

# Government Curriculum Template

## Quarter 1

Week #	Unit/Topic- Approximate time to teach	Vocab/Critical Concepts	NE State Standard	Materials/ Resources	Assignments/ Projects/ Assessments	Other:
Week 1	Introduction to Course and American Citizenship Test (3 days)	American Citizenship Test	SS HS.1.2.b Analyze and communicate the significance and impacts of patriotic symbols, songs, holidays, and activities in terms of historical, social, and cultural contexts. SS HS.1.2.c Engage and reflect on participation in civic activities.	McGraw Hill Education Our Democracy 2018 Magruder's American Government 2013 <a href="https://www.ducksters.com/history/us-government.php">https://www.ducksters.com/history/us-government.php</a>	American Citizenship Test Opinion Proof Paper: Why	
Week 2	Unit 1 Principals of Government (6 days)		SS HS.1.1.a Examine the historical foundation that influenced the creation of the United States Constitution. SS HS.1.2.c Engage and reflect on participation in civic activities.	<a href="https://www.ushistory.org/nov/">https://www.ushistory.org/nov/</a>	Unit I Exam Objective Written Checks for Understanding	
Week 3-4	Unit 2 Origins of the American Government (7 days)	1. Define government and the basic powers every government holds. 2. Describe the four defining characteristics of a state. 3. Identify four theories that attempt to explain the origin of the state. 4. Describe the purpose of government in the United States and other countries. 5. Classify governments according to three sets of characteristics. 6. Define systems of government based on who can participate. 7. Identify different ways that power can be distributed, geographically, within a state. 8. Describe a government by the distribution of power between the executive branch and legislative branch. 9. Identify how basic legislation has added to our understanding of the Constitution over time. 10. Analyze and describe the connections between democracy and the free enterprise system.	SS HS.1.1.a Examine the historical foundation that influenced the creation of the United States Constitution.		Unit II Exam	
Week 4-6	Unit 3: The Constitution and Federalism (8-10 day)	1. Identify the three concepts of government that influenced the American colonies. 2. Explain the significance of three landmark English documents. 3. Describe the three types of colonies that the English established in the American colonies. 4. Explain how Britain's colonial policies contributed to the growth of self-government in the colonies. 5. Identify the major steps that led to growing feelings of colonial unity. 6. Compare the First and the Second Continental Congresses. 7. Analyze the ideas in the Declaration of Independence. 8. Summarize the common features of the first State constitutions. 9. Describe the structure of the government set up under the government set under the Articles of Confederation. 10. Explain why the weaknesses of the Articles led to a critical period for the country in the 1780's 11. Describe how a growing need for a stronger National Government led to plans for a Constitutional Convention 12. Identify the Framers of the Constitution and discuss how they organized the Philadelphia Convention. 13. Compare and contrast the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan. 14. Summarize the conventions major compromises and the effects of those decisions. 15. Describe the delegates' reaction to the Constitution. 16. Identify the opposing sides in the fight for ratification and describe the major arguments for and against the proposed Constitution. 17. Describe the inauguration of the new government of the United States of America.	SS HS.1.1.b Evaluate the structure of American constitutional government. SS HS.1.2.d Investigate an issue and communicate which level of government is most appropriate to utilize in addressing the issue.		Unit II: Essay Quiz Students Create Picture Gallery on Essential Questions Unit Three Exam	
Week 7-8	Unit 4 Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (10 to 15 days)	1.Explain how Americans' commitment to freedom led to the creation of the Bill of Rights. 2.Understand that the rights guaranteed by limited government are not absolute. 3.Show how federalism affects individual rights 4.Explain why religious liberty is protected in the Bill of Rights. 5.Describe the limits imposed by the Establishment Clause of the 1st Amendment. 6.Summarize the Supreme Court rulings on religion and education as well as other Establishment Clauses cases. 7.Explain how the Supreme Court has interpreted and limited the Free Exercise Clause. 8.Explain the importance of the two basic purposes saved by the guarantees of free expression. 9.Summarize how the Supreme Court has limited seditious speech and obscenity. 10.Examine the issues of prior restraint and press confidentiality, and describe the limits the Court has placed on the media 11.Define symbolic and commercial speech; describe the limits of their exercise. 12.Explain the Constitution guarantees of assembly and petition. 13.Summarize how government can limit the time place and manner of assembly. 14.Compare and contrast the freedom of assembly issues that arise on public versus private property. 15.Explore how the Supreme Court has interpreted freedom of association. 16.Explain the controversy of the 2nd amendment. 17.Explain the protections and limitations of the 4th, 5th, 6th, and 8th Amendments. 18.Explain the purposes of the rest of the Amendments to the constitution and the history of there purpose.	SS HS.1.1.b Evaluate the structure of American constitutional government. SS HS.1.1.g Analyze the roles that political parties have played in the United States.		Objective: Checks for Understanding Unit Four Exam	
Week 7-8	Unit 5: Political Parties (10 days)		SS HS.1.1.g Analyze the roles that political parties have played in the United States.			

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Define a political party.</li> <li>2. Describe the major functions of political parties.</li> <li>3. Identify the reasons why the United States has a two party system.</li> <li>4. Understand multiparty and one-party systems and how they affect the functioning of a political system.</li> <li>5. Understand the origins of political parties in the United States.</li> <li>6. Identify and describe the three major periods of single-party domination and describe the current era of divided government.</li> <li>7. Identify the types of minor parties that have been active in American politics.</li> <li>8. Understand why minor parties are important despite the fact that none has ever won the presidency.</li> <li>9. Understand why the major parties have a decentralized structure.</li> <li>10. Describe the national party machinery and party organization at the State and local levels.</li> </ol>	SS HS.2.2.c Assess the effects of taxes on personal income. For example: state income tax, federal income tax, social security, property tax, sales tax, etc.		I side with Quiz	
			SS HS.2.8.a Examine how governments utilize taxation to provide goods and services to society.		Unit 5 Test	
					Minor Party Research Paper	
					Create Your Own Minor Party	

## Quarter 2

Unit/Topic- Approximate time to teach	Unit/Topic- Approximate time to teach	Vocab/Critical Concepts	State Standards/ ACT Standards	Materials/ Resources	Assignments/ Projects/ Assessments	Other:
				McGraw Hill Education Our Democracy 2018		
Week 9	Unit 6 Voting and Elections (5-8 day)		SS HS.1.2.a Investigate how individuals and groups can effectively use the structure and functions of various levels of government to shape policy.	Magruder's American Government 2013	Unit 6 Test	
		<p>The Student will be able to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Summarize the history of voting rights in the United States.</li> <li>2. Identify and explain constitutional restrictions on the State's power to elect.</li> <li>3. Identify the universal qualifications for voting in the United States.</li> <li>4. Explain the other requirements that States use or have used as voting qualifications.</li> <li>5. Describe the tactics often used to deny African Americans the right to vote.</li> <li>6. Examine the problem of nonvoting in this country.</li> <li>7. Identify those people who typically do not vote.</li> <li>8. Examine behavior of those who vote and those who do not.</li> <li>9. Understand the sociological and psychological factors that affect voter turnout.</li> </ol>	SS HS.1.2.f Analyze various media sources for accuracy and perspective.	<a href="https://www.ducksters.com/history/us_government.php">https://www.ducksters.com/history/us_government.php</a>	Objective Check for Understandings	
		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain why the nominating process is a critical first step in the election process.</li> <li>2. Discuss the direct primary as the principal nomination method used in the United States.</li> <li>3. Understand why some candidates use the petition as a nominate device.</li> <li>4. Analyze how administrations of elections in the United States help make democracy work.</li> <li>5. Define the role of local precincts and polling places in the election process.</li> <li>6. Describe the various ways in which voters can cast their ballots.</li> <li>7. Outline the role that voting devices play in the election process.</li> <li>8. Explain the issues raised by campaign spending.</li> <li>9. Describe the various sources of funding for campaign spending.</li> <li>10. Examine federal laws that regulate campaign finance.</li> <li>11. Outline the role of the Federal Election Commission in enforcing campaign finance laws.</li> <li>12. Distinguish hard money from soft money.</li> <li>13. Describe the challenges involved in measuring public opinion.</li> <li>14. Explain why scientific opinion polls are the best way to measure public opinion.</li> <li>15. Identify the five steps in the polling process.</li> <li>16. Understand the problems in evaluating polls.</li> <li>17. Recognize the limits on the impact of public opinion in a democracy.</li> <li>18. Examine the role of the mass media in proving the public with political information.</li> <li>19. Explain how the mass media influences politics.</li> <li>20. Understand the factors that limit the influence of the media.</li> </ol>	SS HS.1.2.e Demonstrate how individuals, groups, and the media check governmental practices.	<a href="https://www.ushistory.org/gov/">https://www.ushistory.org/gov/</a>	News Analysis	
		<p>The Students Will Be Able To</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the three types of powers delegated to Congress.</li> <li>2. Analyze the importance of the commerce power.</li> <li>3. Summarize key points relating to the taxing power.</li> <li>4. Explain how the bankruptcy and borrowing powers work.</li> <li>5. Explain why the Framers gave Congress the power to issue currency.</li> <li>6. Identify the key sources of the foreign relations powers of Congress.</li> <li>7. Describe the power-sharing arrangement between Congress and the President on the issues of war and national defense.</li> <li>8. List other key domestic powers exercised by Congress.</li> <li>9. Explain how the Necessary and Proper Clause gives Congress flexibility in lawmaking.</li> <li>10. Compare the strict construction and liberal construction positions on the scope of congressional power.</li> <li>11. Describe the ways in which the implied powers have been applied.</li> <li>12. Describe the role of Congress in amending the Constitution and its electoral duties.</li> <li>13. Describe the power of Congress to impeach, and summarize presidential impeachment cases.</li> <li>14. Identify the executive powers of Congress.</li> <li>15. Describe the investigatory powers of Congress.</li> </ol>	SS HS.1.2.d Investigate an issue and communicate which level of government is most appropriate to utilize in addressing the issue.		Unit 7 Test	
Week 10-11	Unit 7 Legislative Branch (10 days)					
		<p>The Students Will Be Able To</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain why the Constitution provides for a bicameral Congress.</li> <li>2. Explain the differences between a term and a session of Congress.</li> <li>3. Describe a situation in which the President may convene or end a session of Congress.</li> <li>4. Explain how House seats are distributed and describe the length of a term in the House.</li> <li>5. Explain how House seats are reapportioned among the States after each census.</li> <li>6. Describe a typical congressional election and congressional district.</li> <li>7. Analyze the formal and informal qualification for election to the House.</li> <li>8. Compare the size of the Senate to the size of the House of Representatives.</li> <li>9. Describe how senators are elected.</li> <li>10. Explain how and why a senator's term differs from a representative's term.</li> <li>11. Describe the qualifications for elections to the Senate.</li> <li>12. Describe the personal and political backgrounds of present-day Congress members.</li> <li>13. Identify the major roles played by those who serve in Congress.</li> <li>14. Describe the compensation and privileges of members of Congress.</li> </ol>	SS HS.2.7.a Assess how property rights are defined, enforced, and limited by government.			
		<p>The Students Will Be Able To</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe how and when Congress convenes.</li> <li>2. Compare the roles of the presiding officers in the Senate and the House.</li> <li>3. Identify the duties of the party officers in each house.</li> <li>4. Describe how committee chairmen are chosen and explain their role in the legislative process.</li> <li>5. Explain how standing committees function.</li> <li>6. Describe the responsibilities and duties of the House Rules Committee.</li> <li>7. Describe the role of select committees.</li> <li>8. Identify the first steps in the introduction of a bill to the House.</li> <li>9. Describe what happens to a bill once it is referred to a committee.</li> <li>10. Explain how the House leaders schedule debate on a bill.</li> <li>11. Explain what happens to a bill on the House floor, and identify the final steps in the process.</li> <li>12. Describe how a bill is introduced in the Senate.</li> <li>13. Compare the Senates rules for debate with those in the House.</li> <li>14. Describe the role of conference committees in the legislative process.</li> <li>15. Evaluate the actions that the President can take after both houses have passed a bill.</li> </ol>	1.SS HS.1.1.c Analyze the functions of United States government and its outcomes.		Summary Paper Powers of Congress	
		<p>The Students Will Be Able To</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the Presidents many roles.</li> <li>2. Understand the formal qualification necessary to become President.</li> <li>3. Explain how the President's term of office has changed over time.</li> <li>4. Describe the Presidents pay and benefits.</li> <li>5. Explain how the Constitution provides for presidential succession.</li> <li>6. Understand the constitutional provisions relating to presidential disability.</li> <li>7. Describe the role of the Vice President.</li> <li>8. Explain the Framers original provisions for choosing the President.</li> <li>9. Understand how the rise of political parties changed the process of choosing the President.</li> </ol>	SS HS.1.1.f Analyze the foundation, structures, and functions of supranational organizations.		Objective Check for Understanding	
Week 13	Unit 8 Executive Branch (7 days)					

		<p>The Students Will be Able To</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain why Article II of the Constitution can be described as “an out</li> <li>2. List several reasons for the growth of presidential. power.</li> <li>3. Explain how various Presidents views have shaped the powers of the</li> <li>4. Identify the sources of the Presidential powers to execute federal law.</li> <li>5. Define the ordinance power.</li> <li>6. Explain how the appointment power works and describes the limits o</li> <li>7. Examine the power of executive privilege.</li> <li>8. Explain how treaties are made and approved.</li> <li>9. Explain why and how executive agreements are made.</li> <li>10. Summarize how the power of recognition is used.</li> <li>11. Describe the President’s power as commander in chief.</li> <li>12. Explain the Presidents’ legislative powers and how they are an impo</li> <li>13. Describe the Presidents major judicial powers.</li> </ol>	<p>SS HS.1.1.h Analyze United States foreign policy issues.</p>		
			<p>SS HS.1.1.c Analyze the functions of United States government and its outcomes.</p>		
Week 13-14	Unit 9 (5 days) Judicial Branch (5-7 days)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain why the Constitution created a national judiciary, and describe its structure.</li> <li>2. Identify the criteria that determine whether a case is within the jurisdiction of a federal court, and compare the types of jurisdiction.</li> <li>3. Outline the process for appointing federal judges, and list their terms of office.</li> <li>4. Understand the impact of judicial philosophy.</li> <li>5. Examine the roles of court officers.</li> <li>6. Describe the structure and jurisdiction of the federal district courts.</li> <li>7. Describe the structure and jurisdiction of the federal courts of appeals.</li> <li>8. Describe the structure and jurisdiction of the two other constitutional courts.</li> <li>9. Define the concept of judicial review.</li> <li>10. Outline the scope of the Supreme Court’s jurisdiction.</li> <li>11. Examine how cases reach the Supreme Court.</li> <li>12. Summarize the way the Court operates.</li> <li>13. Contrast the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.</li> <li>14. Explain how a citizen may sue the United States government in the Court of Federal Claims.</li> <li>15. Examine the roles of the territorial courts and those of the District of Columbia courts.</li> <li>16. Explain what types of cases are brought to the Tax court.</li> </ol>	<p>SS HS.1.1.e Analyze the foundation, structures, and functions of state government and its outcomes.</p>	Unit 8 Quiz	
			<p>SS HS.1.1.c Analyze the functions of United States government and its outcomes.</p>	Take home Essay’s	
Week 15-16	Unit 10 (Local Governemtns (5-7)		<p>SS HS.1.1.d Analyze the foundation, structures, and functions of local government and its outcomes.</p>		Information Assessed on Final
Finals Week	Review for Final Exam	Explaining the function and differences between your county, city, and state.			American Citizenship Test