

Title: American Government & Civics

Unit:		Principles of Government				
Big Ideas:		Citizens understand their rights and practice their responsibilities in a vibrant society.				
Unit Essential Questions:		Is government necessary?				
Concept & Pacing	New Emphasis (Pa Core Standard)	Key Vocabulary	Essential Questions	Mini-Lessons/Activities	Instructional Materials	Assessments
<i>August-September</i>	5.1.12. A 5.1.12. B 5.1.12. C 5.1.12. E 5.2.12. A 5.2.12. B 5.2.12. D 5.2.12. E 5.2.12. G 5.3.12. K	Government, public policies, legislative power, executive power, judicial power, constitution, dictatorship, democracy, state, sovereignty, autocracy, oligarchy, unitary government, federal government, division of powers, confederation, presidential government, parliamentary government, majority rule, compromise, citizen, free enterprise system	Why do governments exist? What is the proper role of governments? What is government and what is its purpose? What are some forms of government in the world today? What are the basic concepts of democracy?	Teacher lecture In- class guide sheet -Journal writing- Article summaries Article concerning any aspect of government Primary Source John Locke and Thomas Jefferson “The Social Contract” Protecting the Environment The Enduring Constitution Book Political Cartoons	Textbook Magruder’s American Government Chapter 1 Primary Source John Locke and Thomas Jefferson The Social Contract Protecting the Environment The Enduring Constitution Book Teacher made power point presentation Student Chromebooks/Canvas	Formative: -Bell Ringers -Observations during discussions -Quizzes comprised of identification questions -Closures Summative: -Unit Test comprised of identification, open ended multiple choice and essays Article summaries from internet sources

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Unit:		Origins of American Government & The Constitution				
Big Ideas:		Engaged citizens understand the workings of government and use historic precedents in shaping thought and action.				
Unit Essential Questions:		How does the Constitution reflect the times in which it was written? How has the Constitution lasted through changing times?				
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<i>October-November</i>	5.1.12.B 5.1.12.D 5.1.12.G 5.1.12.H 5.1.12.I	limited government, representative government, Magna Carta, due process, Petition of Right, English Bill of Rights, charter, bicameral, proprietary, unicameral, confederation, Albany Plan of Union, delegate, popular sovereignty, Articles of Confederation, ratification, Framers, Virginia Plan, New Jersey Plan, Connecticut Compromise, Three-Fifths Compromise, Commerce and Slave Trade Compromise, Federalist, Anti-Federalist	What is the nature of political power?	Our Political Beginnings – Primary Document Analysis	Textbook Magruder’s American Government Chapter 2, 3, & 4	Formative: -Bell Ringers Observations during discussions -Quizzes comprised of identification questions -Closures
	8.2.12.A 8.2.12.B 8.3.12.A		How and why did the framers of the Constitution develop the ideas for the American system of government?	The Road to Independence – Declaration of Independence Scavenger Hunt	Great Debate: How Powerful Should Government Be?	
			What should be the goals of government?	The Critical Period – Video “The American Revolution: Are We To Be a Nation?”	Primary Documents: Magna Carta English Bill of Rights Common Sense Declaration of Independence The Federalist Papers Constitution	Summative: -Unit Test comprised of identification, open ended multiple choice and essays
			How has the Constitution lasted through changing times?	Creating the Constitution – Constitutional Convention Graphic Organizer	Declaration of Independence Scavenger Hunt	
			How has the Constitution been amended through the formal amendment process?	Ratifying the Constitution – Federalist Papers analysis Six Basic Principles – US Constitution Scavenger Hunt	Constitutional Convention Graphic Organizer	Article summaries from internet sources
			How is power divided between the Federal government and the States?	Formal Amendments – Amendment process chart Informal Amendments – Customs vs. Amendments	Teacher made power point presentation/notes	

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		inherent powers, reserved powers, exclusive powers, concurrent powers, Supremacy Clause, enabling act, act of admission, grants-in-aid, categorical grant, block grant, project grant, interstate compact, full faith and credit clause, extradition, privileges and immunities clause	<p>According to the Constitution, what must the National Government guarantee to each state?</p> <p>How do the States work together to preserve the Union?</p>	What is Federalism?	Student Chromebooks/Canvas	
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Unit:	Political Parties and Voting & Voter Behavior
Big Ideas:	The choices we make, whether as consumers or as citizens active in politics, impact people around the globe.
Unit Essential Questions:	Does the two-party system help or harm democracy? Why do voters act as they do?

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<i>April-May</i>	5.1.12.C	Political party, political spectrum, partisanship, single-member district, plurality, bipartisan, consensus, coalition, incumbent, faction, spoils system, electorate, sectionalism, ideological parties, single-issue parties, economic protest parties, splinter parties, ward, precinct Suffrage, franchise, electorate, disenfranchisement, poll tax, alien, transient, registration, purge, poll books, literacy, gerrymandering, injunction, preclearance, off-year election, ballot fatigue, political efficacy, political socialization, gender gap, party identification, straight-ticket voting, split-ticket voting, independent	What are political parties and how do they function in our two-party system?	Characteristics of the two major parties chart & discussion	Textbook Magruder’s American Government: Chapters 5, 6, & 7	Formative: -Bell Ringers Observations during discussions -Quizzes comprised of identification questions -Closures Summative: -Unit Test comprised of identification, open ended multiple choice and essays Article summaries from internet sources
	5.1.12.M		How has the two-party system affected the history of American government?	Important minor parties in American History research & presentations	Political Parties PowerPoint lecture notes	
	5.2.12.A		What role have minor parties played in American politics?	Create your own political party infographic project	Teacher made power point presentation/notes	
	5.2.12.B		How are political parties organized at the federal, state, and local levels?	Right to Vote essay	Student Chromebooks/Canvas	
	5.2.12.E		How have voting rights changed over the course of American history?	Freedom Riders video & questions		
	5.2.12.G		What are the requirements for voting, and how have they changed over time?	Right to vote campaign in groups		
	5.3.12.E		How did the U.S. fulfill the promise of the 15 th Amendment?			
5.3.12.F	What factors influence voter behavior?					

Unit:	The Legislative Branch: Congress
Big Ideas:	Technological innovation shakes the institutions of society to their roots, with advantageous and disastrous consequences.

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Unit Essential Questions:		Is the federal system the best way to govern the United States? Whose views should members of Congress represent when voting?				
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<i>February-March</i>	5.1.12.F 5.1.12.G 5.1.12.K 5.1.12.L 5.2.12.A 5.2.12.B 5.2.12.E 5.2.12.G 5.3.12.G	Bicameral, term, session, convene, adjourn, recess, prorogue, special session, apportion, reapportion, off-year election, single-member district, at-large, gerrymandering incumbent, continuous body, constituency, delegate, trustee, partisan, politico, bill, floor consideration, oversight function, franking privilege	Why does the Constitution establish a bicameral legislature? How are the seats in the House distributed and what qualifications must members meet? How does the Senate differ from the House? What roles and functions do members of Congress perform?	Organize the three types of delegated powers using the Constitution Reading & discussion of the federal disaster process and Hurricanes Katrina & Sandy State admission role play Interstate relations scenarios Gerrymandering activity Congress Simulation Role Play: How a bill becomes a law Write to your Congressman: letters	Textbook Magruder's American Government Chapter 10, 11 & 12 Teacher made power point presentation/notes Student Chromebooks/Canvas	Formative: -Bell Ringers Observations during discussions -Quizzes comprised of identification questions -Closures Summative: -Unit Test comprised of identification , open ended multiple choice and essays Article summaries from internet sources

Unit:	The Executive Branch: The Presidency
Big Ideas:	Nationalism plays a number of influential roles with far-reaching consequences in an interdependent world.
Unit Essential Questions:	Does the current electoral process result in the best candidates for President?

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<i>June</i>	5.1.12.C 5.1.12.M 5.2.12.A 5.2.12.B 5.2.12.E 5.2.12.G 5.3.12.E 5.3.12.F	Presidential Primary, Winner-take-all, proportional representation, caucus, national convention, platform, keynote address, presidential elector, electoral vote, electoral college, presidential succession, Presidential Succession Act of 1947, balance the ticket, chief of state, chief executive, chief administrator, chief diplomat, commander in chief, chief legislator, chief of party, chief citizen	What are the roles and qualifications of the office of the President? What occurs when the President is unable to perform the duties of the office? How did the process of choosing a President change over time? Does the nominating system allow American to choose the best candidates for President?	13 Days Activity – Describe how President Kennedy demonstrates the qualities and role of a President during the Cuban Missile Crisis The Nomination Process Project – Create a candidate and take them through the Presidential election process from January-November of an election year. Research Paper Due – Examine the Foreign & Domestic policy of an American President (assignment given in September/February)	Textbook Magruder’s American Government Chapters 13 & 14 Teacher made power point presentation/notes Student Chromebooks/Canvas	Formative: -Bell Ringers Observations during discussions -Quizzes comprised of identification questions -Closures Article summaries from internet sources

Unit:	Judicial Branch: Civil Liberties and First Amendment Freedoms & Bill of Rights					
Big Ideas:	The enjoyment of human rights and their exercise are dependent upon the community of nations and their citizens maintaining vigilance on governments and their actions.					
Unit Essential Questions:	How can the judiciary balance individual rights with the common good?					
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<p align="center"><i>December-January</i></p>	<p>5.1.12.B 5.1.12.F 5.1.12.I 5.3.12.A 5.3.12.B 5.3.12.C 5.3.12.G 8.2.12.A 8.2.12.B 8.3.12.A</p>	<p>Bill of Rights, civil liberties, civil rights, alien, due process clause, process of incorporation, establishment clause, free exercise clause, parochial, libel, slander, sedition, seditious speech, prior restraint, injunction, shield law, symbolic speech, picketing, assemble, petition, civil disobedience, content neutral, right of association</p>	<p>How does the Constitution protect the rights of individuals against government?</p> <p>How does the 1st Amendment protect the freedom of religion?</p> <p>What are the limits on the guarantees of free speech and free press?</p> <p>How has the Supreme Court ruled on assembly and petition cases?</p> <p>Why is the concept of due process important to a free society?</p> <p>How does the Constitution protect the freedom and security of the person?</p>	<p>Student group instruction on five major First Amendment cases</p> <p>Individual research for First Amendment Essay</p> <p>Current event articles relating to First Amendment issues</p> <p>Classroom discussions</p> <p>Great Debate: What are the limits of a free press?</p> <p>Freedom of Press and Watergate</p> <p>McCarthyism lesson</p>	<p>Textbook Magruder's American Government Chapters 19, 20, & 21</p> <p>Teacher made power point presentation/notes</p> <p>Student Chromebooks/Canvas</p>	<p>Formative: -Bell Ringers Observations during discussions -Quizzes comprised of identification questions -Closures</p> <p>Summative: -Unit Test comprised of identification, open ended multiple choice and essays</p> <p>Article summaries from internet sources</p>
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