

Essential Standards Chart: What is it we expect students to learn?

Grade:	12	Subject:	American Government	Semester	9 weeks	Team Members:	Jamie Bunch	Jessica Fork	
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Standard/Description		Example/Rigor	Prior Skills Needed	Common Assessment	When Taught?	Enrichment			
What is the essential standard to be learned? Describe in student-friendly vocabulary.		What does proficient student work look like? Provide an example and/or description.	What prior knowledge, skills, and/or vocabulary is/are needed for a student to master this standard?	What assessment(s) will be used to measure student mastery?	When will this standard be taught?	What will we do when students have learned the essential standard(s)?			
I will understand the Federalism and the various types of governments.		Prompt: Explain the place of local governments in the federal system	Prior knowledge from United States and World History: Enlightenment Philosophers (e.g. Locke, Hobbes), foundations of Democracy, Articles of Confederation, American Revolution, Declaration of Independence, American Revolution.	Federalism Constitution Quiz	Week 1-4	Connect to current events			
I will understand the functions and powers of the three branches of government		Venn Diagram: compare and contrast the three branches of government and their powers.	Prior knowledge from United States and World History: executive, legislative, and judicial branches. Key Vocabulary: legislate, checks and balances, separation of powers, compromise, amendment and veto.	Three Branches (executive, legislative, and judicial Quiz)	Week 5-7	Connect to current events			
I will understand how media, interest groups and lobbyists influence U.S. politics		Group Collaboration: Collaborating in a group of 4 students will develop 4 key ideas and 4 questions.	Prior knowledge from United States and World History media bias and propaganda.	Outside influences on Government Quiz	Week 9	Focus more in depth on PACs, Interest Groups, and 527s. Have students do a			

	Students will share their ideas with the whole class.	Key Vocabulary: Political parties, PACS, interest groups, and lobbyists.			case study on specific interest groups and share their research. Connect to current events
I will understand the significance of civil rights and civil liberties	Complete a case study by analyzing landmark Supreme Court (e.g. UC Regents vs. Bakke) decisions and their consequences on American society.	Prior knowledge from United States History: Plessey v. Ferguson, Brown v. Board of Education, Civil Rights Movement, and Bill of Rights. Key Vocabulary: civil rights , civil liberties, defendant, plaintiff.	Civil rights and civil liberties quiz	Week 8	Connect to current events