

Civics

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 – Roles of United States Foreign Policy

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