

American Government (Pilot) at a Glance

Pre-requisites: None

American Government	Duration	Description / Big Ideas	Essential Questions	End of Unit Assessment
<p style="text-align: center;">Unit 1: Foundations of Government</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1 quarter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does government impact our daily life? • How does the United States fulfill the purposes of government? • How do other types of governments meet the needs of citizens? • How do various economic systems answer each economic question? • How did the principles of government influence the structure of government to protect the rights of individuals? • How do the three branches of the United States government ensure a balance of power? • How does democracy ensure that the power of government is limited? • How did historical documents shape U.S. democracy? • How did the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation inspire change? • How are the principles of government represented in the Constitution? • How does the structure of the Constitution ensure checks and balances? • How does federalism uphold the principles of government? • How does democracy ensure that the power of government is limited? • How does the Bill of Rights impact citizens and government? • How is the Constitution amended? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do we have government? • To what extent do the principles of American Government impact individual rights and the power of government? 	<p>County-created unit assessment which includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SR questions – including stimulus-based questions. • constructed responses <p>Additional teacher-created writing assignment, project, performance task, or other major assignment.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Unit 2: The Legislative and Executive Branches</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1 quarter</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do political parties influence the legislative and executive branches? • How do principles of government influence the structure and organization of the legislative branch as established in the Constitution? • How do demographics and gerrymandering impact representation? • Does Congress have the appropriate power to fulfill its Constitutional responsibilities? • How does the process of lawmaking assist and impede the functions of the legislative branch? • How do interest groups and PACs influence a representative democracy? • How do the principles of government influence the structure and function of the executive branch as established in the Constitution? • Are presidential elections organized to maintain a representative democracy? • How does the media influence presidential election? • How does the Constitution grant and limit presidential powers? • How has the interactions between the executive and legislative branches influenced policy? • How have the interactions between the legislative and executive branches assisted or impeded civil rights? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the Constitution and the principles of government influence the structure, organization, and interactions of the legislative and executive branches? 	<p>County-created unit assessment which includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SR questions – including stimulus-based questions. • constructed responses <p>Additional teacher-created writing assignment, project, performance task, or other major assignment.</p>

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Unit 3: The Policy-Making Process	1 quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the government's role and policies adapted to address various public issues? • How does the government measure economic performance and set socio-economic goals? • How effective is fiscal policy in achieving full employment, price stability, and economic growth? • How effective is monetary policy in achieving full employment, price stability, and economic growth? • How has the government's role adapted to address regulatory policy? • How do competing interest impact government formation and implementation of social policy? • How do regional, environmental, and land use interests shape the formulation and implementation of public policies? • How does the United States establish and achieve foreign policy goals? • How does participation in international organizations help the United States achieve its foreign policy goals? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent does our government effectively address domestic, economic, and foreign policy issues in an environment of competing interests? • How do the principles of government and competing interests impact the formulation and implementation of public policy? 	County-created unit assessment which includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SR questions – including stimulus-based questions. • constructed responses Additional teacher-created writing assignment, project, performance task, or other major assignment.
Unit 4: The Judicial Branch	1 quarter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does the structure of the judicial branch impact the power of federal and state courts? • How have the decisions of the Supreme Court impacted policies over time? • How do demographics impact policies that surround crime and punishment? • How do the criminal and civil court systems maintain order and uphold individual rights? • How does the structure of government influence the creation of policy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent does the judicial branch uphold the principles of government? 	County-created unit assessment which includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SR questions – including stimulus-based questions. • constructed responses Additional teacher-created writing assignment, project, performance task, or other major assignment.