



Alignment Document  
State of Mississippi and Aventa Learning Civics

**Civics**  
2005-2007 Benchmark Blueprint

Standards	Benchmarks	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
1 Explain how geography, economics, and history have influenced the political development of the United States.	1.a Trace the historical development of the United States political system.	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Double Lives of American Citizens
		Foundations of American Systems	The American Idea of Constitutional Government. Where did it come From?
		Foundations of American Systems	The Declaration of Independence
		Foundations of American Systems	Ethics of American Government
		Foundations of American Systems	The Articles of Confederation
		Foundations of American Systems	Limitations of the Confederation
		Foundations of American Systems	Change or the Experiment will Fail
		Foundations of American Systems	Delegates to the Constitutional Convention



		Foundations of American Systems  Foundations of American Systems  Foundations of American Systems  Foundations of American Systems  Foundations of American Systems	Writing the Constitution  Supporting the Constitution The Constitution is Ratified  The Bill of Rights  Origins of the Republic
	<b>1.b</b> Describe how the Constitution and Bill of Rights embodies the principles of American democracy.	State Government  Civic Life, Politics, and Government  Civic Life, Politics, and Government  Civic Life, Politics, and Government  Foundations of American System  Foundations of American System  Foundations of American System  Foundations of American System	State Constitutions  Constitution  The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions  Constitutional government  Bill of Rights: The First Amendment  King John and Magna Carta  The Fourth and Fifth Amendments  Origins of the Republic



		Foundations of American System	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	The Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Amendments
		Foundations of American System	Goals of the Constitution
		Foundations of American System	American Constitutional Government Origins
		Foundations of American System	The Ninth and Tenth Amendments
		Foundations of American System	The Second and Third Amendments
		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
	1.c Discuss how the Bill of Rights describes and protects our basic freedoms.	Foundations of American System	The Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Amendments
		Foundations of American System	The Second and Third Amendments
		Foundations of American System	The Ninth and Tenth Amendments
		Foundations of American System	Bill of Rights: The First Amendment
		Foundations of American System	The Fourth and Fifth Amendments



	<p><b>1.d</b> Describe the interaction of the different branches of American government on American society.</p>	<p>Foundations of American Systems</p> <p>Foundations of American Systems</p>	<p>Three Branches of Government</p> <p>Checks and Balances</p>
	<p><b>1.e</b> Describe the American economic system of capitalism and how it impacts the American way of life.</p>	<p>Civic Life, Politics, and Government</p>	<p>The Relationship of Limited Government to Political and Economic Freedom</p>
<p><b>2</b> Analyze the United States federal form of government.</p>	<p><b>2.a</b> Identify the structure of the United States federal system according to the Constitution and its amendments (e.g., separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review, etc.).</p>	<p>State Government</p> <p>Civic Life, Politics, and Government</p> <p>Civic Life, Politics, and Government</p> <p>Civic Life, Politics, and Government</p> <p>Foundations of American System</p> <p>Foundations of American System</p> <p>Foundations of American System</p> <p>Foundations of American System</p> <p>Foundations of American System</p> <p>Foundations of American System</p>	<p>State Constitutions</p> <p>Constitutional government</p> <p>The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions</p> <p>Constitution</p> <p>King John and Magna Carta</p> <p>Dynamic/Flexible Constitution</p> <p>The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions</p> <p>Goals of the Constitution</p> <p>Origins of the Republic</p> <p>American Constitutional Government Origins</p>



		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
	<b>2.b</b> Evaluate the flexibility of the United States Constitution (e.g., language, amendment process, etc.).	Foundations of American System	Origins of the Republic
		Foundations of American System	American Constitutional Government Origins
		Foundations of American System	Goals of the Constitution
		Foundations of American System	King John and Magna Carta
		Foundations of American System	Dynamic/Flexible Constitution
		Foundations of American System	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Foundations of American System	Change or the Experiment Will Fail
		State Government	State Constitutions
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Constitutional government
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
<b>3</b> Describe the impact of science and technology on the political development of the United States.	<b>3.a</b> Analyze the impact of the media on United States democracy (e.g., print, television, etc.).	Foundations of American Systems	Bill of Rights: The First Amendment
	<b>3.b</b> Describe the influence of technology on the political process (e.g., polls, television, Internet,	Role of Political Parties	Local Party Organization

	e-mail, etc.).		
<b>4</b> Describe the relationship of people, places, and environments with the government.	<b>4.a</b> Describe the effects of different migration patterns in the United States.	State Government City Government	A Growing Nation State Legislatures at Work
	<b>4.b</b> Explain how federal laws have affected the environment.	State Government	The States and Federal Government
		City Government	Other Forms of Cooperation
	<b>4.c</b> Analyze population trends and their impact on a representative government (e.g., electoral college, census, etc.).	State Government	State Legislatures - Organization
	<b>4.d</b> Interpret the impact of political parties, special interest groups, and political action committees (PACS) on United States politics.	Role of Political Parties	Party Committees
		Role of Political Parties	Political Party Finances
		Role of Political Parties	Third Parties
Role of Political Parties		One-Party Governments	
Role of Political Parties		Public Financing	
	Role of Political Parties	The Democratic and Republican Parties	
<b>5</b> Demonstrate the ability to apply and interpret studies tools (e.g., timelines, maps, globes, graphs, a compass, technology, primary and secondary documents, political cartoons, etc.).	<b>5.a</b> Interpret special purpose maps.	State Government	A Growing Nation
	<b>5.b</b> Analyze information on graphs, charts, tables, and timelines.	Foundations of American Systems	Three Branches of Government
		Foundations of American Systems	Checks and Balances
		City Government	City Government Review Page
	<b>5.c</b> Analyze political cartoons.		
<b>5.d</b> Utilize primary and secondary sources.	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Double Lives of American Citizens	
	Civic Life, Politics, and	The Essential Characteristics	



		Government	of Limited and Unlimited Government
		Foundations of American Systems	Goals of the Constitution
		State Government	A Growing Nation
		City Government	Organization
		City Government	State Legislatures at Work
	<b>5.e</b> Utilize the Internet for comparative purposes.	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Essential Characteristics of Limited and Unlimited Government
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Rule of Law
		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions
		Foundations of American Systems	The Second and Third Amendments
		State Government	Local and State Cooperation
<b>6</b> Explain how civic responsibilities are important to Americans as citizens of the United States and a global community.	<b>6.a</b> Explain the rights, roles, privileges, and responsibilities of citizens in American democracy.	State Government	Citizen Action
		Political Parties	General Elections
	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Citizen's "Civil Life: " Duties and Responsibilities	
	<b>6.b</b> Compare the United States government to other governments of the world.	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Essential Characteristics of Limited and Unlimited Government
	Civic Life, Politics, and Government	The Nature and Purposes of Constitutions	



		Civic Life, Politics, and Government	Alternate Ways of Organizing Constitutional Governments
		Political Parties	The Democratic and Republican Parties
		Political Parties	One-Party Governments