

Standard 1 – Foundations of American Government

Students investigate the principles that influenced the Founding Fathers of the United States to create a constitutional federal republic.

- C.1.1 Describe reasons why government is necessary, explaining competing ideas about the role of government in society
- C.1.2 Compare and contrast the structure and leadership of different forms of government in various nations
- C.1.3 Analyze the influence of the Magna Carta, English common law, and the English Bill of Rights in creating a limited form of government in the United States
- C.1.4 Explain the influence of Enlightenment philosophers, the Great Awakening, and the American Revolution on the American founding documents
- C.1.5 Explain the issues involved in various compromises or plans leading to the creation of the United States Constitution
- C.1.6 Analyze the underlying principles and concepts embodied in primary documents that influenced the creation of the United States Constitution

Standard 2 – Structure and Purposes of Government

Students explain the structure, roles, and responsibilities of the United States government.

- C.2.1 Analyze ways in which the purposes of the United States government, as defined in the United States Constitution, are achieved
- C.2.2 Describe the structure and functions of the federal government as stated in the United States Constitution
- C.2.3 Explain the distribution of powers, responsibilities, and limits on the United States government
- C.2.4 Cite the qualifications, terms of office, roles, and duties for appointed and elected officials
- C.2.5 Explain the processes and strategies of how a bill becomes a law at the federal level
- C.2.6 Differentiate between loose and strict constructionist interpretation of the Constitution by examining the meaning and implications of the Bill of Rights and subsequent amendments
- C.2.7 Explain the role of regulatory and independent government agencies in American society
- C.2.8 Compare and contrast the functions of various state and local governments in terms of tax code, political structure, and election procedures

Standard 3 – Functions of Government

Students analyze the relationships between the United States and other nations and evaluate the role of the United States in foreign diplomacy and international trade.

- C.3.1 Evaluate the five basic goals of United States foreign policy and explain the role of government in their implementation
- C.3.2 Examine the ways that nations work to cooperate with international organizations politically and economically
- C.3.3 Assess the extent to which United States foreign policy, domestic policy, constitutional principles, economic behaviors, and culture affect relations with other nations
- C.3.4 Describe ways in which ideas, events, and policies of other nations impact the United States

Standard 4 – Functions of Government

Students analyze and critique how the levels of government generate and allocate revenues to carry out the functions of government.

- C.4.1 Describe the elements of United States domestic policy
- C.4.2 Explain how government is financed
- C.4.3 Evaluate various forms of taxes at each level of government based on principle, incidence, and type
- C.4.4 Describe the major revenue and expenditure categories and their respective proportions of local, state, and federal budgets
- C.4.5 Predict how federal spending and taxation affect budget deficits and surpluses and the national debt
- C.4.6 Evaluate government programs by their cost and benefits to society
- C.4.7 Explain how macroeconomic policies of the Federal Reserve System and the federal government affect American citizens
- C.4.8 Describe the Federal Reserve System, its functions, and its role in the United States economy

Standard 5 – Role of the Citizen in American Democracy

Students examine how citizens can participate responsibly and effectively in American civic and political life.

- C.5.1 Distinguish between personal, political, and economic rights of citizenship
- C.5.2 Differentiate between civic duties and responsibilities, including various forms of civic participation
- C.5.3 Describe how civil rights have evolved over time to include diverse groups of citizens
- C.5.4 Evaluate the role of the media and public opinion in American politics, including the use and effects of propaganda techniques
- C.5.5 Analyze the effects of campaigns, campaign finance, elections, the Electoral College, and the United States census in the American political system
- C.5.6 Describe key platform positions of the major political parties and evaluate the impact of third parties in election outcomes
- C.5.7 Explain historical and contemporary roles of special interest groups, lobbyists, and associations in United States politics

Standard 6 – Fundamentals of Economics

Students explain how citizens can become effective decision-makers by applying fundamental economic concepts and reasoning skills in society.

- C.6.1 Explain the basic problem of scarcity and how it drives economic decision-making
- C.6.2 Describe the role of the factors of production as part of the circular flow of goods and services model
- C.6.3 Assess factors that influence productivity and evaluate the relationship between productivity and standard of living and GDP
- C.6.4 Apply principles of supply and demand to predict how changes in the market affect prices and incentives for buyers and sellers
- C.6.5 Evaluate how different economic systems allocate resources in terms of their benefits to society

Standard 7 – Economic Systems and Structures

Students demonstrate an understanding of the elements of the United States market economy within a global setting.

- C.7.1 Analyze the four market structures (perfect competition, monopolistic competition, oligopoly, and monopoly) in terms of size of market, ease of entry, similarity of product, and control over price
- C.7.2 Explain how competition affects both producers and consumers
- C.7.3 Interpret information about a current economic system undergoing change from a largely command or traditional system to a more mixed system
- C.7.4 Explain the effects of technology and innovation on global economic interdependence and competition
- C.7.5 Evaluate how various types of unemployment affect the economy

Standard 8 – Financial Literacy

Students apply economic principles to make sound personal financial decisions.

- C.8.1 Explain the relationship between education, training, and career options to future earning potential
- C.8.2 Create a family budget and explain its importance in achieving personal financial goals and avoiding negative financial consequences
- C.8.3 Compare and evaluate types of credit, savings, investment, and insurance services available to the consumer from various institutions
- C.8.4 Apply given financial data to real life situations such as reconciling a checking account, reading bank and credit card statements, purchasing major goods, and avoiding consumer fraud
- C.8.5 Analyze the benefits and risks of using credit and examine the various uses of credit scores