

Civics

State Goals	Learning Standards	Benchmarks	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
14 Understand political systems, with an emphasis on the United States.	14.A Understand and explain basic principles of the United States government.	14.A.4 Analyze how local, state and national governments serve the purposes for which they were created.	Foundations 2	Checks and Balances
			State-Local	Division of Powers
	14.B Understand the structures and functions of the political systems of Illinois, the United States and other nations.	14.B.4 Compare the political systems of the United States to other nations.	Civic Life	The Essential Characteristics of Limited and Unlimited Government
			Civic Life	American Civics-The Citizen's Civil Life Duties and Responsibilities
	14.C Understand election processes and responsibilities of citizens.	14.C.4 Describe the meaning of participatory citizenship (e.g., volunteerism, voting) at all levels of government and society in the United States.	Civic Life	American Civics-The Citizen's Civil Life Duties and Responsibilities
	14.D Understand the roles and influences of individuals and interest groups in the political systems of Illinois, the United States and other nations.	14.D.4 Analyze roles and influences of individuals, groups and media in shaping current debates on state and national policies.	Civic Life	American Civics-The Citizen's Civil Life Duties and Responsibilities
	14.E Understand United States foreign policy as it relates to other nations and international issues.	14.E.4 Analyze historical trends of United States foreign policy (e.g., emergence as a world leader - military, industrial, financial).		
14.F Understand the development of United States political ideas and traditions.	14.F.4a Determine the historical events and processes that brought about changes in United States political ideas and traditions (e.g., the New Deal, Civil War).	Foundations 1	The American Idea of Constitutional Government Where Did It Come From?	
		14.F.4b Describe how United States' political ideas, practices and technologies have extended rights for Americans in the 20th century (e.g., suffrage, civil rights, motor-voter registration).	Foundations 2	A Dynamic and Flexible Constitution



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14 Understand political systems, with an emphasis on the United States.	14.A Understand and explain basic principles of the United States government.	14.A.5 Analyze ways in which federalism protects individual rights and promotes the common good and how at times has made it possible for states to protect and deny rights for certain groups.	Foundations 2	A Federal System
	14.B Understand the structures and functions of the political systems of Illinois, the United States and other nations.	14.B.5 Analyze similarities and differences among world political systems (e.g., democracy, socialism, communism).	Civic Life	The Essential Characteristics of Limited and Unlimited Government
	14.C Understand election processes and responsibilities of citizens.	14.C.5 Analyze the consequences of participation and non-participation in the electoral process (e.g., women's suffrage, voter registration, effects of media).	Political Parties	The Right to Vote
	14.D Understand the roles and influences of individuals and interest groups in the political systems of Illinois, the United States and other nations.	14.D.5 Interpret a variety of public policies and issues from the perspectives of different individuals and groups.		
	14.E Understand United States foreign policy as it relates to other nations and international issues.	14.E.5 Analyze relationships and tensions among members of the international community.		
	14.F Understand the development of United States political ideas and traditions.	14.F.5 Interpret how changing geographical, economic, technological and social forces affect United States political ideas and traditions (e.g., freedom, equality and justice, individual rights).		