

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PLANNED INSTRUCTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course Title: American Government

Course Number: 00117

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Description: American Government is designed to provide students the background they need to participate meaningfully in our democratic system. Student will examine the workings of all three levels of American Government – federal, state, and local – and how citizens get involved at each level. Units to be studied include the basic foundations of government (including the U.S. Constitution), choosing government leaders, the separation of powers in government, and intergovernmental relations. Part of this course is to help students become active participants in our democratic system and how government will affect them the rest of their lives. A variety of media and activities will be used to achieve course objectives.

Suggested Grade Level: Grade 12

Length of Course: One Semester

Units of Credit: .5

PDE Certification and Staffing Policies and Guidelines (CSPG) Required Teacher Certifications:

CSPG 59 Social Studies

CSPG 58 Citizenship Education

To find the CSPG information, go to [CSPG](#)

Certification verified by the WCSD Human Resources Department: ☒ Yes ☐ No

WCSD STUDENT DATA SYSTEM INFORMATION

Course Level: Academic

Mark Types: Check all that apply.

☒ F – Final Average ☒ MP – Marking Period ☒ EXM – Final Exam

GPA Type: ☐ GPAEL-GPA Elementary ☐ GPAML-GPA for Middle Level ☒ NHS-National Honor Society

☒ UGPA-Non-Weighted Grade Point Average ☒ GPA-Weighted Grade Point Average

State Course Code: 04160

To find the State Course Code, go to [State Course Code](#), download the Excel file for SCED, click on SCED 6.0 tab, and choose the correct code that corresponds with the course.

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TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Board Approved Textbooks, Software, and Materials:

Title: United States Government
Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
ISBN #: Textbook 9780544742680/Digital 9780358426417
Copyright Date: 2018
WCSD Board Approval Date: 04/12/2021

Supplemental Materials: DBQ Project Materials; Choices Program; Citizenship Portfolio -Virtual Academy; Online Resources; I-Civics

Curriculum Document

WCSD Board Approval:

Date Finalized: 5/23/2022
Date Approved: 6/13/2022
Implementation Year: 2022/2023

SPECIAL EDUCATION, 504, and GIFTED REQUIREMENTS

The teacher shall make appropriate modifications to instruction and assessment based on a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), Chapter 15 Section 504 Plan (504), and/or Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP).

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PLANNED INSTRUCTION

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF CONTENT, AND CONCEPTS

Marking Period 1

- Introduction to American Government
- Political Parties
- The Legislative Branch
- The President and the Executive Branch

Marking Period 2

- The Judicial Branch
- Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- State and Local Government

Marking Period 3

IF TAUGHT 2ND SEMESTER: See Marking Period 1

Marking Period 4

IF TAUGHT 2ND SEMESTER: See Marking Period 2

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Standards/Eligible Content and Skills

Performance Indicator	PA Core Standard and/or Eligible Content	Marking Period Taught
Examine government and the powers every government holds.	C.1.1.1.3 C.1.1.2.2 C.1.2.1.1 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.7	MP1 MP3
List the characteristics of the state and consider theories on the origin of the state.	C.1.2.1.1 C.1.2.2.3 RH.11-12.1,2,4 WHST.11-12.4	MP1 MP3
Debate the purpose of American Government.	C.1.2.2.3 RH.11-12.2-4,9 WHST.11-12.1,4,6-10	MP1 MP3
Illustrate the three ways government is classified.	C.1.3.1.2 RH.11-12.2,4,7 WHST.11-12.7,9	MP1 MP3
Compare and contrast different forms of governments.	C.1.2.1.1 C.1.2.1.2 C.1.2.1.3 C.2.3.1.3 RH.11-12.2,4	MP1 MP3
Identify the foundations of democracy.	C.1.2.2.3 C.2.3.2.1 C.2.3.2.3 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.7	MP1 MP3
Discuss the responsibilities and duties of citizenship.	C.1.2.1.3 C.2.1.1.1 C.2.1.1.2 C.2.1.1.3 C.2.1.2.1 RH.11-12.1-4	MP1 MP3
Analyze the influence of key foundational government documents such as the Magna Carta, Petition of Right and English Bill of Rights on American ideas about government and freedom.	C.1.2.2.1 C.2.3.1.2 RH.11-12.1-10 WHST.11-12.8-10	MP1 MP3
Explain and identify key historical events in the founding of our country such as the First and Second Continental Congress, the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the Constitutional Convention.	C.1.2.2.1 C.2.3.1.2 RH.11-12.1-4,7 WHST.11-12.2,9	MP1 MP3
Compare and contrast the positions of the Federalists and the Anti-Federalists.	C.2.3.1.3 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.9	MP1 MP3
Illustrate the history of political parties in the United States.	C.2.2.1.1 C.2.2.2.2 C.2.2.2.3 RH.11-12.2,4,7 WHST.11-12.9	MP1 MP3
Compare and contrast the five main functions of political parties by categorizing examples of political actions under each function.	C.2.2.1.1 C.2.2.1.2 C.2.2.2.1 C.2.2.2.2 C.2.2.2.3 C.2.2.2.4 C.2.4.3.1 C.2.4.3.2 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2	MP1 MP3
Explain the importance of minor parties.	C.2.2.2.3 C.2.2.2.5 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2	MP1 MP3

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Performance Indicator	PA Core Standard and/or Eligible Content	Marking Period Taught
Describe and analyze the role and importance of political party organization at the local, state, and national levels.	C.2.2.1.1 C.2.2.1.2 C.2.2.2.2 C.2.2.2.5 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2	MP1 MP3
Explain various forms of political participation.	C.2.1.1.1 C.2.1.1.2 C.2.2.1.1 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2,7	MP1 MP3
Describe the rules governing political campaigns.	C.2.2.2.1 C.2.2.2.2 C.2.2.2.3 C.2.2.2.4 C.2.2.2.5 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.7	MP1 MP3
Describe the purpose and role of the Electoral College in our constitutional system.	C.1.3.2.2 C.1.3.2.3 RH.11-12.2,4,7 WHST.11-12.7,9	MP1 MP3
Define expressed powers of Congress.	C.1.1.1.1 C.1.1.1.2 C.1.3.1.2 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2	MP1 MP3
Illustrate the process of how a bill becomes a law.	C.1.1.1.2 C.1.3.1.3 RH.11-12.1,2,4 WHST.11-12.9	MP1 MP3
Describe the differences between the House of Representatives and the Senate, the functions of each chamber, and how Congress operates within a system of checks and balances.	C.1.1.2.1 C.1.3.1.2 C.1.4.1.1 C.2.4.2.1 C.2.4.2.2 RH.11-12.1-5,7 WHST.11-12.2,7,9	MP1 MP3
Explain how constituency, partisanship, and divided government influence Congress.	C.1.1.1.4 C.1.2.1.1 C.1.2.1.3 C.1.2.1.4 C.1.3.1.2 C.2.3.2.2 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.9	MP1 MP3
Describe the many roles of the President.	C.1.1.2.1 C.1.1.2.3 C.1.3.1.2 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.9	MP1 MP3
Explain how Article two establishes and vests power in the Executive Branch.	C.1.3.1.2 C.2.4.2.1 RH.11-12.1,2,4 WHST.11-12.2	MP1 MP3
Debate the reasons for growth of Presidential power.	C.1.1.2.2 RH.11-12.1-10 WHST.11-12.1,4,7,9	MP1 MP3
Summarize how the federal bureaucracy carries out the responsibilities of government.	C.1.1.2.2 C.1.1.2.3 C.1.4.1.1 C.2.4.2.1 C.2.4.2.2 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.7	MP1 MP3
Explain the structure of the federal court system.	C.1.3.1.2 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2	MP2 MP4

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Performance Indicator	PA Core Standard and/or Eligible Content	Marking Period Taught
Define judicial review and explain how it checks the power of Congress, the president, and the states.	C.1.3.1.2 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2	MP2 MP4
Explain and give examples of due process.	C.1.4.1.1 C.2.4.2.1 C.2.4.2.2 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2	MP2 MP4
Analyze and explain key Supreme Court decisions.	C.1.4.1.1 C.1.4.2.1 C.1.4.2.2 C.1.4.2.3 C.2.4.1.1 C.2.4.1.2 RH.11-12.1-10 WHST.11-12.2,8,9	MP2 MP4
Examine how the Constitution and Bill of Rights protect individual liberties.	C.1.1.3.1 C.1.1.3.2 C.1.1.3.3 C.2.1.2.3 RH.11-12.1-5 WHST.11-12.9	MP2 MP4
Predict how our current interpretations of the Bill of Rights might change in the future.	C.2.2.2.3 C.2.3.1.2 C.2.3.1.3 RH.11-12.1,2,4 WHST.11-12.7,10	MP2 MP4
Examine the protections placed within the Bill of Rights for those accused of, tried for, and convicted of crimes.	C.1.1.3.2 C.1.1.3.3 C.1.2.2.1 C.2.1.2.2 C.2.1.2.3 RH.11-12.1,2,4 WHST.11-12.7,9	MP2 MP4
Compare and contrast the ideal of civil rights with the reality of civil rights in United States History.	C.1.1.3.1 C.1.1.3.2 C.1.1.3.3 C.2.3.1.1 RH.11-12.2,4,6-10 WHST.11-12.8,9	MP2 MP4
Summarize the major civil rights laws passed during Reconstruction and explain the effects these laws.	C.1.1.3.1 C.1.1.3.2 C.1.1.3.3 C.1.3.2.2 C.1.3.2.4 RH.11-12.2,4 WHST.11-12.2,4,7,9	MP2 MP4
Describe the factors that caused the United States to begin to change its immigration policies in the late 1800s.	C.1.1.3.3 C.2.3.1.1 C.2.4.1.1 RH.11-12.2-4,7 WHST.11-12.8,9	MP2 MP4
Examine the role of the governor and state legislature.	C.1.3.1.1 C.1.3.1.2 C.1.3.1.3 C.1.4.1.2 RH.11-12.1,2,4 WHST.11-12.9	MP2 MP4
Describe the structure of local and county government.	C.1.3.1.1 C.1.3.1.2 RH.11-12.2,4,7 WHST.11-12.2,9	MP2 MP4
Explain the services state and local governments provide.	C.1.1.2.2 C.1.4.1.1 RH.11-12.2,4,7 WHST.11-12.2,9	MP2 MP4

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Performance Indicator	PA Core Standard and/or Eligible Content	Marking Period Taught
Describe and compare the election process in the United States and in Pennsylvania	C.1.3.2.1 C.1.3.2.2 C.1.3.2.3 RH.11-12.1,2,4 WHST.11-12.2,4,8	MP2 MP4

ASSESSMENTS

PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content: The teacher must be knowledgeable of the PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content and incorporate them regularly into planned instruction.

Formative Assessments: The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to conduct in-process evaluations of student learning.

Effective formative assessments for this course include but are not limited to:

- Journal Entry
- Entry/Exit Ticket
- Thinking Map
- Verbal Explanation
- Observation
- Artifacts
- Reflection/Summary
- Quiz

Summative Assessments: The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional task, lesson, and/or unit.

Effective summative assessments for this course include but are not limited to:

- Marking Period Assessment/Final Exam
- Writing a Paper/Essay
- Performance Tasks
- Project
- Tests
- Portfolio