



Alignment Document
State of Kentucky and Aventa Learning Civics

Civics
2005-2007 Benchmark Blueprint

Big Ideas	Topics	Standards	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
SS-H-GC Government and Civics	SS-H-GC-U Enduring Knowledge - Understandings	SS-H-GC-U-1 people form governments to establish order, provide security and accomplish common goals. Governments in the world vary in terms of their sources of power, purposes and effectiveness.	State Government	States and Federal Government
		SS-H-GC-U-2 the Government of the United States, established by the Constitution, embodies the purposes, values and principles (e.g., liberty, justice, individual human dignity, the rules of law) of American representative democracy.	Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
			Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
			Foundations of American System	Origins of the Republic
			Foundations of American System	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
			Foundations of American System	Goals of the Constitution
			Foundations of American System	American Constitutional Government Origins
Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail			



			State Government	State Constitutions
			State Government	States and Federal Government
			Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
			Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution
			Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		SS-H-GC-U-3 the Constitution of the United States establishes a government of limited powers that are shared among different levels and branches. The provisions of the U.S. Constitution have allowed our government to change over time to meet the changing needs of our society.	Foundations of American System	Origins of the Republic
			Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
			Foundations of American System	A Federal System
			Foundations of American System	John Locke
			Foundations of American System	Goals of the Constitution
			Foundations of American System	American Constitutional Government Origins
			Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
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			Foundations of American System State Government State Government Civic Life, Politics, and Government Civic Life, Politics, and Government Civic Life, Politics, and Government Civic Life, Politics, and Government Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions Division of Powers/Concurrent State Constitutions The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions Limited and Unlimited Government Constitutional government Constitution The Civil Society
		SS-H-GC-U-4 all citizens of the United States have certain rights and responsibilities as members of a democratic society.	State Government	Citizen Action
		SS-H-GC-U-5 individual rights in a democracy may, at times, be in conflict with others' individual rights, as well as with the responsibility of government to protect the "common good."	The Foundations of the American Political System The Foundations of the American Political System	Bill of Rights: The First Amendment The Fourth and Fifth Amendments
		SS-H-GC-U-6 the United States does not exist in isolation; its democratic form of government has played and continues to play a considerable role in our interconnected world.	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purpose of Constitutions

		<p>SS-H-GC-U-7 the level of individual civic engagement in a democracy can impact the government's effectiveness.</p>	<p>Civic Life, Politics, and Government Civic Life, Politics, and Government Civic Life, Politics, and Government</p>	<p>The Double Lives of American Citizens The Citizen's "Civic Life": Duties and Responsibilities The Civil Society</p>
		<p>SS-H-GC-U-8 the development and ongoing functions of a political system (e.g., elections, political parties, campaigns, political identity and culture, the role of the media) is necessary for a democratic form of government to be effective.</p>	<p>Political Parties Political Parties Political Parties Political Parties</p>	<p>The Role of Political Parties Party Committees Local Party Organization Primary Elections General Elections</p>
	<p>SS-H-GC-S Skills and Concepts</p>	<p>SS-H-GC-S-1 demonstrate an understanding (e.g., illustrate, write, model, present, debate) of the nature of government:</p>	<p>Civic Life, Politics, and Government Civic Life, Politics, and Government The Foundations of the American Political System</p>	<p>Politics! Politics! Everywhere: Is there Meaning Anywhere? The Nature and Purpose of Constitutions The American Idea of Constitutional Government. Where did it come from?</p>
		<p>SS-H-GC-S-1.a examine ways that democratic governments do or do not preserve and protect the rights and liberties of their constituents (e.g., U.N. Charter, Declaration of the Rights of Man, U.N. Declaration of Human Rights, U.S. Constitution)</p>	<p>Civic Life, Politics, and Government The Foundations of the American Political System The Foundations of the American Political System</p>	<p>The Nature and Purpose of Constitutions The Bill of Rights The American Idea of Constitutional Government: Where did it come from?</p>

			The Foundations of the American Political System	Origins of the Republic
		SS-H-GC-S-1.b compare purposes and sources of power of various forms of government in the world, and analyze their effectiveness in establishing order, providing security and accomplishing goals	City Government	Home rule
			Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Rule of Law
			State Government	States and Federal Government
		SS-H-GC-S-1.c evaluate the relationship between and among the U.S. government's response to contemporary issues and societal problems (e.g., education, welfare system, health insurance, childcare, crime) and the needs, wants and demands of its citizens (e.g., individuals, political action committees, special interest groups, political parties)	Political Parties	The Democratic and Republican Parties
			City Government	Other Forms of Cooperation
		SS-H-GC-S-1.d examine conflicts within and among different governments and analyze their impacts on historical or current events	The Foundations of the American Political System	Change or the Experiment will fail
		SS-H-GC-S-2 examine issues related to the intent of the Constitution of the United States and its amendments:	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purpose of Constitutions
			The Foundations of the American Political System	Writing the Constitution
			The Foundations of the American Political System	The Constitution is Ratified
			The Foundations of the American	The American Idea of Constitutional Government.

			Political System	Where did it come from?
			The Foundations of the American Political System	Goals of the Constitution
			The Foundations of the American Political System	Bill of Rights: The First Amendment
			The Foundations of the American Political System	The Second and Third Amendments
			The Foundations of the American Political System	The Ninth and Tenth Amendments
		SS-H-GC-S-2.a explain the principles of limited government (e.g., rule of law, federalism, checks and balances, majority rule, protection of minority rights, separation of powers) and how effective these principles are in protecting individual rights and promoting the "common good"	Foundations of American System	John Locke
			Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Limited and Unlimited Government
			Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Civil Society
		SS-H-GC-S-2.b analyze how powers of government are distributed and shared among levels and branches, and how this distribution of powers works to protect the "common good" (e.g., Congress legislates on behalf of the people, the President represents the people as a nation, the Supreme Court acts on behalf of the people as a whole when it interprets the Constitution)	Foundations of American System	Three Branches: Legislative
			Foundations of American System	Three Branches: Judicial
			Foundations of American System	Three Branches: Executive
			State Government	Unicameral House
		SS-H-GC-S-3 investigate the rights of individuals (e.g., Freedom of Information	The Foundations of the American	The Bill of Rights

		<p>Act, free speech, civic responsibilities in solving global issues) to explain how those rights can sometimes be in conflict with the responsibility of the government to protect the "common good" (e.g., homeland security issues, environmental regulations, censorship, search and seizure), the rights of others (e.g., slander, libel), and civic responsibilities (e.g., personal belief/responsibility versus civic responsibility)</p>	<p>Political System The Foundations of the American Political System The Foundations of the American Political System</p>	<p>Bill of Rights: The First Amendment The Second and Third Amendments</p>
		<p>SS-H-GC-S-4 evaluate the impact citizens have on the functioning of a democratic government by assuming responsibilities (e.g., seeking and assuming leadership positions, voting) and duties (e.g., serving as jurors, paying taxes, complying with local, state and federal laws, serving in the armed forces)</p>	<p>State Government</p>	<p>Citizen Action</p>
		<p>SS-H-GC-S-5 analyze and synthesize a variety of information from print and non-print sources (e.g., books, documents, articles, interviews, Internet, film, media) to research issues, perspectives and solutions to problems</p>	<p>Civic Life, Politics, and Government State-Local Political Parties</p>	<p>The Essential Characteristics of Limited and Unlimited Government Local Government The Democratic and Republican Parties</p>