

Course Description:

This course guides students in preparing to take the Naturalization Test designed by the United States federal government. The course is for high school students in order to fulfill the requirement for graduation. Civics: Citizenship provides students the ability to engage with the government in which they will soon participate. This course provides real-world connections between democratic ideals and practical activities.

Course Objectives:

- Analyze historical influences on the development of the US Constitution and how it has continued to change throughout the history of the United States.
- Analyze key periods in American history to identify their impact on the development of the United States.
- Analyze the relationship between citizens and the government in the United States.
- Analyze the relationship between the US government and the nation's economic system.
- Analyze the structure and function of government in the United States.
- Explain how key elements of national identity have shaped the development of the United States.
- Explain the evolution and adaptation of representative democracy in the United States.

Required Materials:

- Word Processing Software
- Internet Browser
- Media Viewer Software

Course Overview:

At the beginning of each unit is a brief description of the intended learning outcomes. Following the introduction is a set of activities:

“What Should I Know?” – An introduction and brief set of questions helps prepare students for the lesson ahead, showing what they already may know and what they should pay attention to gaining knowledge about.

Lesson Content – This typically includes interactive activities, readings, videos, and practice activities. Some of these have graded Workbook questions. Key terms are embedded within the readings.

Vocabulary Review – An interactive presentation helps students to review the key terms they encountered in the lesson.

Checkpoint – This graded activity uses 10 questions to assess mastery of lesson objectives. The Checkpoint may be taken up to three times.

“What Did I Learn?” – This end-of-lesson activity is designed to review the information and content learned.

Schedule of Work

Unit 1: Principles of American Democracy

- The Constitution
- The Amendments
- Declaration of Independence
- United States Economic System
- “Rule of Law”

Unit 2: System of Government

- The Legislative Branch
- More about Congress
- The Executive Branch
- The Courts

Unit 3: Rights and Responsibilities

- Rights and Responsibilities
- Citizenship
- Taxes
- Selective Service

Unit 4: American History

- Colonial Period and Independence
- 1800s
- Recent American History
- Native Americans
- Immigration

Unit 5: America as a Nation

- Geography
- Symbols
- Holidays
- Languages

Unit 6: Review and Exam

- Review of Units 1-3
- Review of Units 4-5
- Final Exam