



**Alignment Document**  
**State of Connecticut**  
**And**  
**Aventa Learning American Government**

**American Government**  
 2005-2007 Benchmark Blueprint

State Standard Number	State Standard Area / Description	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
0	Civics and Government		
5	Students will apply knowledge of the U. S. Constitution, how the U. S. system of government works and how the rule of law and the value of liberty and equality have an impact on individual, local, state and national decisions.	Introduction	Ideals of Democracy
		Constitutional Principles	Structure of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Principles of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Federalism
		Legislative Branch	Powers of Congress
		The Executive Branch	Presidential Powers
		The Judicial Branch and Civil Rights and Liberties	The Supreme Court in Action
5.1	apply an understanding of historical and contemporary conflicts over Constitutional principles;	Origins	Political Foundations
		Origins	Colonial Government
		Origins	The American Revolution
		Origins	Establishing the First Government
		Origins	Creating the Constitution
5.2	analyze historical and contemporary conflicts through the respective roles of local, state and national governments;	Constitutional Principles	Federalism



5.3	explain how the design of the U.S. Constitution is intended to balance and check the powers of the branches of government;	Constitutional Principles	Structure of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Principles of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Federalism
		Legislative Branch	Powers of Congress
		The Executive Branch	Presidential Powers
		The Judicial Branch and Civil Rights and Liberties	The Supreme Court in Action
5.4	analyze, using historical and contemporary examples, the meaning and significance of the ideal of equal protection under the law for all persons;	The Judicial Branch and Civil Rights and Liberties	Civil Liberties
		The Judicial Branch and Civil Rights and Liberties	Civil Rights
5.5	explain why state and federal court powers of judicial review reflect the United States idea of constitutional government; and	The Judicial Branch and Civil Rights and Liberties	The Supreme Court in Action
		The Judicial Branch and Civil Rights and Liberties	Supreme Court History
5.6	evaluate the contemporary roles of political parties, associations, media groups and public opinion in local, state and national politics.	Political Participation	Political Parties
		Political Participation	Nominations and Campaigns
		Political Participation	Elections
		Political Participation	Individual Political Participation
6	Students will demonstrate knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of citizens to participate in and shape public policy, and contribute to the maintenance of our democratic way of life.	Political Participation	Individual Political Participation
6.1	evaluate whether or when their obligations as citizens require that their personal desires, beliefs and interests be subordinated to the public good;	Political Participation	Individual Political Participation
6.2	identify and explain characteristics needed for effective participation in public life;	Political Participation	Individual Political Participation
6.3	establish, explain and apply criteria to evaluate rules and laws;		



6.4	monitor and influence the formation and implementation of policy through various forms of participation; and		
6.5	take a position on a current policy issue and attempt to influence its formation, development and implementation.		
7	Students will explain that political systems emanate from the need of humans for order, leading to compromise and the establishment of authority.	Introduction	Forms of Government
		Introduction	Ideals of Democracy
7.1	evaluate the importance of developing self-government so as to restrict arbitrary power;	Introduction	Forms of Government
		Introduction	Ideals of Democracy
7.2	analyze and evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of limited and unlimited government;	Constitutional Principles	Structure of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Principles of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Federalism
7.3	compare two or more constitutions and how they promote the principles of their respective political systems and provide the basis for government;		
7.4	describe how constitutions may limit government in order to protect individual rights and promote the common good;	Constitutional Principles	Structure of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Principles of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Federalism
7.5	explain how purposes served by government have implications for the individual and society; and	Constitutional Principles	Structure of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Principles of the Constitution
		Constitutional Principles	Federalism
7.6	provide examples of legitimate authority and exercise of power without authority.		
8	Students will demonstrate an understanding of how the major elements of international relations and world affairs affect their lives and the security and well-being of their community, state and nation.		



8.1	describe how the United States influences other governments and international organizations and how the United States, in turn, is influenced by them;		
8.2	analyze and evaluate the significance of major U. S. foreign policies and major international events and conditions over time;		
8.3	develop proposals regarding solutions to significant international, political, economic, demographic or environmental issues;		
8.4	analyze the respective roles of the executive and legislative branches in developing and implementing foreign policy;	Legislative Branch	Powers of Congress
		The Executive Branch	Presidential Powers
8.5	identify and analyze the various domestic, political, economic and social interests which play roles in the development of foreign policy; and		
8.6	describe and analyze the process by which foreign policy decisions are developed and executed.		