

Course/Grade Level: Issues in American Society

Days	Unit	Standard(s)/Outcome(s)	Essential/Guiding Questions
7	Unit 1: Social Investigations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify and explain a process for analyzing social issues ● Analyze issues from various perspectives in order to formulate an opinion, communicate that opinion, and take appropriate action ● Apply the issue investigation process to an identified policy that may affect either schools, communities, local or state affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Why is a systematic approach to analyzing social issues necessary? ● How do differing viewpoints influence the formulation of individual and public opinion? ● How do opinions influence policy making?
7	Unit 2: Censorship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify and define types of speech protected under the First Amendment ● Identify the historical progression of free speech ● Analyze the limits of free speech as it pertains to music, motion pictures, news, print media, and other copyrighted materials ● Explain how the government ● Describe the organizations in the United States that focus on protection of First Amendment rights ● Define the role of social media in modern communication ● Identify current regulations and limitations on online speech ● Analyze the impact of online speech on American society ● Define “digital footprint” ● Analyze the impact of “lasting speech” on the need for regulation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What type of speech is protected by the First Amendment? ● To what extent does the First Amendment protect free speech in music, motion pictures, news, print, and all other copyrighted media? ● How does the government including Congress, regulatory agencies (FCC), and the Supreme Court address the First Amendment? ● How does social media impact the right to free speech? ● To what extent should online speech be regulated? ● Does the lasting nature of online speech alter the need for regulation?

7	Unit 3: Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and explain the nature of crime in America Analyze large-scale violent acts such as the Colorado movie theater shooting or MD/VA sniper to classify them as serial, mass, and spree murders Explain the possible causes for violent crime in America Evaluate various approaches that could be used to address this type of violence in American society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the nature of crime in America? What are the characteristics of violent crimes including mass, serial, and spree murders? What are the factors that influence crime in America such as media, guns, drugs, bullying, and mental health? How have the types of violence changed since the establishment of our country?
10	Unit 4: Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define poverty Analyze the current trends of poverty in the United States Examine and explain the complex causes of poverty among low-income earners. Analyze how poverty impacts the many facets of a person's life Analyze how a child's health, safety, and development have been impacted from living in poverty Determine the role of government, private organizations and faith based groups in alleviating poverty in the United States Evaluate the trends of poverty concerning the elderly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is poverty? What are the current trends regarding poverty in the United States? What causes poverty? How does poverty affect individuals, children, the elderly, and communities? How does urban poverty differ from rural poverty? How does poverty impact the lives of children and possibly affect their life chances? How does the individual, society, and government respond to poverty?
8	Unit 5: Aging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret articles to examine for bias in the information Write papers on Aging issues using Model of Social Investigation Research the growing issue of organ donation and the issues related with it as it relates to the elderly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are some of the ethical, economic and social issues that are being generated by the changing demographics in American Society? What actions have individuals, society, institutions, and the government taken to address the issue of an aging population

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Compare and contrast right to die legislation in various states ● Compare and contrast various cultural death customs and evaluate how they valued life. ● Investigate the legal determinations of death used in this country ● Investigate and analyze the business issues/funeral practices associated with the funeral home industry ● Research how the different regions of the United States deal with the issue of land use as it deals with the disposal of a body after death 	<p>in America? For example: Medicare and Medicaid programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How do various cultures respond to the end of life decisions about how to deal with burial issues? ● What are the geographic tools used to analyze and assess the demographic changes in American society? ● What economic questions are generated by the aging demographics in America? How have the individuals, institutions and government addressed these questions? ● What are some of the ways advances in science and technology are affecting end of life decisions and funeral practices?
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