

## American Government

State Standard Number	State Standard Area/Description	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
1	Explain how geography, economics, and history have influenced the political development of the United States.		
1.a	Trace the historical development of the United States political system.	Unit: Origins	Section 1: Political Foundations of American Democracy Section 2: Colonial Government Section 3: The American Revolution Section 4: Establishing the First Government Section 5: Creating the Constitution
1.b	Describe how the Constitution and Bill of Rights embodies the principles of American democracy.	Unit: Origins Unit: Principles	Section 5: Constitution  Section 1: Structure of the Constitution Section 2: Principles of the Constitution Section 4: Changing the Constitution
1.c	Discuss how the Bill of Rights describes and protects our basic freedoms.	Unit: Principles Unit: The Judicial Branch	Section 4: Changing the Constitution  Section 4: Civil Liberties
1.d	Describe the interaction of the different branches of American government on American society.	Unit : Principles  Unit: Legislative Unit: Executive Unit: Judicial	Section 2: Constitutional Principles (checks balances)  Sections 1- 4 Sections 1- 4 Sections 1 - 5
1.e	Describe the American economic system of capitalism and how it impacts the American way of life.	Unit: Economics	Section 1: Economic Systems and the United States Economy

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			Section 2: Revenue and Expenditures Section 3: Budget Making Process
2	Analyze the United States federal form of government.		
2.a	Identify the structure of the United States federal system according to the Constitution and its amendments (e.g., separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review, etc.).	Unit: Principles	Section 2: Constitutional Principles (checks balances) Section 3: Federalism
2.b	Evaluate the flexibility of the United States Constitution (e.g., language, amendment process, etc.).	Unit: Principles	Section 4: Changing the Constitution
3	Describe the impact of science and technology on the political development of the United States.		
3.a	Analyze the impact of the media on United States democracy (e.g., print, television, etc.).	Unit: Political Participation	Section 3: Assignment-Presidential Elections (television/commercial activity)
3.b	Describe the influence of technology on the political process (e.g., polls, television, Internet, e-mail, etc.).	Unit: Political Participation	Section 3: Assignment-Presidential Elections (television/commercial activity)
4	Describe the relationship of people, places, and environments with the government.		
4.a	Describe the effects of different migration patterns in the United States.		

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4.b	Explain how federal laws have affected the environment.		
4.c	Analyze population trends and their impact on a representative government (e.g., electoral college, census, etc.).	Unit: Political Participation	Section 3: Elections (electoral vote map)
4.d	Interpret the impact of political parties, special interest groups, and political action committees (PACS) on United States politics.	Unit: Political Participation	Section 1: Political Parties Section 2: Nominations and Campaigns Section 3: Elections Section 4: Interest Groups (Assignment: Interest Groups)
5	Demonstrate the ability to apply and interpret studies tools (e.g., timelines, maps, globes, graphs, a compass, technology, primary and secondary documents, political cartoons, etc.).		
5.a	Interpret special purpose maps.	Unit: Political Participation	Section 3: Elections (electoral maps)
5.b	Analyze information on graphs, charts, tables, and timelines.	Throughout the course in various units. For example: Unit: Participation	Section 1: Political Participation text pages and Chart activity assignment
5.c	Analyze political cartoons.		

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5.d	Utilize primary and secondary sources.	Any of the research or writing assignments in the course. For example: Unit: Executive	Section 4: The Executive Branch: E: Assign-Presentation
5.e	Utilize the Internet for comparative purposes.	Unit: Introduction	Section 1: Forms of Government (particularly the Discussion: Compare 2 types of government to a democracy.)
6	Explain how civic responsibilities are important to Americans as citizens of the United States and a global community.		
6.a	Explain the rights, roles, privileges, and responsibilities of citizens in American democracy.	Unit: Introduction  Unit: Political Participation	Section 2: Ideals of democracy  Section 4: Individual Political Participation
6.b	Compare the United States government to other governments of the world.	Unit: Introduction	Section 1: Forms of Government (particularly the Discussion: Compare 2 types of government to a democracy.)