

United States Government

Instructor: Mr. Simmons

Length of Class: One Semester

When asked about government, many high school students respond that it is uninteresting. Yet, politics is an exciting subject. People fight and die for political benefits. Government addresses some of the most basic issues in your life- the purity of the food you eat, your personal safety, your education, and your rights to voice an opinion. This class hopes to present material that makes the institution of government meaningful to each student's daily life. Our country's success as a democracy and a leading voice of freedom in the world depends on an understanding of and participation in our local, state and national government.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Length</u>
<u>Unit 1 - Foundations of American Government</u>	4 Weeks
Chapter 1: Principles of Government	
Chapter 3: Constitution	
Chapter 4: Federalism	
<u>Unit 2 – Political Behavior: Government By the People</u>	5 Weeks
Chapter 5: Political Parties	
Chapter 7: Electoral Process	
Chapter 8: Mass Media and Public Opinion	
Chapter 9: Interest Groups	
<u>Unit 3 - Legislative Branch</u>	1.5 Weeks
Chapter 10: Congress	
<u>Unit 4 – Executive Branch</u>	1.5 Weeks
Chapter 13: Presidency	
<u>Unit 5 - Federal Court System</u>	6 Weeks
Chapter 18: Federal Court System	
Chapter 19: Civil Liberties: First Amendment Freedoms	
Chapter 20: Civil Liberties: Protecting Individual Rights	
Chapter 21: Civil Liberties: Equal Justice Under the Law	

Materials

Textbook: Prentice Hall, 2006: Magruder's American Government

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STANDARD 1: Understanding civic practices and government systems
Benchmarks:

- C. Understand methods used by the government to meet needs and wants of citizens, regulate territory, manage conflict, establish order and security, and balance competing conceptions of a just society.
- D. Understand how one person contributes politically and socially to the welfare of a democratic society.

Standards/ Benchmarks	Section from Text	Critical Objective	Assessment	Infusion/ Provisions
1C	Chapter 1 Section 1	List the fundamental values and principles of a constitutional democracy.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
1C	Chapter 4 Section 1	Describe the power the federal government has and those it gives or shares with the states.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
1D	Chapter 9 Section 2	Explain how the American tradition of joining organizations has resulted in a wide range of interest groups.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
1D	Chapter 7 Section 2	Describe the process of voting in America.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD

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Comments:

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STANDARD 2: Understanding geographic information to understand people and places.

Benchmarks:

- C. Knows the geographic location and significance of important places, events, and nations.
- D. Knows ethnic, cultural, and physical characteristics of different regions.

Standards/ Benchmarks	Section from Text	Critical Objective	Assessment	Infusion/ Provisions
2C	Chapter 13 Section 3	Describe how the original plan for the presidential election has changed due to political parties.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
2C	Chapter 19 Section 4	Discuss the importance of the court case Tinker v. Des Moines Schools.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
2D	Chapter 10 Section 2	Explain how House seats are reapportioned among the states after each census.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
2D	Chapter 21 Section 1	Summarize the history of race-based discrimination in the U.S.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD

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STANDARD 3: Understands the past, present and future of various cultures.

Benchmarks:

- C. Understand how and why groups, societies, and cultures are similar to and different from us.
- D. Understand the causes and long term consequences of major historical events.

Standards/ Benchmarks	Section from Text	Critical Objective	Assessment	Infusion/ Provisions
3C	Chapter 19 Section 3	Summarize how the Supreme Court has limited seditious speech and obscenity.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
3C	Chapter 20 Section 1	Describe the right of privacy and its origins in constitutional law.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
3D	Chapter 20 Section 4	Describe the Courts history and decisions regarding capital punishment.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
3D	Chapter 18 Section 3	Discuss the scope of the Supreme Court jurisdiction, its current make up, and the way it operates.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD

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STANDARD 4: Understanding resources, limitations, and choices.
Benchmarks:

- C. Understand how the scarcity of productive resources requires the development of economic systems to make decisions about how goods and services are to be produced and distributed.
- D. Understand the role that supply and demand, prices, incentives, and profits play in determining what is produced and distributed in a free market economic system.

Standards/ Benchmarks	Section from Text	Critical Objective	Assessment	Infusion/ Provisions
4C	Chapter 1 Section 3	Analyze the connections between democracy and the free enterprise system.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
4C	Chapter 8 Section 3	Examine the role of the mass media in providing the public with political information.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
4D	Chapter 21 Section 3	Explore the economic issues of affirmative action.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD
4D	Chapter 10 Section 4	Describe the compensation and privileges of members of Congress.	Chapter test, Quizzes, &/or Performance Assessment	HOTS, GS, LS, TAG, CS, MCGF, CF, TECH, SPECIAL, GUID, MEDIA, HGD

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