



Class Title: Orange Living in Freedom; Rights, Privileges and Gratitude

Teacher Name: Megan VanderHeide

Class Day: Friday

Class Size: 15

Class Cost: \$40

Class Fee: \$96

Ages or color group served: Orange

What level is this class: Level 3

Prerequisites: Must be able to read and find news articles and write journal prompts

Graduation Requirements:

* Final Projects

* weekly current event and journal prompt writing on topic. *Midterm and Quizzes

* HCU attendance policy

Homework Requirements:

Each week will have a new article/current event and journal prompt writing piece based on that week's topic.

Quizzes will be every 2-3 weeks.

Class Description:

This class will explore the foundations of freedom, rights, and responsibilities in a democratic society. Students will examine historical and modern perspectives on freedom of speech, government structure, and citizenship while connecting these ideas to current events. Through debates, simulations, and class discussions, students will practice critical thinking and apply concepts to real-world scenarios.

Assessments & Assignments:

- Weekly Current Event Writing Piece – Students will research and summarize a current event related to freedom, rights, or government.
- Quizzes – Every 2–3 weeks to review concepts, class activities, and discussions.
- Midterm Exam – Covers the first half of the course, emphasizing understanding of rights, government systems, and responsibilities.
- Final Project – A PowerPoint presentation where students present on a chosen freedom-related topic, connecting history, law, and modern issues.

Credit:

This course may be counted as a high school social studies elective credit (0.5 credit for a semester).

Skills Developed:

- Understanding of civic freedoms and responsibilities

- Research and writing skills
- Public speaking and debate practice
- Critical thinking about rights in real-world contexts

Week 1:

What are rights & Freedoms?

Week 2:

Freedom of Speech

Week 3:

Freedom of Religion

Week 4:

Freedom of Press

Week 5:

Freedom of Protest & Assemble

Week 6:

Right to Vote

Week 7:

Education as a privilege

Week 8:

Justice & Due Process

Week 9:

Freedom of Movement

Week 10:

Economic Opportunities and Job Choices

Week 11:

Technological and Information Access

Week 12:

Final Project