



1st Quarter

Week	Unit/Lesson	Learning Objectives	Reporting Categories
1st:	Welcome Collect Class Supplies Classroom Rules Curriculum Overview	Preparation and Review Overview of Class Rules and Organization	
2nd:	Unit 1 Foundations of American Government 1.1 Politics in a Democracy 1.2 Constitutional Foundations	Identify three ongoing issues in American politics. Distinguish between the study of civics, current events, and political science. Explain how political scientists develop and test theories using data. Discuss three alternative theories of American politics. Improve your reading and essay-writing skills. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation. Explain the significance of Shays' Rebellion. Identify the principal reasons behind the call for a constitutional convention. Describe the battle over constitutional ratification. Identify important terms in the original Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Explain the process of amending the Constitution. Analyze the ideas contained in Federalist No. 10.	
3rd:	1.3 Federalism	Distinguish between federal, confederal, and unitary systems of government. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of American federalism. Describe the various classifications of powers held by the federal government and the states (expressed, implied, concurrent, and reserved powers). Explain the role of McCulloch v. Maryland in extending the power of the national government. Identify three main historical eras of federal-state relations and explain the reasons for the implementation of the current new federalism.	
4th:	1.4 Wrap-up and Review 1.5 Diagnostic	Define each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit. Explain the significance of each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit. Apply concepts you learned in this unit to specific questions.	
5th:	Unit 2 Political Beliefs and Attitudes 2.1 Political Culture 2.2 Public Opinion in America	Identify the basic elements of American political culture. Distinguish between political culture and ideology. Explain the process of political socialization. Recognize the primary differences between liberals and conservatives. Analyze areas of tension between liberty and equality in American political culture. Apply labels to your own political beliefs. Explain the connection between political culture, political ideology, and public opinion. Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of public opinion polling. Assess the role of public opinion in the political process.	



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6th:	2.3 Wrap-up and Review 2.4 Diagnostic	Define each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit. Explain the significance of each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit. Apply concepts you learned in this unit to specific questions.	
7th:	Unit 3 Political Parties, Elections, Interest Groups, and the Media 3.1 Political Parties 3.2 Campaigns and Elections	Describe the history of the two-party system in the United States. Explain the concepts of party realignment and dealignment. Identify the principal differences between the Republican and Democratic parties. Assess the role of third parties in the American political process. Analyze the contemporary functions of political parties. Explain the reasons for low voter turnout in American elections. Describe various forms of political participation. Distinguish between electoral methods and evaluate respective strengths and weaknesses. Identify the stages in the presidential election process. Analyze historical patterns of American voting behavior. Critically address the issue of campaign financing and evaluate proposals for reform.	
8th:	3.3 Interest Groups 3.4 The Media	Explain the reasons for interest group formation, as well as the obstacles to group formation. Identify the principal types of interest groups. Distinguish between direct and indirect interest group techniques. Evaluate the role of interest group PACs in the political process. Analyze the influence of interest groups on representative democracy. Identify key developments in the history of mass media in the United States. Evaluate the effect of mass media on politics. Explain the role of mass media in election campaigns. Analyze the media's effect on the public policy agenda. Identify the ways in which government regulates mass media. Evaluate the ability of mass media to educate citizens about politics and government.	
9th:	3.5 Wrap-up and Review 3.6 Diagnostic	Define each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit. Explain the significance of each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit. Apply concepts you learned in this unit to specific questions.	



2nd Quarter			
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1st:	Unit 4 Institutions of American Government 4.1 Congress	<p>Explain the enumerated and implied powers of Congress.</p> <p>Identify the six primary functions of Congress.</p> <p>Distinguish the main differences between the House and Senate.</p> <p>Assess the "representativeness" of Congress.</p> <p>Explain the committee structure and the process of passing legislation.</p> <p>Analyze the influences on congressional voting decisions.</p>	
2nd:	4.2 The Presidency 4.3 The Bureaucracy	<p>Identify the various roles of the president.</p> <p>Explain the constitutional powers granted to the president and the ways in which they assist presidents in performing these roles.</p> <p>Assess the ability of the president to meet the expectations that accompany the office.</p> <p>Describe the organization of the Office of the President and the role of the vice president.</p> <p>Analyze the relationship between the president and mass media.</p> <p>Define the main features of a bureaucracy.</p> <p>Identify the primary reasons for the growth of the federal bureaucracy.</p> <p>Explain the major types of bureaucratic organizations in the federal government.</p> <p>Describe the various pathologies that hinder bureaucratic reform.</p> <p>Analyze the effort to model bureaucratic performance after the private sector.</p>	
3rd:	4.4 The Courts 4.5 Checks and Balances	<p>Describe the organization of the federal and state judicial systems.</p> <p>Explain the concept of judicial review.</p> <p>Distinguish between the concepts of judicial restraint and judicial activism.</p> <p>Identify the political aspects of the process of appointing justices to the U.S. Supreme Court.</p> <p>Identify the various checks and balances operating among the three branches of government.</p> <p>Explain Madison's argument to institute a system of checks and balances.</p> <p>Evaluate the dynamics of the relationship between Congress and the executive branch.</p> <p>Describe the controversy over the line-item veto.</p>	
4th:	4.6 Wrap-up and Review 4.7 Diagnostic	<p>Define each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit.</p> <p>Explain the significance of each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit.</p> <p>Apply concepts you learned in this unit to specific questions.</p>	
5th:	Unit 5 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights 5.1 Civil Liberties 5.2 Civil Rights	<p>Distinguish between the rights of individuals as citizens of the United States and as citizens of the individual states in which they reside.</p> <p>Identify why limitations are sometimes placed on an individual's right to free speech.</p> <p>Identify what exactly is meant by the notion of "separation of church and state".</p> <p>Examine how individual liberties should be balanced against the public interest.</p> <p>Describe the various stages in the history of the African American civil rights movement.</p> <p>Identify the principal Supreme Court decisions affecting the legal status of racial minorities.</p> <p>Analyze the underlying positions in the debate over affirmative action.</p> <p>Describe the key episodes in the history of the movement for women's rights.</p>	
6th:		<p>Define each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit.</p> <p>Explain the significance of each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit.</p>	



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	5.3 Wrap-up and Review 5.4 Diagnostic	Apply concepts you learned in this unit to specific questions.	
7th:	Unit 6 Public Policy in American Government 6.1 Domestic Policy 6.2 Foreign and Defense Policies	Identify the various stages of the domestic policy cycle. Distinguish between distributive, redistributive, and regulatory policies and explain the different politics associated with each policy type. Analyze the public debates over social security reform and tax policy. Explain the overriding principles and doctrines guiding American foreign policy throughout our history. Identify the key participants in the foreign policymaking process. Describe the main events in the rise and fall of the "Cold War." Outline the process by which military and defense policies are made. Point out some of the significant issues confronting current American foreign policymakers.	
8th:	6.3 Wrap-up and Review 6.4 Diagnostic	Define each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit. Explain the significance of each key term and concept listed in each lesson of this unit. Apply concepts you learned in this unit to specific questions.	
9th:	Unit 7 Preparing for the AP Exam 7.1 Review and Exam 7.2 Final Course Exam	Build a study plan for the AP Exam. Describe the format of the AP Exam. Answer most of the practice multiple-choice questions correctly. Construct top-notch essays designed to get you a great score on the AP Exam.	