

US GOVERNMENT AND CITIZENSHIP

Essential Skills

The priority standards consist of the following skills:

- **Concept Understanding:** Demonstrate understanding of concepts and processes in political science and US government.
- **SCOTUS Application:** Interpret and analyze decisions of the US Supreme Court.
- **Data Analysis:** Analyze quantitative information and data in political science and US government.
- **Source Analysis:** Analyze qualitative information and data in political science and US government.
- **Communication:** Demonstrate effective communication through speaking, writing, and listening.
- **Civic Engagement:** Engage in deliberative, collaborative, and civil dialogue regarding course-relevant and current issues.

Course Content

The priority standards/skills are taught, practiced, developed, and assessed through the course content as outlined below.

Foundations of American government

- Principles of constitutional government
- Origins and creation of the US Constitution
- Articles and amendments

Protections and privileges of individuals and groups in the United States

- Bill of Rights
- Landmark Supreme Court cases
- Key legislation protecting individual rights

Distribution of government power in the United States

- Federalism
- Congressional organization, function, and powers
- Executive organization, function, and powers
- Judicial organization, function, and powers

Fiscal policies and decisions

- Economic philosophies
- The budget
- Revenue streams

Citizenship and participation in government

- Responsibility and definition of citizenship
- Elections and voting
- Political parties
- Interest groups and mass media

The United States in the world today

- United States' international relations

