

Civics

State Standard Number	State Standard Area/Description	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
3	Civics		
3.A	Structure and Purposes of Government		
3.A.1	Explain competing ideas about the purposes of politics and government and identify reasons why government is necessary	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.
3.A.2	Identify and describe services provided by government and assess their necessity and effectiveness (e.g., health care, education)		
3.A.3	Identify programs, institutions, and activities that fulfill a given governmental or political purpose (e.g., the court system, the military, revenue sharing, block grants)		
3.A.4	Analyze ways in which the purposes of the U.S. government, as defined in the U.S. Constitution, are achieved (e.g., protecting individual rights, providing for the general welfare)	Unit 1: Civic Life	Section 2: Part D (Bill of Rights - amendments)
3.A.5	Compare and contrast various forms of government among nations that have been significant in U.S. history (e.g., absolute monarchy in England or France, Germany under Hitler, the Soviet Union under Stalin)	Unit 1: Civic Life (All various forms of govt. described in this unit) Unit 2: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 1	Section 2: Part A Section 3: Part C Section 1: Part A
3.A.6	Explain the distribution of powers, responsibilities, and the limits of the U.S. federal government	Unit 1: Civic Life	Section 2: Parts D & E (limits)
3.A.7	Categorize governmental powers as delegated, reserved, concurrent, or implied	Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 1: Part A

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3.A.8	Identify powers denied to federal or state governments by the U.S. Constitution		
3.A.9	Analyze or assess issues related to the distribution of powers at the federal level (e.g., tensions among the three branches of government, roles and responsibilities of the three branches)	Unit 4: State and Local Government	Section 2: Part A
3.A.10	Explain the structure and functions of the three branches of the federal government, including regulatory and independent agencies and the court system	Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 2: Parts A & B
3.A.11	Cite the roles, duties, qualifications, and terms of office for key elected and appointed officials	Unit 4: State Government	Section 2: Part A
3.A.12	Explain the structure and functions of state, parish, and local governments	Unit 4: State Government	Section 1: All Parts Section 2: All Parts Section 3: Part D & E
3.A.13	Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of various types of local government	Unit 5: City Government	Section 1: Part B
3.A.14	Examine constitutional provisions concerning the relationship between federal and state governments	Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 2: Part B (Writing activity)

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3.A.15	Explain the processes and strategies of how a bill becomes a law at the federal and state levels	Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 1: Part B Section 3: Part A
3.A.16	Evaluate a specific law or court ruling on given criteria		
3.A.17	Examine the meaning, implications, or applications of the U.S. Constitution (e.g., the Bill of Rights, Fourteenth Amendment)	Unit 1: Civic Life Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 2: Part D (Bill of Rights – amendments) All sections
3.A.18	Define domestic and foreign policies		
3.A.19	Analyze responsibilities of the federal government for domestic and foreign policy (e.g. monetary policy, national defense)	Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 1: Part C
3.A.20	Analyze a past or present domestic or foreign policy issue from a news article or editorial	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.
3.A.21	Explain how government is financed (e.g., taxation, fines, user fees, borrowing)		
3.A.22	Identify the major sources of tax revenues at the federal, state, and local levels	Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 1: Part C

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3.A.23	Analyze or evaluate various uses of tax dollars (e.g., the public's need for services versus the public's resistance to taxation)		
3.A.24	Use the rules of taxation (ability, equity, ease of payment, convenient times to pay) to analyze or evaluate a given tax practice		
3.B	Foundations of the American Political System	Unit 1: Civic Life Unit 6: Political Parties	Section 1: Part C Section 1: Part A
3.B.25	Analyze the significance of the Magna Carta, English common law, and the English Bill of Rights in creating limited government in the United States	Unit 2: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 1	Section 1: Part A
3.B.26	Explain how European philosophers (e.g., Rousseau, Locke, Montesquieu, Voltaire) helped shape American democratic ideas	Unit 1: Civic Life Unit 2: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 1	Section 2: Part A (Tocqueville) Section 1: Part B (Hobbes), Part C (Locke)
3.B.27	Analyze central ideas in an American historical document and explain the document's significance in shaping the U.S. Constitution	Unit 2: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 1	Section 2: Part A
3.B.28	Explain the meaning and importance of principles of U.S. constitutional democracy in American society	Unit 2: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 1 Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 2: Parts A & D Section 1: Part A
3.B.29	Assess the importance of the U.S. Constitution as the Supreme Law of the Land, and ways in which U.S. constitutional government has helped shape American society	Unit 2: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 1	Section 3: Part B

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3.B.30	Identify and describe examples of freedoms enjoyed today but denied to earlier Americans	Unit 2: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 1	Section 3: Part B (1 st 10 amendments)
3.B.31	Explain issues involved in various compromises or plans leading to the creation of the U.S. Constitution	Unit 2: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 1 Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 3: Part B Section 2: Part C
3.B.32	Interpret, analyze, or apply ideas presented in a given excerpt from any political document or material (e.g., speech, essay, editorial, court case)	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.
3.B.33	Analyze a given example of American political or social conflict, and state and defend a position on the issue	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.
3.B.34	Analyze discrepancies between American ideals and social or political realities of life (e.g., equal protection vs. Jim Crow laws)	Unit 1: Civic Life	Section 1: Part D
3.B.35	Explain the two-party system and assess the role of third parties in the election process	Unit 6: Political Parties	Section 2: Parts B & C
3.B.36	Assess the significance of campaigns, campaign finance, elections, the Electoral College, and the U.S. census in the U.S. political system	Unit 6: Political Parties	Section 2: Parts D & E
3.B.37	Analyze the use and effects of propaganda		

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3.B.38	Identify key platform positions of the major political parties		
3.B.39	Evaluate the role of the media and public opinion in American politics		
3.B.40	Explain historical and contemporary roles of special interest groups, lobbyists, and associations in U.S. politics		
3.C	International Relationships		
3.C.41	Identify the political divisions of the world and the factors that contribute to those divisions		
3.C.42	Analyze and assess the various ways that nation-states interact		
3.C.43	Explain the role of the United Nations or other international organizations in political interactions and conflicts		
3.C.44	Analyze ways in which the interactions of nation-states or international organizations affect the United States		

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3.C.45	Describe the means by which the United States upholds national security, protects its economic welfare and strategic interests, and attains its foreign policy objectives (e.g., aid, sanctions, embargos, treaties)		
3.C.46	Assess the extent to which a given U.S. foreign policy position has helped or hindered the United States' relations with the rest of the world		
3.C.47	Explain how U.S. domestic policies, constitutional principles, economic behavior, and culture affect its relations with the rest of the world		
3.C.48	Describe ways in which ideas, actions, and problems of other nations impact the United States		
3.D	Roles of the Citizen		
3.D.49	Distinguish between personal, political, and economic rights of citizenship	Unit 1: Civic Life	Section 1: Part A, Part B
3.D.50	Describe the importance of various rights of citizenship to the individual or to society at large	Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 2: Part C
3.D.51	Analyze an amendment or law concerning the rights of citizens in terms of their effect on public policy or American life (e.g., Nineteenth Amendment, Americans with Disabilities Act)	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.

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3.D.52	Evaluate and defend a position on a given situation or issue in terms of the personal, political, or economic rights of citizens	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.
3.D.53	Assess the difference between personal and civic responsibilities	Unit 1: Civic Life	Section 1: Part A
3.D.54	Describe various forms of political participation	Unit 1: Civic Life Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Unit 1: Civics Section 2: Part C
3.D.55	Evaluate current and past political choices that individuals, groups, and nations have made, taking into account historical context	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.
3.D.56	Describe the importance of political leadership to American society, and identify ways in which citizens can exercise leadership	Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Section 2: Part C
3.D.57	Identify examples of public service, and describe the importance of public service to American society	Unit 1: Civic Life Unit 3: The Foundations of the American Political System, Part 2	Unit 1: Civics Section 2: Part C
3.D.58	Evaluate the claim that American constitutional democracy requires the participation of an attentive, knowledgeable, and competent citizenry	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.	Discussion group and writing assignments require students to utilize the skills required of this standard.
3.D.59	Compare and evaluate characteristics, style, and effectiveness of state and national leaders, past and present		