**Course Description**

**A. COVER PAGE**

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| **1. Course Title**  Agricultural Government Policy | **9. Subject Area**  X History/Social Science  English  Mathematics  Laboratory Science  Language other than English  Visual & Performing Arts (for 2003)  College Prep Elective |
| **2. Transcript Title / Abbreviation**  Ag Government Policy |  |
| **3. Transcript Course Code / Number**  1745 and 1747 |  |
| **4. School**  Delta High School |  |
| **5. District**  River Delta Unified School District |  |
| **6. City**  Clarksburg | **10. Grade Level(s)**  12th grade |
| **7. School / District Web Site**  http://www.riverdelta.k12.ca.us | **11. Seeking “Honors” Distinction?**  Yes X No |
| **8. School Contact**  **Name:** Paul Gengler  **Title/Position:** Principal  **Phone:** (510) 748 4314  **Ext.:**  **Fax:** 916-744-1673  **E-mail:** pgengler@riverdelta.k12.ca.us | **12. Unit Value**  X 0.5 (half year or semester equivalent)  1.0 (one year equivalent)  2.0 (two year equivalent)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | **13. Date of School Board Approval**  Spring 2001 |
| **14. Was this course previously approved by UC?** X Yes No If so, year removed from list.  Under what course title? AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND GOVERNMENTAL POLICY. We are resubmitting this course as a separate course. AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS will stay the same under the ‘g’. | |
| **15. Is this course modeled after an UC-approved course from another school?** No  If so, which school(s)? | |
| **16. Pre-Requisites**  U.S. History | |
| **17. Co-Requisites**  None | |
| **18. Brief Course Description**  In this course, students will pursue a deeper understanding of the institutions of American Government. They will do an in-depth study of the system of government in the world today and analyze the life and changing interpretations of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the current state of the legislative, executive and judiciary branches of government. An emphasis is placed on analyzing the relationship among federal, state, and local governments and their relationship to agriculture and agribusiness. This course will create civic literacy as students prepare to vote, participate in community activities and assume the responsibilities of citizenship. | |

**B. COURSE CONTENT**

**19. Course Goals and/or Major Student Outcomes:**

Students will demonstrate the ability to think critically, learn autonomously and to solve problems by effectively completing challenging group and individual projects and assignments they will help develop.

**20. Course Objectives:**

By taking an active role/part in the activities of the local government students will know how American society, political systems, and economy function within a global context; understands and appreciates the diversity in America and the world community; will be able to participate in community activities and assume the responsibilities of citizenship.

**21. Course Outline:**

A. Foundations of American Government

1. Principles of Government

2. Principles of Government

B. The Formation of Governments

1. Types of Government

2. Economic Theories

C. Origins of American Government

1. The Colonial Period

2. Uniting for Independence

3. The Articles of Confederation

4. The Constitutional Convention

D. The Constitution

1. Structure and Principles

2. Three Branches of Government

E. Amending the Constitution

1. The Amendments

F. The Federal System

1. National and State Powers

2. Relations Among the States

3. Developing Federalism

4. Federalism and Politics

G. The Legislative Branch

1. The Organization of Congress

2. Congressional Membership

3. The House of Representatives

4. The Senate

5. Congressional Committees

6. Staff and Support Agencies

7. Development of Congressional Powers

8. Constitutional Powers

9. Investigations and Oversight

10. Congress and the President

H. Congress at Work

1. How a Bill Becomes a Law

2. Taxing and Spending Bills

3. Influencing Congress

4. Helping Constituents

I. The Executive Branch

1. The Presidency

2. President and Vice President

3. Electing the President

4. The Cabinet

5. The Executive Office

J. Presidential Leadership

1. Presidential Powers

2. Roles of the President

3. Styles of Leadership

K. The Federal Bureaucracy

1. Bureaucratic Organization

2. The Civil Service System

3. The Bureaucracy at Work

L. The Judicial Branch

1. The Federal Court System

2. Powers of the Federal Courts

3. Lower Federal Courts

4. The Supreme Court

5. Supreme Court Decision Making

6. The Supreme Court at Work

7. Shaping Public Policy

8. Influencing Court Decisions

9. Liberty and Justice for ALL

M. Constitutional Freedoms

1. Constitutional Rights

2. Freedom of Religion

3. Freedom of Speech

4. Freedom of the Press

5. Freedom of Assembly

6. Citizenship and Equal Justice

7. A Nation of Immigrants

8. The Basis of Citizenships

9. The Rights of the Accused

10. Equal Protection of the Accused

11. Challenges for Civil Liberties

N. Law in America

1. Sources of American Law

2. Civil Law

3. Criminal Law

O. Participating in Government

1. Political Parties

2. Development of Parties

3. Party Organization

4. Nominating Candidates

P. Elections and Voting

1. Election Campaigns

2. Expanding Voting Rights

3. Interest Groups and Public Opinion

4. Interest Group Organization

5. Affecting Public Policy

6. Shaping Public Opinion

7. Measuring Public Opinion

Q. The Mass Media

1. Structure of the Mass Media

2. How Media Impact Government

3. Regulation of the Media

R. Public Policies and Services

1. Taxing and Spending

2. Raising Money

3. Preparing the Federal Budget

4. Managing the Economy

5. Social and Domestic Policy

6. Business and Labor Policy

7. Agriculture and the Environment

8. Health and Public Assistance

9. Education, Housing, and Transportation

S. Foreign Policy and Defense

1. Development of Foreign Policy

2. Shared Foreign Policy Powers

3. State and Defense Departments

4. Foreign Policy in Action

T. State and Local Government

1. Structure and Function of State Government

2. State Constitutions

3. The Three Branches

4. State Government Policy

5. Financing State Government

U. Structure and Function of Local Government

1. Structure of Local Government

2. Serving Localities

3. Challenges of Urban Growth

V. Political and Economic Systems

1. Political Systems in Today’s World

2. Consolidated Democracies

3. Emerging Democracies

4. Authoritarian States

5. Global Security

W. Development of Economic Systems

1. Capitalist and Mixed Systems

2. Emerging Economies

3. Collapse of Soviet Communism

4. The Global Economy

5. Agricultural Policy

X. Investigate current domestic and international issues in the context of U.S. Agricultural Policy

Y. Understand how government organizations affect agriculture and agribusiness.

Z. Professional Career Opportunities

1. Resumes

2. Cover Letters

3. Interview Skills

4. University & College Applications

5. Scholarship Applications

AA. Agri-Government Research Project

1. Development of Agri-government Projects

2. Statistical Management of Project via Record Book

3. Instructional Coordination

4. Analysis of Project Results

1. Presentation & Defense of Results

BB. Agricultural Inter-Personal & Leadership Development

1. Completion of a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program and Record Book

2. Development of listening, speaking, writing & reading skill activities

3. Critical thinking & group team building activities

4. Speech & seminar presentations

**22. TEXTS & SUPPLEMENTAL INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES:**

United States Government - Democracy in Action - Richard C. Remy, PhD.

Agriculture Alert Magazine

Sacramento Bee

Political Publications

Economics, Applications To Agriculture and Agribusiness, Fourth Edition, Randall D. Little, 1997

An Introduction to Commodity Marketing, Chicago Mercantile Exchange

High School Economics Courses, Teaching Strategies, Morton, Buckles, Miller, Nelson, & Prehn

**23. KEY ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. Research Paper on Agriculture Government Policy Concepts
2. Seminar Presentation on Economic & Government Policy Practices
3. Development of Personal Portfolio
4. A rich variety of guided-practice activities involving data analysis of agriculture government policies
5. Development of Business Marketing Plan based on government regulations & policies

**24. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:**

Lecture

Tests & Quizzes

Essays & Written Assignments

Research Paper

Discussion & Critical Thinking Activities

Reading Assignments

Group/Individual Activities

Audio Visual Materials

Guest Speakers

Field Trips

**25. ASSESSMENT METHODS:**

Quizzes, Tests & Final Exam 40%

Portfolio 10%

Homework assignments 10%

Study guides

Leadership Activity Participation 10%

SAE Project & Record Book 10%

Research Paper(s) 10%

Seminar Presentation 10%