

Essential Standards

1. Students will trace the philosophical and historical foundations of the American political system.
2. Students will explain how and why the Framers created the Constitution.
3. Students will give examples of how the Constitution has been changed.
4. Students will describe how principles embodied in the Constitution have shaped the three branches.
5. Students will distinguish rights protected in the Bill of Rights.
6. Students will predict challenges American constitutional democracy might face in the Twenty-first century.

Seneca R 7 School District Course: Government Grade Level: 11th

Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
1	Comparative Government	9-12.GV.1.CC.D	Using an inquiry lens, develop compelling questions about government, determine helpful resources, and consider multiple points of views represented in the resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture and Discussion • Is our classroom a state? • Handout: Comparing Hobbes and Locke • Purposes of Government in the News • Build-a-Government Chart • Five Schools: Which is Most Democratic? • Lecture and Notes • Unit One Study Guide • &lt; Video Clip: Rodney King • &lt; Video Clip: Los 	Textbook: <i>Magruder's American Government</i>
		9-12.GV.1.EC.A	Examine the opportunity costs and benefits of economic decisions on society as a whole, as well as on individuals and governments.		
		9-12.GV.1.PC.B	Examine the origins and impact of structures and stratification on societies, and relationships between peoples and government.		
		9-12.GV.2.CC.D	Compare and contrast the structure and function of democratic governments and authoritarian governments, noting their impact on people, groups, and societies.		
		Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the different powers of government, and the purpose of a Constitution. • Identify the characteristics of a state, nation, and country, and apply them to contemporary examples. • Explain each of the theories on the origin of the state. • Identify the four purposes of government, and find examples of each using current events. 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify governments based on their defining features. Analyze various economic systems, including capitalism, communism, and socialism, and explain the benefits and costs of each. 	Angeles Riots, 1992 ⌘ Video Clip: 9/11 ⌘ Video Clip: Economics for Five Year Olds ⌘ Video Clip: Direct Democracy ⌘ Video Clip: Stossel; In Defense of Capitalism (with viewing guide)
	Key Terms	Government, Public Policy, Legislative Power, Executive Power, Judicial Power, Constitution, Sovereignty, State, Nation, Force Theory, Evolutionary Theory, Divine Right of Kings, Social Contract, the Enlightenment, Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Internal Order, External Security, Public Works, Economic Action, Unitary Government, Federal Government, Confederation, Presidential Government, Parliamentary Government, Autocracy, Dictatorship, Monarchy, Oligarchy, Direct Democracy, Republic, Authoritarian Government, Capitalism, Communism, Socialism, Mixed Economy, Laissez-faire	
	Common Assessments	Quiz: Types of Government Exam: Comparative Government	

Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
2	Origins of American Government	9-12.GV.1.G.B	Analyze the relationship between the geography of the original 13 colonies and the formation of the United States government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture and Discussion Handout: 13 Colonies Map Declaration of Independence Envelope Activity Timeline Activity: Pursuing Self-Rule Plans of Government Venn Diagram If the Constitution 	Textbook: <i>Magruder's American Government</i> Declaration of Independence
		9-12.GV.2.CC.A	Trace the evolution of government in the English colonies to explain American colonists' expectations for self-rule.		
		9-12.GV.2.CC.B	Analyze the Declaration of Independence to determine the influence of classical and Enlightenment thought on revolutionary ideals.		
		9-12.GV.2.CC.C	Evaluate the extent to which decisions made in the Constitutional Convention were influenced by previous models of government, and experiences under British rule.		

		9-12.GV.2.GS.B	Apply the concepts of natural law, social contract, due process of law, and popular sovereignty to explain the purposes and legacy of the Declaration of Independence.	<p>Were a World Government: Would you ratify?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit Two Study Guide <p>⌘ Video Clip: Magna Carta Rap</p> <p>⌘ Video Clip: Tar and Feather</p> <p>⌘ Video Clip: Too Late to Apologize</p>	
		9-12.GV.2.GS.C	Describe the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation to explain its failure as a national government.		
		9-12.GV.2.G.A	Analyze how geography of North America influenced the governmental systems there.		
		9-12.GV.2.EC.A	Analyze the impact of economics and economic theories on the formation of United States governmental ideals, principles, and structures.		
		9-12.GV.2.PC.A	Analyze the varying perspectives of individuals and groups to explain emerging divisions and political philosophies as the United States was founded.		
		9-12.GV.3.CC.A	Explain how the central debates of the Constitutional Convention were resolved.		
		9-12.GV.3.CC.B	Explain how concerns over a strong central government were addressed to provide for the ratification of the Constitution.		
		9-12.GV.3.E.A	Compare trade, monetary policy, and taxation under the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.		
		Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain the importance of landmark English documents in the shaping of the U.S. government. Analyze differences in the American colonies in terms of their economies, religion, and geography, and explain how this shaped their governments. Identify attempts at colonial unity and their level of success. Identify tactics used by colonists to rebel against the English government and rate their level of success. Identify the major grievances addressed in the Declaration of Independence, and Lockean ideals found in the document. 		

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the powers and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation, and how those weaknesses led to its failure. • Explain the importance of Shays' Rebellion. • Compare and contrast the plans for government proposed at the Constitutional Convention, and explain how compromise led to the current constitution. • Explain the arguments of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists in terms of ratification, and the role of the <i>Federalist Papers</i> in adoption of the Constitution. 			
		Key Terms	Limited Government, Representative Government, Magna Carta, English Petition of Right, English Bill of Rights, Mayflower Compact, French and Indian War, Stamp Act, First Continental Congress, Second Continental Congress, Declaration of Independence, <i>Common Sense</i> , Articles of Confederation, unicameral, Shays' Rebellion, Virginia Plan, New Jersey Plan, Connecticut Compromise, Three-Fifths Compromise, Commerce and Slave Trade Compromise, Ratification, Federalists, Anti-Federalists, <i>Federalist Papers</i>			
		Common Assessments	Exam: Origins of American Government			

Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
3	The U.S. Constitution	9-12.GV.3.GS.A	Apply the concepts of due process of law, popular sovereignty, rule of law, representation, and federalism to explain the purpose and legacy of the Constitution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture and Discussion • Dissecting the Preamble • Peg Word System • Bill of Rights Booklet • The Bill of Rights in Action • Principles of Government in the News • Debating a Supreme Court case 	Textbook: <i>Magruder's American Government</i> <i>Greenwood v. California</i> (1988)
		9-12.GV.3.GS.B	Analyze the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution to determine their success in implementing the ideals of the Declaration of Independence.		
		9-12.GV.3.EC.A	Compare trade, monetary policy, and taxation under the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.		
		Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the powers and limitations covered by the seven articles of the Constitution. • Explain each of the principles of constitutional government, and provide examples from current 		

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> events. Explain the process for amending the Constitution. Outline the protections protected in the Bill of Rights. Debate the Supreme Court case <i>Greenwood v. California</i> (1988) and the application of the Fourth Amendment. Explain the topic of Amendments 11-27 and the conditions that prompted those changes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit Three Study Guide ✂ Video Clip: Barney Fife Preamble ✂ Video Clip: Frost Nixon ✂ Video Clip: Stossel; Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness ✂ Video Clip: Looney Tunes Three Branches ✂ Video Clip: Bugs Bunny Amending the Constitution 	
		Key Terms	Preamble, Articles, Amendment, Domestic Tranquility, Common Defense, Popular Sovereignty, Limited Government, Constitutionalism, Rule of Law, Separation of Powers, Checks and Balances, Judicial Review, Federalism, Amendment Process, Petition, Habeas Corpus, Double Jeopardy, Self-Incrimination, Due Process, Eminent Domain, Unenumerated, Suffrage, Electoral College, Poll Tax, Presidential Succession		
		Common Assessments	Quiz: Bill of Rights Exam: The Constitution		

Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
4	Federalism	9-12.GV.3.CC.D	Analyze the changing relationship between state and federal governmental powers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture and Discussion Federalism Graphic Organizer Debating a Supreme Court case Unit Four Study Guide 	Textbook: <i>Magruder's American Government</i> <i>Dobbs v. Jackson</i> (2022)
		9-12.GV.3.GS.F	Compare the structure and functions of local, state, and federal government.		
		Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze the powers of government and categorize those belonging to federal, state, and local levels. 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define each type of government power, and give examples using contemporary examples. Explain the importance of the Necessary and Proper Clause, and the Supremacy Clause in terms of federalism. Compare dual federalism and cooperative federalism Analyze the Supreme Court decision in <i>Dobbs v. Jackson (2022)</i> and how it applies to federalism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Video Clip: Constitution USA; Episode One Video Clip: Federal Power v. State Power 	
	Key Terms	Federalism, Delegated Powers, Expressed Powers, Implied Powers, the Necessary and Proper Clause, Inherent Powers, Reserved Powers, Exclusive Powers, Concurrent Powers, the Supremacy Clause, Dual Federalism, Cooperative Federalism, Federal Grants-in-Aid, Interstate Compact, Full Faith and Credit, Extradition		
	Common Assessments	Quiz: Powers Exam: Federalism		

Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
5	Congress (Structure and Powers)	9-12.GV.1.CC.E	Analyze the causes and consequences of a specific issue tied to the government, as well as the challenges and opportunities faced by those trying to address the problem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture and Discussion Constructed Response: Does Congress have too much power? The Redistricting Game How a Bill Becomes a Law Infographic Interest Group Project Unit Five Study Guide 	Textbook: <i>Magruder's American Government</i>
		9-12.GV.1.GS.A	Analyze laws, policies, and processes to determine how governmental systems affect individuals and groups in society.		
		9-12.GV.1.GS.B	Distinguish the powers and responsibilities of citizens and institutions to address and solve problems.		
		9-12.GV.1.G.A	Create and use maps and other graphic representations in order to explain relationships and reveal patterns or trends about government.		
		9-12.GV.3.CC.C	Trace the significant changes in roles, powers, and size of the three branches of government.		

		9-12.GV.3.GS.C	Analyze the unique roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government to determine how they function and interact.		
		9-12.GV.3.GS.D	Describe and give examples of how the constitutional principle of checks and balances limits the powers of government and leaders.		
		9-12.GV.3.PC.B	Evaluate the intended and unintended impact of government decision-making on individuals, groups, and society.		
		9-12.GV.4.CC.A	Trace the changing power relationships between branches of the United States government over time.		
		9-12.GV.4.PC.D	Predict the consequences that occur when institutions fail to meet the needs of individuals and groups, and when individuals fail to carry out their personal responsibilities.		
		9-12.GV.4.EC.A	Analyze the role that people, businesses, and government play in taxation and spending to maintain the public good.		
		9-12.GV.4.PC.A	Explain how political parties and interest groups reflect diverse perspectives and are influenced by individuals.		
		Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Explain the historical, practical, and theoretical reasons why Congress is bicameral. ● Compare and contrast the qualifications, tenure, and size of the two houses of Congress. ● Explain the differences between single-member-district basis and at-large elections. ● Explain the importance of reapportionment, reapportionment, and gerrymandering in terms of Congressional representation and the election process. ● Categorize the 17 expressed powers of Congress. ● Identify the source of implied powers and the importance of the court case <i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i>. ● Explain the role of leadership and committees in the legislative process. ● Trace the path a bill takes in becoming law. 		

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the types of interest groups, and their role in the legislative process. 			
		Key Terms	Bicameral, Term, Session, Special Session, Single Member District Basis, At-large Elections, Reapportionment, Redistricting, Gerrymandering, Tax, Deficit Spending, Commerce, Bankruptcy, Naturalization, Impeachment, Speaker of the House, President Pro-Tempore, Floor Leaders, Whip, Standing Committee, Select Committee, House Rules Committee, Conference Committee, Appropriations Bill, Filibuster, Pocket Veto, Veto, Interest Group, Political Action Committee			
		Common Assessments	Exam: Congress			

Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
6	The Presidency (Structure and Powers)	9-12.GV.1.CC.E	Analyze the causes and consequences of a specific issue tied to government, as well as the challenges and opportunities faced by those trying to address the problem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture and Discussion Constructed Response: Does the President have too much power? Roles of the President Constructed Response: Are term limits undemocratic? Reforming the Electoral College Zombie Bureaucracy Unit Six Study Guide 	Textbook: <i>Magruder's American Government</i>
		9-12.GV.1.GS.A	Analyze laws, policies, and processes to determine how governmental systems affect individuals and groups in society.		
		9-12.GV.1.GS.B	Distinguish the powers and responsibilities of citizens and institutions to address and solve problems.		
		9-12.GV.3.CC.C	Trace the significant changes in roles, powers, and size of the three branches of government.		
		9-12.GV.3.GS.C	Analyze the unique roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government to determine how they function and interact.		
		9-12.GV.3.GS.D	Describe and give examples of how the constitutional principle of checks and balances limits the powers of government and leaders.		
		9-12.GV.3.PC.B	Evaluate the intended and unintended impact of government decision-making on individuals, groups, and society.		

		9-12.GV.4.CC.A	Trace the changing power relationships between branches of the United States government over time.	≍ Video Clip: Why do we vote on Tuesdays? ≍ Video Clip: SNL - Executive Order ≍ Video Clip: Inside the White House; The Cabinet	
		9-12.GV4.PC.D	Predict the consequences that occur when institutions fail to meet the needs of individuals and groups, and when individuals fail to carry out their personal responsibilities.		
		9-12.GV.4.GS.A	Evaluate the role and influence of contemporary political parties on government.		
		9-12.GV.4.GS.C	Compare the various processes pertaining to the selection of political leaders at the federal, state, and local levels.		
		9-12.GV.4.G.A	Analyze state and federal electoral results to determine the influence of social, regional, and demographic characteristics.		
		9-12.GV.4.PC.B	Evaluate factors that shape public opinion on elections and policy issues.		
		Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain each of the roles of the President and give examples of each. • List the qualifications and tenure of the President. • Explain how the following constitutional amendments limited the power of the president: 12th, 20th, 22nd, 23rd, and 25th. • List the order of presidential succession. • Explain the process by which the president is elected. • Explain the advantages and disadvantages of the Electoral College, and possible reforms. • Explain the reasons why the office of the president has grown in power since WWII. • Categorize the various powers of the President found in Article II. • Identify members of the President's Cabinet, and explain the role of the Bureaucracy. 		
		Key Terms	Chief of State, Chief Executive, Chief Diplomat, Foreign Policy, Commander in Chief, Chief Legislator, Chief of Party, Chief Guardian of the Economy, Tenure, Presidential Succession, Cabinet, Bureaucracy, Proportional Representation, Primary Election, Winner-Take-All, National Convention, Political Parties, Platform, Electoral College, Faithless Elector, Stewardship Theory, Mass Media, Executive Order, Appointment Power, Treaty, State of the Union Address, Signing Statements, Clemency		

		Common Assessments	Exam: The Presidency
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Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
7	The Judiciary (Structure and Powers)	9-12.GV.1.CC.E	Analyze the causes and consequences of a specific issue tied to the government, as well as the challenges and opportunities faced by those trying to address the problem.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constructed Response: Term limits for SCOTUS Justices Lecture and Discussion The Federal Court Triangle Misconceptions Surrounding the Court Using Precedent Unit Seven Study Guide ☞ Video Clip: How a Case Gets to the Supreme Court 	Textbook: <i>Magruder's American Government</i>
		9-12.GV.1.GS.A	Analyze laws, policies, and processes to determine how governmental systems affect individuals and groups in society.		
		9-12.GV.1.GS.B	Distinguish the powers and responsibilities of citizens and institutions to address and solve problems.		
		9-12.GV.3.CC.C	Trace the significant changes in roles, powers, and size of the three branches of government.		
		9-12.GV.3.GS.C	Analyze the unique roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government to determine how they function and interact.		
		9-12.GV.3.GS.D	Describe and give examples of how the constitutional principle of checks and balances limits the powers of government and leaders.		
		9-12.GV.3.PC.B	Evaluate the intended and unintended impact of government decision-making on individuals, groups, and society.		
		9-12.GV.4.CC.A	Trace the changing power relationships between branches of the United States government over time.		
		9-12.GV.4.PC.D	Predict the consequences that occur when institutions fail to meet the needs of individuals and groups, and when individuals fail to carry out their personal responsibilities.		

		Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the types and jurisdiction of federal courts. • Trace the route a case takes to make its way to the Supreme Court. • Explain the selection process for Supreme Court Justices, and the debate regarding life tenure. • Explain judicial review, the origin of this power, and the controversy regarding this power. • Analyze a Supreme Court case, and explain how precedent was used to achieve that decision. • Compare the different types of jurisprudence and how it affects U.S. law. 			
		Key Terms	Constitutional Courts, Special Courts, Jurisdiction (Original, Appellate, and Concurrent), Supreme Court Justices, District Courts, Appellate Circuits, Judicial Review, Writ of Certiorari, Amicus Brief, Oral Arguments, Opinions (Majority, Concurring, and Dissenting), Jurisprudence, Strict Construction, Loose Construction, Activist Court			
		Common Assessments	Exam: The Judiciary			

Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
8	The Bill of Rights in Action	9-12.GV.1.CC.A	Create and use tools to analyze a chronological sequence of events related to a study of government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture and Discussion • Debating a Supreme Court case • Using Precedent • Unit Eight Study Guide ⌂ Video Clip: A Conversation on the Constitution; Scalia v. Breyer	Textbook: <i>Magruder's American Government</i> <i>Snyder v. Phelps</i> (2011) <i>Texas v. Johnson</i> (1989) <i>Morse v. Frederick</i> (2007) <i>B.L. v. Mahanoy</i> (2021)
		9-12.GV.1.CC.B	Explain connections between historical context and peoples' perspectives about government at the time.		
		9-12.GV.1.CC.C	Develop a research plan, identify appropriate resources for investigating social studies topics, and create and present a research product, which applies an aspect of government to a contemporary issue.		
		9-12.GV.3.GS.B	Analyze the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution to determine their success in implementing the ideals of the Declaration of Independence.		
		9-12.GV.3.GS.E	Explain how the Bill of Rights and subsequent		

		amendments limit the power of the government, protect individual liberty, and provide for equality under the law.		<i>Engel v. Vitale</i> (1962)
	9-12.GV.3.CC.D	Analyze the changing relationship between state and federal governmental powers.		<i>Wisconsin v. Yoder</i> (1972)
	9-12.GV.3.PC.A	Analyze the varying perspectives of individuals and groups regarding the development of the American governmental system to explain emerging divisions and political philosophies.		<i>Greenwood v. California</i> (1988)
	9-12.GV.4.CC.B	Analyze changing ideals regarding an “active judiciary,” an “active legislature,” and an “active executive branch” in United States government over time.		<i>Riley v. California</i> (2014)
	9-12.GV.4.CC.C	Explain the powers and responsibilities of citizens and institutions to address and solve problems.		<i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> (1896)
	9-12.GV.4.GS.B	Explain a citizen’s legal obligations, as well as opportunities for, engaging with and using local, state, and federal governments to shape decision-making.		<i>Brown v. Board of Education, Topeka</i> (1954)
	Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify limitations of the First Amendment. • Explain the importance of symbolic speech, and the significance of key case • Analyze a contemporary First Amendment case regarding students, and argue both sides using precedent. • Identify the two components of the religion clause of the First Amendment, and discuss landmark decisions regarding each. • Debate several Fourth Amendment cases, and identify limitations regarding search warrants. • Analyze the Court’s decision in <i>New Jersey v. TLO</i>, and explain Fourth Amendment applications to the school setting. • Trace the Civil Rights Movement through landmark Supreme Court cases, and explain the significance of each in terms of the 14th Amendment. • Use Supreme Court cases to explain the concept of selective incorporation. 		<i>Mapp v. Ohio</i> (1961) <i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i> (2010) <i>Chicago v. McDonald</i> (2010)

		Key Vocabulary	Clear and Present Danger, Obscenity, Libel and Slander, Sedition, Symbolic Speech, Protest, Establishment Clause, Free Exercise Clause, Warrant, Citizenship, Segregation, Civil Disobedience, Selective Incorporation
		Common Assessments	Exam: The Bill of Rights

Unit	Topic	MLS		Activities	Primary Resources
9	Missouri Government	9-12.GV.4.GS.B	Explain a citizen's legal obligations, as well as opportunities for, engaging with, and using local, state, and federal government to shape decision-making.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lecture and Discussion Missouri Constitution Webquest Unit Nine Study Guide 	
		9-12.GV.3.GS.F	Compare the structure and functions of local, state and federal governments.		
		Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List and explain the key differences between the United States Constitution and the Missouri Constitution. Explain why the Missouri Constitution is lengthy compared to other state constitutions. List the qualifications and responsibilities for key members of the Missouri General Assembly, executive branch, and judiciary. Trace the process for selecting members of the Missouri Supreme Court. Explain the jurisdiction of each of the types of court in the Missouri judicial branch. 		
		Key Vocabulary	Initiative, Referendum, Recall, General Assembly, Line-item Veto, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Auditor, Treasurer, Secretary of State, Attorney General, The Missouri Plan		
		Common Assessments	Missouri Constitution Exam		

