



Alignment Document

State of Louisiana And Aventa Learning Civics

Civics

2005-2007 Benchmark Blueprint

State Standard Number	State Standard Area / Description	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
3	Civics		
3.A	Structure and Purposes of Government		
3.A.1	Explain competing ideas about the purposes of politics and government and identify reasons why government is necessary	State Government	States and Federal Government
3.A.2	Identify and describe services provided by government and assess their necessity and effectiveness (e.g., health care, education)	City Government	City Governments Working Together
3.A.3	Identify programs, institutions, and activities that fulfill a given governmental or political purpose (e.g., the court system, the military, revenue sharing, block grants)	State Government	States and Federal Government
3.A.4	Analyze ways in which the purposes of the U.S. government, as defined in the U.S. Constitution, are achieved (e.g., protecting individual rights, providing for the general welfare)	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
		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	Origins of the Republic
		State Government	State Constitutions
		State Government	States and Federal Government
3.A.5	Compare and contrast various forms of government among nations that have been significant in U.S. history (e.g., absolute monarchy in England or France, Germany under Hitler, the Soviet Union under Stalin)	Role of Political Parties	One-Party Governments
3.A.6	Explain the distribution of powers, responsibilities, and the limits of the U.S. federal government	Foundations of American System	John Locke
		Foundations of American System	Checks and Balances
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Limited and Unlimited Government
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Civil Society
3.A.7	Categorize governmental powers as delegated, reserved, concurrent, or implied	State Government	Division of Powers/Reserved State
		State Government	Division of Powers/Concurrent
		Foundations of American System	A Federal System
3.A.8	Identify powers denied to federal or state governments by the U.S. Constitution	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		Foundations of American System	American Constitutional Government Origins
		Foundations of American System	Origins of the Republic
		Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail



		Foundations of American System	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Foundations of American System	Goals of the Constitution
		State Government	State Constitutions
3.A.9	Analyze or assess issues related to the distribution of powers at the federal level (e.g., tensions among the three branches of government, roles and responsibilities of the three branches)	Foundations of American System	Three Branches: Executive
3.A.10	Explain the structure and functions of the three branches of the federal government, including regulatory and independent agencies and the court system	Foundations of American System	Three Branches: Legislative
		Foundations of American System	Three Branches: Executive
		Foundations of American System	Three Branches: Judicial
		State Government	Unicameral House
3.A.11	Cite the roles, duties, qualifications, and terms of office for key elected and appointed officials	Role of Political Parties	Local Party Organization
3.A.12	Explain the structure and functions of state, parish, and local governments	State Government	State Legislatures - Qualifications, Terms, and Reimbursement
		State Government	Local Government
		State Government	County Governments
		City Government	Mayor-Council Government
		City Government	Council-Manager Government
		City Government	Other Forms of Cooperation
		City Government	Weak-Mayor Plan
		City Government	Governments/Together-Division of Powers
		City Government	City Governments Working Together
		City Government	Strong-Mayor Plan
		City Government	State Legislatures at Work
		City Government	Government Competition
		City Government	Three Forms of City Government
		City Government	Commission Government
		City Government	Cooperation in Education



3.A.13	Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of various types of local government	City Government	Three Forms of City Government
		City Government	Commission Government
		City Government	Cooperation in Education
		City Government	Mayor-Council Government
		City Government	Council-Manager Government
		City Government	Other Forms of Cooperation
		City Government	Weak-Mayor Plan
		City Government	Governments/Together-Division of Powers
		City Government	City Governments Working Together
		City Government	Strong-Mayor Plan
		City Government	State Legislatures at Work
		City Government	Government Competition
		State Government	Local Government
		State Government	County Governments
3.A.14	Examine constitutional provisions concerning the relationship between federal and state governments	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
		Foundations of American System	Goals of the Constitution
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		State Government	State Constitutions
3.A.15	Explain the processes and strategies of how a bill becomes a law at the federal and state levels	State Government	Passing State Laws
3.A.16	Evaluate a specific law or court ruling on given criteria	City Government	Home rule



3.A.17	Examine the meaning, implications, or applications of the U.S. Constitution (e.g., the Bill of Rights, Fourteenth Amendment)	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		Foundations of American System	American Constitutional Government Origins
		Foundations of American System	Origins of the Republic
		Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
		Foundations of American System	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Foundations of American System	Goals of the Constitution
		State Government	State Constitutions
3.A.18	Define domestic and foreign policies		
3.A.19	Analyze responsibilities of the federal government for domestic and foreign policy (e.g. monetary policy, national defense)		
3.A.20	Analyze a past or present domestic or foreign policy issue from a news article or editorial		
3.A.21	Explain how government is financed (e.g., taxation, fines, user fees, borrowing)		
3.A.22	Identify the major sources of tax revenues at the federal, state, and local levels		
3.A.23	Analyze or evaluate various uses of tax dollars (e.g., the public's need for services versus the public's resistance to taxation)		
3.A.24	Use the rules of taxation (ability, equity, ease of payment, convenient times to pay) to analyze or evaluate a given tax practice		



3.B	Foundations of the American Political System		
3.B.25	Analyze the significance of the Magna Carta, English common law, and the English Bill of Rights in creating limited government in the United States	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Civil Society
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Limited and Unlimited Government
		Foundations of American System	John Locke
3.B.26	Explain how European philosophers (e.g., Rousseau, Locke, Montesquieu, Voltaire) helped shape American democratic ideas	Foundations of American System	John Locke
3.B.27	Analyze central ideas in an American historical document and explain the document's significance in shaping the U.S. Constitution	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		Foundations of American System	American Constitutional Government Origins
		Foundations of American System	Origins of the Republic
		Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
		Foundations of American System	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Foundations of American System	Goals of the Constitution
		State Government	State Constitutions
3.B.28	Explain the meaning and importance of principles of U.S. constitutional democracy in American society	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution



		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
		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	Origins of the Republic
		Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		State Government	State Constitutions
3.B.29	Assess the importance of the U.S. Constitution as the Supreme Law of the Land, and ways in which U.S. constitutional government has helped shape American society	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	Origins of the Republic
		Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		State Government	State Constitutions
3.B.30	Identify and describe examples of freedoms enjoyed today but denied to earlier Americans	Role of Political Parties	Voting



3.B.31	Explain issues involved in various compromises or plans leading to the creation of the U.S. Constitution	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitution
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
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		Foundations of American System	Origins of the Republic
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		State Government	State Constitutions
3.B.32	Interpret, analyze, or apply ideas presented in a given excerpt from any political document or material (e.g., speech, essay, editorial, court case)	Foundations of American System	The Declaration of Independence
3.B.33	Analyze a given example of American political or social conflict, and state and defend a position on the issue		
3.B.34	Analyze discrepancies between American ideals and social or political realities of life (e.g., equal protection vs. Jim Crow laws)		
3.B.35	Explain the two-party system and assess the role of third parties in the election process	Role of Political Parties	Third Parties
		Role of Political Parties	One-Party Governments
		Role of Political Parties	Local Party Organization
		Role of Political Parties	The Democratic and Republican Parties
		Role of Political Parties	Political Party Finances



3.B.36	Assess the significance of campaigns, campaign finance, elections, the Electoral College, and the U.S. census in the U.S. political system	Role of Political Parties	Local Party Organization
3.B.37	Analyze the use and effects of propaganda		
3.B.38	Identify key platform positions of the major political parties	Role of Political Parties	Third Parties
		Role of Political Parties	Public Financing
		Role of Political Parties	One-Party Governments
		Role of Political Parties	Party Committees
		Role of Political Parties	The Democratic and Republican Parties
		Role of Political Parties	Political Party Finances
3.B.39	Evaluate the role of the media and public opinion in American politics		
3.B.40	Explain historical and contemporary roles of special interest groups, lobbyists, and associations in U.S. politics		
3.C	International Relationships		
3.C.41	Identify the political divisions of the world and the factors that contribute to those divisions		
3.C.42	Analyze and assess the various ways that nation-states interact	State Government	States and Federal Government
3.C.43	Explain the role of the United Nations or other international organizations in political interactions and conflicts		
3.C.44	Analyze ways in which the interactions of nation-states or international organizations affect the United States		
3.C.45	Describe the means by which the United States upholds national security, protects its economic welfare and strategic interests, and attains its foreign policy objectives (e.g., aid, sanctions, embargos, treaties)		
3.C.46	Assess the extent to which a given U.S. foreign policy position has helped or hindered the United States' relations with the rest of the world		



3.C.47	Explain how U.S. domestic policies, constitutional principles, economic behavior, and culture affect its relations with the rest of the world	Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
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		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		State Government	State Constitutions
3.C.48	Describe ways in which ideas, actions, and problems of other nations impact the United States		
3.D	Roles of the Citizen		
3.D.49	Distinguish between personal, political, and economic rights of citizenship	State Government	Citizen Action
3.D.50	Describe the importance of various rights of citizenship to the individual or to society at large	State Government	Citizen Action
3.D.51	Analyze an amendment or law concerning the rights of citizens in terms of their effect on public policy or American life (e.g., Nineteenth Amendment, Americans with Disabilities Act)	State Government	Citizen Action
		City Government	Home rule
3.D.52	Evaluate and defend a position on a given situation or issue in terms of the personal, political, or economic rights of citizens	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Limited Government and Political/Economic Freedom
3.D.53	Assess the difference between personal and civic responsibilities	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Duties and Responsibilities
3.D.54	Describe various forms of political participation	Role of Political Parties	Local Party Organization



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3.D.55	Evaluate current and past political choices that individuals, groups, and nations have made, taking into account historical context		
3.D.56	Describe the importance of political leadership to American society, and identify ways in which citizens can exercise leadership	State Government	Citizen Action
3.D.57	Identify examples of public service, and describe the importance of public service to American society	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Duties and Responsibilities
3.D.58	Evaluate the claim that American constitutional democracy requires the participation of an attentive, knowledgeable, and competent citizenry	State Government	Citizen Action
3.D.59	Compare and evaluate characteristics, style, and effectiveness of state and national leaders, past and present		