

American Government Essential Curriculum 2019-2020

Unit 1: American Political Culture and Beliefs

SS.GOV.10.01 Describe the roles of political parties in the United States and how they influence elections, elected officials, and public opinion.

SS.GOV.10.02 Evaluate demographic factors related to political participation, public policy and government policies (3.1.2)

SS.GOV.10.03 Evaluate roles and analyze strategies individuals or groups may use to initiate change in governmental policy and institutions and maintain a representative democracy. (1.1.4)

SS.GOV.10.03.a Explain the tools used by political parties, interest groups, lobbyists, candidates, the media and citizens to impact election, public policy, and public opinion. (1.1.4a)

SS.GOV.10.03.b Evaluate the effectiveness of tools used to impact elections, public policy, and public opinion. (1.1.4b)

SS.GOV.10.03.c Analyze various methods that individuals or groups may use to influence laws, government policies, and elections including referendum, acts of civil disobedience, voting, boycotts, financial contributions, digital communication, and voting drives. (1.1.4c)

SS.GOV.10.03.d Evaluate how the election process, including open and closed primaries, affects political outcomes, individual voter behavior, and public opinion. (1.1.4d)

SS.GOV.10.03.e Determine how the nominating process, closed and open primaries, and general elections reflect the principles of representative democracy, consent of the governed, and majority rule. (1.1.4e)

SS.GOV.10.03.f Evaluate how the roles and strategies that individuals and groups use to influence government policy and institutions affect the concepts of government (authority, power, and influence). (1.1.4g)

SS.GOV.10.04 Evaluate how individuals and groups influence government policy.

SS.GOV.10.04.a Analyze how candidates, campaigns, political parties, the media, lobbyists and financial contributions and citizens influence the political process, policy and public opinion. (1.1.4f)

SS.GOV.10.04.b Evaluate the tools that individuals or groups may use to influence laws, government policies, and elections including referendum, acts of civil disobedience, voting, boycotts, financial contributions, digital communication, and voting drives. (1.1.4c)

SS.GOV.10.05 Evaluate demographic factors related to political participation, public policy and government policies (3.1.2)

SS.GOV.10.05.a Identify the voting patterns of various demographic groups and their impact on governmental policy. (3.1.2b)

SS.GOV.10.06 Demonstrate the ability to evaluate sources and use evidence. (6.1)

SS.GOV.10.06.a Evaluate the credibility of the sources by considering the authority, the origin, type, context, and corroborative value of each source. (6.1.a)

SS.GOV.10.06.b Identify credible, relevant information contained in sources. (6.1.b)

SS.GOV.10.06.c Evaluate the reliability and influence of the media on elections, elected officials and public opinion.

Unit 2: Structure and Function of Government

SS.GOV.20.01 Evaluate advantages and disadvantages of various types of governments throughout the world. (2.1.1)

SS.GOV.20.01.a Compare and describe the advantages and disadvantages of direct, representative, presidential, and parliamentary democracies. (2.1.1)

SS.GOV.20.01.b Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of democratic and authoritarian political systems. (2.1.1)

- SS.GOV.20.01.c** Compare authoritarian and democratic governments on distribution of power, efficiency of decision making, maintaining public order, protecting individual rights, and the ability to address a crisis. (2.1.1)
- SS.GOV.20.02** Analyze historic documents to determine the basic principles of United States government and apply them to real world situations. (1.1.2)
- SS.GOV.20.02.a** Trace the evolution of limited government and other principles from English common law through the Enlightenment philosophers to the foundations of American government. (1.1.2.a)
- SS.GOV.20.02.b** Describe how the Declaration of Independence articulates the philosophy of government founded on basic principles. (1.1.2.d)
- SS.GOV.20.02.c** Explain representative democracy, popular sovereignty, and consent of the governed, and demonstrate how these concepts have ensured citizens' power over time. (1.1.1.b)
- SS.GOV.20.02.d** Analyze the construction of the US Constitution and how it reflects the basic principles and eliminated the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation. (1.1.2.e)
- SS.GOV.20.03** Evaluate how government structure affects the organization and division of power in the United States.
- SS.GOV.20.03.a** Describe how the Constitution structures the government and provides for separation of powers, checks and balances, and judicial review, in such a way as to limit governmental power in favor of the people. (1.1.1)
- SS.GOV.20.03.b** Explain how the delegated, reserved, concurrent, and denied powers of government are divided in federalism and shared between national and state levels. (1.1.1)
- SS.GOV.20.03.c** Analyze how the Supreme Court decisions in *McDonald v. Chicago* (2010) impacted federalism. (1.2.1.b)
- SS.GOV.20.04** Evaluate how the principles of government influence the structure of government to protect the rights of individuals.
- SS.GOV.20.04.a** Analyze the purpose of limited government and its impact on the structure, function, and processes of government. (1.1.1)
- SS.GOV.20.04.b** Analyze how principles are incorporated into the historic documents of American government and how those principles have been applied. (1.1.2)
- SS.GOV.20.04.c** Describe the formal process for amending the Constitution and why this process is necessary. (1.1.1)
- SS.GOV.20.04.d** Analyze the ratification of the United States Constitution and the impact of the Bill of Rights on the process.
- SS.GOV.20.04.e** Compare the arguments of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists.
- SS.GOV.20.04.f** Analyze how the principles of government are applied to real world situations. (1.1.2.a)
- SS.GOV.20.04.g** Identify the rights in the Bill of Rights and how they protect individuals and limit the power of government. (1.1.2)

Unit 3: Legislative Branch

- SS.GOV.30.01** Analyze the structure and organization of the Legislative Branch.
- SS.GOV.30.01.a** Describe the bicameral structure, powers, and organization of the United States Congress and the Maryland General Assembly. (1.1.1.i)
- SS.GOV.30.01.b** Compare and contrast the powers and responsibilities of local, state, and national legislative bodies. (1.1.1.h)
- SS.GOV.30.02** Evaluate how the principles of government assist or impede the functioning of the legislative branch.
- SS.GOV.30.02.a** Compare and contrast the powers, roles, and responsibilities of local, state and national legislatures. (1.1.1.h)

- SS.GOV.30.02.b** Describe how the Constitution provides for separation of powers and checks and balances. (1.1.1.e)
- SS.GOV.30.02.c** Evaluate the Elastic Clause and how implied powers impact the function of government. (1.1.1.k)
- SS.GOV.30.02.d** Determine why Bills of Attainder, ex post facto laws, and the suspension of Habeas Corpus are denied powers. (1.1.1.l)
- SS.GOV.30.03** Evaluate how congressional elections are organized to maintain a representative democracy.
- SS.GOV.30.03.a** Explain the tools used by political parties, interest groups, lobbyists, candidates, the media and citizens to impact congressional elections, public policy, and public opinion. (1.1.4.a)
- SS.GOV.30.03.b** Evaluate the effectiveness of tools used to impact congressional elections, public policy, and public opinion. (1.1.4.b)
- SS.GOV.30.03.c** Analyze various methods that individuals or groups may use to influence laws, government policies, and elections including referendum, acts of civil disobedience, voting, boycotts, financial contributions, digital communication, and voting drives within the context of congressional elections. (1.1.4.c)
- SS.GOV.30.03.d** Evaluate how the congressional election process, including open and closed primaries, affects political outcomes, individual voter behavior, and public opinion. (1.1.4.d)
- SS.GOV.30.03.e** Analyze how candidates, campaigns, political parties, and financial contributions influence the political process, policy, and public opinion within the context of congressional elections. (1.1.4.f)
- SS.GOV.30.03.f** Evaluate how the roles and strategies that individuals and groups use to influence government policy and institutions affect the congressional election process. (1.1.4.g)
- SS.GOV.30.04** Evaluate demographic factors related to political participation, public policy, and government policies. (3.1.2)
- SS.GOV.30.04.a** Determine the impact of reapportionment, redistricting, and gerrymandering on government policies, fiscal decisions, and representation. (3.1.2.a)
- SS.GOV.30.04.b** Analyze how the Supreme Court's decision in *Baker v. Carr* (1962) impacted equal protection. (1.2.1.e)
- SS.GOV.30.05** Explain the lawmaking process.
- SS.GOV.30.05.a** Describe how laws are made and the tools that assist and/or impede the process. (1.1.1.m)

Unit 4: Executive Branch

- SS.GOV.40.01** Analyze the structure and organization of the Executive Branch.
- SS.GOV.40.01.a** Describe the structure, power, and organization of the executive branch on the federal, state, and local levels. (1.1.1.g)
- SS.GOV.40.02** Evaluate how presidential elections are organized to maintain a representative democracy.
- SS.GOV.40.02.a** Determine how the nominating process, closed and open primaries, and general elections reflect the principles of representative democracy, consent of the governed, and majority rule. (1.1.4.e)
- SS.GOV.40.02.b** Evaluate the utility of the Electoral College over time. (1.1.1.o)
- SS.GOV.40.03** Evaluate how the principles of government assist or impede the functioning of the executive branch.
- SS.GOV.40.03.a** Compare and contrast the powers, roles, and responsibilities of local, state and national executives. (1.1.1.n)
- SS.GOV.40.03.b** Analyze how the Supreme Court's decision in the case of *United States v. Nixon* (1974) impacted the separation of powers. (1.2.1.c)

- SS.GOV.40.04** Evaluate the impact of governmental decisions and actions that have affected the rights of individuals and groups in American society and/or have affected maintaining order and/or safety. (1.2.3.)
- SS.GOV.40.04.a** Describe the purpose, limitations and impact of executive orders in protecting rights, maintaining order, and providing safety for citizens. (1.2.3.a)
- SS.GOV.40.04.b** Analyze the impact of crisis on expansion of state and federal government power. (1.2.3.c)
- SS.GOV.40.05** Examine regulatory agencies and their social, economic, and political impact on the country, a region, or on/within a state. (4.1.3)
- SS.GOV.40.05.a** Explain how executive departments and regulatory agencies assist in protecting rights, maintaining order and protecting the safety of citizens. (1.2.3.b)
- SS.GOV.40.05.b** Describe the role of regulatory agencies in carrying out the policies of the executive branch on the national and state level. (4.1.3.a)
- SS.GOV.40.05.c** Describe the purpose, roles, and responsibilities of regulatory agencies: Federal Trade Commission (FTC), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Federal Communications Commission (FCC). (4.1.3.b)
- SS.GOV.40.05.d** Examine how regulatory agencies respond to social issues/concerns and/or market failures. (4.1.3.c)

Unit 5: Judicial Branch and Criminal and Civil Law

- SS.GOV.50.01** Analyze the structure and organization of the Judicial Branch.
- SS.GOV.50.01.a** Describe the structure, power, and organization of the judicial branch on the federal, state, and local levels. (1.1.1.g)
- SS.GOV.50.01.b** Analyze how the Supreme Court's decision in the case of *Marbury v Madison* (1803) impacted limited government and checks and balances. (1.2.1.d)
- SS.GOV.50.02.** Evaluate the principle of due process. (1.2.4)
- SS.GOV.50.02.a** Explain how the Supreme Court used the due process and equal protection clauses of the 14th amendment to incorporate protection of individual rights and extend federal power. (1.2.4.a)
- SS.GOV.50.03** Analyze the elements, proceedings, and decisions related to criminal and civil law. (1.2.5)
- SS.GOV.50.03.a** Describe the role of the courts in settling disputes between individuals. (1.2.5.a)
- SS.GOV.50.03.b** Analyze the effectiveness of out of court settlements, arbitration, and mediation as alternatives to litigation. (1.2.5.b)
- SS.GOV.50.03.c** Identify the elements of civil law including: plaintiff, defendant, contract, breach of contract, torts, damages, preponderance of evidence, and petit jury. (1.2.5.c)
- SS.GOV.50.03.d** Identify the elements of criminal law including: defendant, prosecutor, reasonable doubt, felony, misdemeanor, grand jury, indictment, probable cause, presumption of innocence, plea bargaining, writ of habeas corpus, and subpoena. (1.2.5.d)
- SS.GOV.50.03.e** Compare the proceedings of civil and criminal cases including: grand jury, petit jury, indictment, standards of proof (beyond a reasonable doubt and preponderance of evidence), plea bargaining, probable cause, writ of habeas corpus, and subpoena. (1.2.5.e)
- SS.GOV.50.03.f** Analyze how the Supreme Court decisions in *Miranda v Arizona* (1966), *Tinker v. Des Moines* (1969), and *New Jersey v. T.L.O.* (1985), *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1963), *Mapp v. Ohio* (1961) impacted individual liberty. (1.2.1.a)

Unit 6: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

SS.GOV.60.01 Analyze the First Amendment and the impact of landmark Supreme Court decisions on governmental powers, individual rights and responsibilities of citizens in our changing society.

(1.2.1)

SS.GOV.60.01.a Analyze how the Supreme Court decisions in *Miranda v. Arizona (1966)*, *Tinker v. Des Moines (1969)* and *TLO v. New Jersey (1985)* impacted individual liberty. (1.2.1.a)

SS.GOV.60.02 Evaluate the principle of due process. (1.2.4)

SS.GOV.60.02.a Explain how the Supreme Court used the due process and equal protection clauses of the 14th amendment to incorporate protection of individual rights and extend federal power.

(1.2.4.a)

SS.GOV.60.03 Demonstrate familiarity with Frederick County Students Rights and Responsibilities contained within the Calendar Handbook.

SS.GOV.60.03.a Analyze how the Supreme Court decisions in *Miranda v. Arizona (1966)*, *Tinker v. Des Moines (1969)* and *New Jersey v. TLO (1985)* impacted individual liberty. (1.2.1.a)

SS.GOV.60.04 Analyze policies designed to protect the rights of individuals and groups and to promote equity in American society. (1.2.2)

SS.GOV.60.04.a Evaluate the effectiveness of governmental policies (legislation and executive orders) in promoting equity and civil rights for minorities, women and the disabled. (1.2.2.a)

SS.GOV.60.04.b Examine the impact of equal protection on immigration and affirmative action policies. (1.2.2.b)

SS.GOV.60.04.c Analyze and evaluate public policies that promote equity, such as affirmative action, Civil Rights Act (1964), Voting Rights Act (1965), Higher Education Act Title IX (1972) and American with Disabilities Act (1990).

SS.GOV.60.04.d Analyze how the Supreme Court decisions in *Brown v. Board of Education (1954)* impacted equal protection. (1.2.1.e)

Unit 7: Domestic Policy

SS.GOV.70.01 Evaluate roles and policies the government has assumed regarding public issues. (1.1.3)

SS.GOV.70.01.a Describe how principles of government impact the development and implementation of government policies for entitlements, including social security, housing, and nutritional assistance. (1.1.3)

SS.GOV.70.01.b Evaluate how the rights and responsibilities of citizens impact government policies regarding Public Health, including immunization, Medicare and Medicaid and food safety. (1.1.3)

SS.GOV.70.01.c Analyze how federalism impacts government policies for Education, including Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and school choice. (1.1.3)

SS.GOV.70.01.d Describe the impact of the rights and responsibilities of citizens on crime and punishment and incarceration. (1.1.3)

SS.GOV.70.01.e Analyze the impact of government policies for Technology, including cybersecurity, censorship, and energy (1.1.3)

SS.GOV.70.02 Evaluate the impact of governmental decisions and actions that have affected the rights of individuals and groups in American society and/or have affected maintaining order and safety.

SS.GOV.70.02.a Evaluate the role of the state and federal governments concerning issues related to public safety and maintaining order and how those decisions affect individuals and groups.

SS.GOV.70.03 Analyze the roles and relationships of regions on the formation and implementation of government policy. (3.1.1)

SS.GOV.70.03.a Explain how geographic characteristics and shared interests stimulate regional cooperation between governments and influence foreign policy and affect political decision-making (3.1.1)

SS.GOV.70.03.b Analyze the importance of regional characteristics and interests including economic development, natural resources, climate and environmental issues, and population shifts in formulating local, state, and national government policy. (3.1.1)

SS.GOV.70.03.c Analyze patterns, trends, and projections of population and how these may affect environmental policy, education spending, health care, and social security. (3.1.1)

SS.GOV.70.04 Evaluate the role of government in addressing land use and other environmental issues. (3.1.3)

SS.GOV.70.04.a Evaluate the way national, state, and local governments develop policy to address land use and environmental issues, such as urban sprawl, land use/zoning and property rights. (3.1.3)

SS.GOV.70.04.b Examine the purpose of eminent domain and how it affects citizens' rights.

Unit 8: Foreign Policy

SS.GOV.80.01 Analyze economic, political, and social issues and their effect on foreign policies of the United States. (2.2.1)

SS.GOV.80.01.a Analyze the conflicting demands of the United States foreign policy goals of trade, national security, and human rights. (2.2.1)

SS.GOV.80.01.b Contrast isolationism versus interventionism in United States foreign policy. (2.2.1)

SS.GOV.80.01.c Explain the tools used by the president to develop and implement foreign policy. (2.2.1)

SS.GOV.80.01.d Examine how the foreign policy tools of military intervention, economic sanctions, foreign aid, and diplomacy affect American relationships with other countries. (2.2.1)

SS.GOV.80.02 Evaluate the effectiveness of international alliances and organizations from the perspective of the United States. (2.2.2)

SS.GOV.80.02.a Explain the military and security functions of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the United Nations (UN). (2.2.2)

SS.GOV.80.02.b Explain the humanitarian role of the Red Cross/Red Crescent and the United Nations. (2.2.2)

SS.GOV.80.02.c Explain the economic function of North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the United Nations (UN), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). (2.2.2)

SS.GOV.80.02.d Analyze how the United States involvement in international organizations advances or hinders the achievement of foreign policy goals. (2.2.2)

Unit 9: Economic Policy

SS.GOV.90.01 Evaluate how governments affect the answers to the basic economic questions of what to produce, how to produce, and for whom to produce. (4.1.2)

SS.GOV.90.01.a Explain how traditional, command and market and mixed economies answer the basic economic questions of what to produce, how to produce and for whom to produce when resources are limited. (4.1.2a)

SS.GOV.90.01.b Examine the concepts of scarcity and opportunity cost as they relate to the basic economic questions.

SS.GOV.90.01.c Evaluate the role of the United States government in answering the basic economic questions. (4.1.2b)

SS.GOV.90.02 Utilize the principles of economic costs and benefits and opportunity cost to analyze the effectiveness of government policy in achieving socio-economic goals. (4.1.1)

SS.GOV.90.02.a Explain how governments prioritize the competing socio-economic goals of freedom, growth, stability, equity, national defense, environmental protection, and educational quality in response to changing economic, social, and political conditions. (4.1.1b)

- SS.GOV.90.02.b** Evaluate how the principles of economic costs, benefits, and opportunity cost affect public policy issues, such as environmental and healthcare concerns, defense and education policy. (4.1.1c)
- SS.GOV.90.03** Evaluate the effectiveness of current monetary and fiscal policy on promoting full employment, price stability, and economic performance. (4.1.4)
- SS.GOV.90.03.a** Explain how the business cycle reflects economic instability, including periods of inflation and recession. (4.1.4a)
- SS.GOV.90.03.b** Explain how the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the unemployment rate, and the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) measure economic performance. (4.1.4b)
- SS.GOV.90.03.c** Describe the role of the state and federal legislative branches in developing fiscal policy. (4.1.4,c)
- SS.GOV.90.03.d** Analyze the role of the executive in the budgetary process on the national, state and local level. (4.1.4.d)
- SS.GOV.90.03.e** Describe how the legislative branch influences economic performance by using the tools of fiscal policy including increasing and decreasing taxes and tariffs and/or spending. (4.1.4.e)
- SS.GOV.90.03.f** Evaluate the effectiveness of fiscal policy in achieving economic growth, full employment, and price stability. (4.1.4.f)
- SS.GOV.90.03.g** Describe how the Federal Reserve System uses the three tools of monetary policy, including open market operations, changes in the discount rate, and changes in the reserve requirements to influence the economy. (4.1.4.g)
- SS.GOV.90.03.h** Evaluate the effectiveness of monetary policy in achieving economic growth, full employment, and price stability. (4.1.4.h)