

SOBRATO HIGH SCHOOL CIVICS OUTSIDE POINTS REQUIREMENT

Objective of Civics Points Requirement:

- To expose high school students to a variety of governmental agencies and increase students' knowledge, understanding, and involvement in the political processes of their communities.
- To discover connections to and extensions of students' coursework, and develop individual skills that will benefit them in college and career and as lifelong members of society.

50 TOTAL POINTS ARE REQUIRED BY THE SEMESTER DUE DATE
IN ORDER TO PASS THE COURSE.

5 Points PUBLIC MEETING (CITY COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD/PLANNING COMMISSION/ETC.):

Verification: Students are REQUIRED to stay at least one hour at the meeting, with the time of arrival and departure clearly marked on their meeting form. (Additionally, a signature or stamp from a representative of the government agency being observed is required.) Students turn in 1/2 page of notes plus a 1/2-page written reflection, within one week.

5 Points VISIT TO THE SUPERIOR COURT:

Verification: Students are REQUIRED to observe for at least one hour, with the time of arrival and departure clearly marked on their visitation form. (Additionally, a signature or stamp from a court deputy is required.) Students turn in 1/2 page of notes plus a 1/2-page written reflection, within one week.

Note: If you are unable to get in a full hour in a single visit, you may combine two visits that total at least an hour.

5 Points POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS:

Students may choose to work for an issue, candidate or political party. You must work for two hours, and must have verification of your participation. You will turn in a one-page written reflection.

3 Points/hour (limit 2 hours per day) COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES:

30 total points (10 total hours) REQUIRED. Two of the hours (total) may be on campus, or through an on-campus organization. At least 8 hours must be off-campus, AND through an off-campus organization.

The teacher will help inform the students about various community service opportunities. All community service projects must have teacher approval. Be sure to get the approval BEFORE services are volunteered. The student must keep a log of hours worked, and must have verification of their participation. Students will turn in a written reflection.

A. The service must be performed under the auspices of a registered nonprofit organization.

B. The service may not promote or profit any religious organization; community service organized by a religious group may be allowed, as long as the purpose is not to promote the religion. (For example, programs that feed the homeless are allowed.)

C. The service may not be for a Sobrato High School organization (unless that organization is coordinating with an off-campus nonprofit organization).

D. Students may not receive any compensation for volunteering.

E. Beginning in Fall 2018, students may receive credit for community service performed during the summer after the last day of their junior year. However, verification & reflection requirements must be submitted to the Civics or Economics teacher by the Tuesday after Labor Day. Students who have Civics during the spring semester may work on the community service portion of the outside points during the fall semester through their Economics class.

5 Points VISIT TO CONGRESSPERSON'S OFFICE:

Students may visit the district office of their congressional representative. You will be required to get a verification form signed or stamped, and take a picture of yourself at the office. Take notes about the representative and about what kind of work is done in that office, and write a reflection about your visit.

10 points BOOK REPORT

Students are limited to ONE book report for the semester. This is an optional activity.

Book selection should reflect political science/current events themes, must be about CURRENT politicians or political issues, and MUST have prior teacher approval. A book report format will be provided. THERE ARE EARLY DEADLINES FOR GETTING A BOOK APPROVED, AND FOR SUBMITTING A BOOK REPORT.

A few additional opportunities will be announced in class throughout the semester.

A STUDENT MUST SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE ALL 50 POINTS BY THE DEADLINE IN ORDER TO PASS CIVICS.