a reading assignment | -150 |

*Must be pre-approved.