DE → DE US History then DE US Government	AP → AP US History then AP US Government or AP Comparative Government
Student needs to apply to NOVA - Must have a 3.0 GPA	Open enrollment (any student can choose to take the course)
Test/Exams/Quizzes are one-time only for NOVA grade. Retakes/rewrites are available for FCPS grade only. Emphasis is on written essays.	Unit Tests are designed to practice the AP Exam environment. They are timed to match how long you will have to answer each question on the AP Exam. Corrections and retakes are allowed on all Unit Tests.
	Quizzes are used to focus on vocabulary within each unit.
Reflective, open-ended essays. Research papers with citations required.	Timed AP format essays to practice the FRQ styles. FRQ practice essays are supplemented by other open-ended assignments.
3 college credits for students that pass each course with NOVA grade of C or higher. Total: 3 credits for DE Gov, 6 possible credits for US Guaranteed transfer to all public Virginia colleges/universities; transfers to out-of-state and private colleges/universities at the institution's discretion.	Students must pass the AP Exam in order to receive college credit (Score of 3 or higher, which is equivalent to a C on the test). Colleges can choose whether they accept AP credits or not. All public Virginia colleges do. A full list can be checked here . Some colleges may require a higher score than a 3 to either grant credit or a skipped required class.
Late Work, with a 10% penalty, is a one week maximum (NOVA policy)	Late Work policies follow FCPS/WPHS.
Grading follows NOVA policy for the college transcript and FCPS policy for high school transcript. Grade in course will be calculated into college GPA at most institutions. Difference in policies can result in different grades between FCPS & NOVA.	Grading follows FCPS/WPHS policy (rolling gradebook, 50% minimum on missing work and 50% minimum on attempted assignments) The AP score and course grade will not be calculated into college GPA.
The parents/guardians sign an agreement for their student to take the DE course which states that the student is the main point of contact/communication, not the parents.	Parents/guardians are the main point of contact/communication like other FCPS courses
Special accommodations must be approved by NOVA (i.e. 504 Plans and IEPs do not automatically apply to DE courses) - Students must initiate the process, complete the steps for NOVA Office of Disabilities, and submit the required documentation. Usually NOVA will grant the same accommodations that are granted by FCPS.	Special accommodations (i.e. 504 Plans and IEPs) automatically apply for AP courses in class itself. Any accommodations for the actual AP Exam (additional time, read-aloud, etc) must be submitted to the College Board. The College Board is particular in what they grant for testing accommodations, and many students get denied.