

Elk Grove Charter

Principles of American Democracy,

IMPACT California Social Studies

McGraw Hill 2019

American Democracy

Course Syllabus and Requirements

Satisfactory completion of this course earns 5 units.

Materials

Access to your teacher's American Government Google Classroom

A Principle of American Democracy Book

The paper or online version of *Principle of American Democracy Inquiry Journal*

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce the role of the individual in the United States' democratic or more correctly "republican" system of government. Students will study the roles and responsibilities of the various branches and key agencies in our local, state and national governments. Students will study historical and contemporary major issues, such as civil rights, affirmative action, and criminal rights and how they affect our government today. This class fulfills the Elk Grove Unified School District's American Government graduation requirement.

Objectives/Standards

Students will use textbooks and supplemental materials, and course relevant documents, as adopted or approved by the California State Department of Education, to read study and respond (both orally and in writing) to the criteria established for this course. Students will use comprehension and critical reading strategies to paraphrase, analyze, and synthesize what they read.

Principles of Democracy (<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/histsocscistnd.pdf>)

12.1 Students explain the fundamental principles and moral values of American democracy as expressed in the U.S. Constitution and other essential documents of American democracy.

12.2 Students evaluate and take and defend positions on the scope and limits of rights and obligations as democratic citizens, the relationships among them, and how they are secured.

12.4 Students analyze the unique roles and responsibilities of the three branches of government as established by the U.S. Constitution.

12.6 Students evaluate issues regarding campaigns for national, state, and local elective offices.

12.7 Students analyze and compare the powers and procedures of the national, state, tribal, and local governments.

12.8 Students evaluate and take and defend positions on the influence of the media on American political life.

12.9 Students analyze the origins, characteristics, and development of different political systems across time, with emphasis on the quest for political democracy, its advances, and its obstacles.

12.10 Students formulate questions about and defend their analyses of tensions within our constitutional democracy and the importance of maintaining a balance between the following concepts: majority rule and individual rights; liberty and equality; state and national authority in a federal system; civil disobedience and the rule of law; freedom of the press and the right to a fair trial; the relationship of religion and government.

Required Tasks

Students will read assigned units and complete the following in order:

1. Answer **Checking for Understanding CFU** questions found in each lesson
 - a. Complete assigned **CFU** questions under corresponding Google assignment
 - b. Label page# before answering questions
 - c. Refer to assignment for instructions
2. Complete **Inquiry Journal**.
 - a. Complete through McGraw Hill or paper version.
 - i. Check with teacher
 - b. Complete **Engaging with the text, Analyze the Source, and Report your Findings**
 - i. For **Report You Findings**, only do question **#2**.
 - c. Your teacher will review this weekly and be added up towards your final grade.
3. Complete **Chapter Review Questions**
 - a. Student will receive a copy of the questions and have a page number as reference for the chapter.
 - b. Student will need to complete research outside of the book to satisfactorily answer the essay question in the **Chapter Review Questions**
4. *****Optional **Vocabulary Assignment*******
 - a. You may complete this assignment for extra credit
 - i. Check with your teacher before proceeding
5. Review **Unit Slides** as a review.
 - a. **Unit Slides** need to be reviewed before taking exams.
 - b. Act as support and supplement of course materials
 - c. Grade will be counted towards unit 'Oral Review' (10pts.)
6. Fill out **Completion** assignment per unit
 - a. Acts as a checklist for assignments
 - b. Follow instructions. Helps teacher know what to review with you.
 - c. Unit grade before exam is posted here
7. **Performance Task**
8. Take assigned **Test**
 - a. Every unit will have a **test** attached to it.
 - i. Total of 5 in the course
 - b. **Test** is conducted through McGraw Hill platform
 - c. Conducted during ISP meeting after completion of unit homework.
 - d. If student does not pass, student will be given instruction by teacher on how to prepare for retake.
 - i. Student's retake will be an alternative version of the original test.
 - e. If student continues to struggle on exam teacher may choose to reassign **CFU** questions from section(s) student struggled in.

<u>Credits</u>	<u>Units & Chapters</u>	<u>Inquiry Journal</u>	<u>Assessment</u>	<u>Checkbox</u>
Unit 1: Foundations of United States Govt.				
	Ch.1,2 Foundations & Origins of U.S. Govt.			
1	Ch.3 The Constitution	Book: p.4-20 eBook: p.2-10	Unit 1	
Unit 2: Legislative Branch				
	Ch.5 Structure of Congress			
1	Ch.6,7 Congressional Powers & Work	Book: p.26-38 eBook: p.13-19	Unit 2	
Unit 3: Executive Branch				
	Ch.9,11 Presidency & Functions of The Executive	Book: p.44-60 eBook: p.22-30		
1	Ch.12 State & Local Executive Branches		Unit 3	
Unit 4: Judicial Branch				
	Ch.13,14 Court Systems & The Supreme Court			
	<u>Performance Task</u> : Bill of Rights, Court Case WS	Google Doc		
1	Ch.15 Constitutional Freedoms	Book: p.66-90 eBook: p.33-45	Unit 4	
Unit 5: Participation and Government in Action				
	Ch.17,20 Political Parties & Mass Media	Book: p.96-108 eBook: p.48-54		
1	Ch.24 Political & Economic Systems	Book: p.114-130 eBook: p.57-65	Unit 5	