

US Government Essentials	Scope and Sequence
Unit Lesson	Objectives
Introduction to Government	
Individuals and Civic Engagement	
	Explain the characteristics of civic institutions.
	Explain strategies used by groups to influence change in US institutions.
	Describe ways to become involved in a community.
Citizenship, Residency, and Individuals	
	Identify the types of US citizenship.
	Describe the paths to US citizenship.
	Explain the rights, duties, and responsibilities of citizenship.
Constitution and Compromise	
	Describe events leading up to the Constitutional Convention.
	Describe the compromises of the Constitutional Convention.
	Compare ideas of the Federalists and the Anti-federalists.
Compromise and Discourse Today	
	Explain the relationship between discourse and compromise.
	Describe appropriate verbal and nonverbal communication to use in discourse.
The Influence of Athenian Democracy on the US	
	Identify political concepts central to Athenian democracy.
	Compare Athenian democracy with democracy in the United States.
	Explain the influence of Athenian democracy on the American political process.
Unit Test	

Unit Lesson**Objectives****Foundation of US Government**

Early Governments

Explain how British ideas influenced political institutions in colonial America.

Analyze the roles of the Iroquois during the colonial era.

Analyze the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.

The Enlightenment

Describe the impact of the Glorious Revolution and the Bill of Rights on the colonies.

Identify the political principles supported by new thinkers in the Enlightenment.

Explain the contributions of Enlightenment thinkers to political ideas in the colonies.

Comparing Ideas of the Enlightenment

Explain the influence of Enlightenment ideals on US frameworks of government.

Analyze the contributions of Enlightenment thinkers to the US system of government.

Describe the expansion of the term "equality" from its use by Enlightenment thinkers to today.

A Weak Confederation

Describe the provisions of the Articles of Confederation.

Analyze the effects of the Land Ordinance of 1785 and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 on settlement.

Explain the failure of the articles to provide an organized financial system, a stable economy, and military protection for the colonies.

The Ratification Debate

Explain the arguments presented by supporters of the Constitution in "The Federalist Papers."

Analyze Anti-Federalist objections to the Constitution and to a stronger federal government.

Describe the obstacles the Constitution faced during the process of ratification.

Unit Test

US Government Essentials**Scope and Sequence****Unit Lesson****Objectives****US Constitution**

The Constitution

Explain how the Constitution creates a government structure that separates powers and establishes checks and balances.

Identify the democratic rights and powers given to the people by the Constitution.

Describe the distribution of power between states and the federal government.

Explain the process required to amend the Constitution.

We the People

Describe the structure of the Constitution.

Explain principles outlined in the Constitution.

Analyze the preamble of the Constitution.

Freedom of Expression

Identify the purpose of the Bill of Rights.

Explain the freedoms and rights protected under the First Amendment in the Bill of Rights.

Defendants' Rights

Describe individual rights and protections found in the Bill of Rights.

Explain how the Bill of Rights guarantees protections for the accused.

Analyze the Supreme Court's interpretations of the rights of the accused.

Equal Protections under the Law

Describe the process for amending the Constitution.

Explain the significance of key constitutional amendments that expanded rights.

Analyze how constitutional amendments have affected minority groups' political participation in the US.

Unit Test

Unit Lesson

Objectives

Branches of Government

Legislative Branch

Describe the structure of Congress.

Describe the powers of Congress.

Analyze how Congress represents the people.

Explain the lawmaking process.

Executive Branch

Explain the requirements for president as established by Article II.

Describe the roles and responsibilities of the president.

Describe the powers and responsibilities of the executive branch.

Foreign Policy Tools

Describe the goals of US foreign policy.

Explain US foreign policy tools.

Describe how the US uses multiple approaches during international conflicts.

Judicial Branch

Compare federal and state court systems.

Describe the organization of the United States judicial system.

Explain how the Supreme Court uses judicial review to determine constitutionality.

State and Local Governments

Compare the structures of federal, state, and local governments.

Explain the relationship of local governments to state governments.

Identify the level of government responsible for resolving an issue.

US Government Essentials**Scope and Sequence****Unit Lesson****Objectives**

Unit Test

Civil Liberties and Interaction

The Bill of Rights

Identify the freedoms provided to all citizens by the Bill of Rights.

Describe the legal protections given by the Bill of Rights to the accused and imprisoned.

Explain how the Bill of Rights protects additional rights and powers for states and individuals.

Influence of Mass Media

Explain the primary roles of media.

Analyze the media's influence on public opinion and policy.

Describe how social media is taking on the roles of mass media.

Federalism: A Balancing Act

Explain the concept of federalism.

Describe enumerated, reserved, and concurrent powers.

Compare the powers of government at federal and state levels.

Interest Group Influence

Describe how public and private interest groups influence society.

Analyze how interest groups influence government actions.

Conflicting Ideals

Describe how the Supreme Court has interpreted the due process clause of the 14th Amendment.

Explain how the Supreme Court has considered individual liberties when they conflict with the common good.

Unit Test

Cumulative Exam

Unit Lesson

Objectives

Cumulative Exam Review

Cumulative Exam