

Course Description:

US Government provides students with basic knowledge of the history and philosophy of the United States government and its principles, which guide our democracy. Students examine the United States Constitution in order to answer questions and determine the facts of government. The course focuses on the functions and duties of the three branches of government.

Course Objectives:

- Explain the complex influence that slavery, states' rights, and the civil rights movement have had on the US Constitution.
- Trace the roots of American democracy.
- Compare and contrast the Articles of Confederation and the US Constitution.
- Defend a position using historical sources.
- Compare and contrast the three branches in the federal government of the United States.
- Explain the impact of constitutions, laws, treaties, and international agreements on the maintenance of national and international order.
- Explain the influence of Greek and Roman governments on modern government.
- Identify the duties and responsibilities of the various levels of government (municipal, county, state, tribal, and national).
- Describe the different forms of government in human history.
- Describe basic rights and freedoms guaranteed by US amendments and laws.
- Explain the rights, responsibilities, and roles of US citizenship.
- Explain the US political process.

Required Materials:

In course.

Course Overview:

Unit 1: The History of Civics and Government

- The History of Government
- Renaissance and Reformation
- The Scientific Revolution and the Age of Reason
- Colonial Governments
- Creating a New Government

Unit 2: Constitution and Federation

- Federalists and Anti-Federalists
- Federal Government and the States
- Slavery, States' Rights, and Segregation
- Civil Liberties and Citizenship
- Political Action

Unit 3: Citizens and Their Government

- Local Government
- County Government
- State Government

- Tribal Government
- National Government

Unit 4: Branches of Government

- The Executive Branch
- The Legislative Branch
- The Judicial Branch
- The Federal Reserve System
- The Media

Unit 5: International Relations

- History of International Relations
- International Trade
- Global Conflicts
- International Conflicts and Commerce
- Immigration and Citizenship

Unit 6: Part of a Whole

- Government and Religion
- Government and Culture
- Government and Education
- Government and Science
- Review and Exam