

12 Grade Twelve: Participation in Government

1 UNIT 1: Foundations of American Democracy	2 UNIT 2: Rights and Responsibilities	3 UNIT 3: Civic Participation and Public Policy
SEPTEMBER – MID-OCTOBER or FEBRUARY – MID-MARCH	MID-OCTOBER – NOVEMBER or MID-MARCH – APRIL	DECEMBER – JANUARY or MAY – JUNE
Essential Question: How has American democracy evolved?	Essential Question: Has the evolution of American principles and practices promoted greater democracy?	Essential Question: How do citizens influence government policy?
<p>Inquiries</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the characteristics of democratic government? 2. Are the 300-year-old political traditions and Enlightenment ideals reflected in the Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution still alive in our government today? 3. How was the U.S. Constitution shaped by American History prior to 1789? 4. How is power divided and shared in the United States government (federal, local, state, and in the three branches)? 5. Is there a balance of power between the branches? 6. How have Supreme Court decisions expanded or restricted personal rights and responsibilities? 	<p>Inquiries</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the differences among rights, freedoms, and liberties? What is an example of a debate in U.S. History that defines each concept? 2. How can your rights change as a result of a change in context? From state to state, outside to home, on the street to inside a school? 3. How can I exercise the right to vote? Does every vote count the same? Why don't more people vote? 4. Do we pay too much or too little of our income in taxes? 5. What does it mean when you are called for jury duty? What are the roles of a jury in civil and criminal trials? 6. How does informed citizenship support democratic government? 	<p>Inquiries</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What opportunities exist for an individual student to affect political and civic change? 2. What contemporary issues do federal, state, and local governments need to address? 3. Does the electoral system in the United States still meet our country's needs? Why or why not? 4. What role do third parties play in United States politics? In NYS? In NYC? 5. Where do we find reliable information about a public policy issue or a local participation in government project? 6. How do we become civic participants?
<p>12.G1 FOUNDATIONS of AMERICAN DEMOCRACY: The principles of American democracy are reflected in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and in the organization and actions of federal, state, and local government entities. The interpretation and application of American democratic principles continue to evolve and be debated.</p> <p>Role in the Enlightenment 12.G1a <i>Philosophies of government</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of government (monarchy, oligarchy, totalitarian, fascist, democratic, republican, parliamentary) Functions of government Responsibilities of government Politics and government Government vs. politics <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cont.</i></p>	<p>12.G2 CIVIL RIGHTS and CIVIL LIBERTIES: The United States Constitution aims to protect individual freedoms and rights which have been extended to more groups of people over time. These rights and freedoms continue to be debated, extended to additional people, and defined through judicial interpretation. In engaging in issues of civic debate, citizens act with an appreciation of differences and are able to participate in constructive dialogue with those who hold different perspectives.</p> <p>Equality and Due Process 12.G2a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rights of individuals in this country Fundamental values of equality before law and due process The meaning of due process Inalienable rights Civic debates such as rights, equality before law, due process <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cont.</i></p>	<p>12.G4 POLITICAL AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION: There are numerous avenues for engagement in the political process, from exercising the power of the vote, to affiliating with political parties, to engaging in other forms of civic participation. Citizens leverage both electoral and non-electoral means to participate in the political process.</p> <p>Elections and the Electoral College 12.G4a, 12.G4b</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Election process (local, state, and federal) Electoral college Winner-take-all election Electoral mechanisms Open elections Who currently holds each office Candidates for office and their parties Central issues in the election cycle <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cont.</i></p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Law vs. politics ■ Locke vs. Hobbes ■ Authoritarian vs. democratic government ■ Protecting public safety ■ Providing order ■ Regulating economy ■ Advancing public welfare ■ Major principles of political systems <p><i>Role of the Enlightenment in the framework for our Constitution</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Natural rights, social contract, popular sovereignty, separation of powers, rights of the accused, representative ■ Montesquieu, Beccaria, Voltaire, Locke, Hobbes, Thomas Paine ■ Influence of Roman and English Law ■ Republicanism (Roman and Greek tradition and influence on America) ■ English Bill of Rights <p><i>Early American Government Influences</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Evolution of self-governing, republican governments (New England town meetings, Virginia House of Burgesses), early state constitutions (NYS), Articles of Confederation ■ Flushing Remonstrance letter as pre-cursor to Bill of Rights ■ Political philosophy of Declaration of Independence ■ Impact of Declaration of Independence on the rest of the world ■ Articles of Confederation and its failure <p>The Constitution, Its Principles, and American System of Government 12.G1b</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Constitutional Convention (1787 – 1789) ■ United States and NYS Constitutions ■ Constitutional Debate over office of the President and Executive Branch ■ Federalist Papers ■ Anti-Federalist Papers <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cont.</i></p>	<p>Rights of Individuals in this Country 12.G2b</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Constitutional rights ■ Statutory rights ■ Precedents, current rules or principles of law governing specific rights ■ Limits on specific rights ■ Issues and implications surrounding specific rights ■ Connections between the policy making process in the legislature and the judicial process in the courts. ■ Civil War amendments ■ <i>Texas v. Johnson</i> (1989) and flag burning ■ Constitutional limits to freedom (libel, obscenity, and fair trial), <i>Escobedo v. Illinois</i>, <i>Schenk v. U.S.</i> (1919) ■ Civic rights of citizens and residents to associate and petition and assemble (KKK in Skokie, IL) <p>An Independent Judicial System 12.G2c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Role of the courts with regard to protection of rights and freedoms ■ Flexibility of judicial interpretation ■ Impartiality of justices <p>Civil Rights 12.G2d</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Evolving definition of civil rights ■ Debates on the expansion and protection of civil rights ■ <i>Dred Scott v. Sanford</i> (1857), <i>Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka</i> (1954), <i>Brown v. Board of Education (II)</i> (1955), Civil Rights Act (1964), <i>Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education</i> (1971), <i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i> (1963) ■ 19th Amendment (1920), ERA ■ Defense of Marriage Act (1996), <i>U.S. v. Windsor</i> (2013) ■ Americans with Disabilities Acts (1990, 2008) <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cont.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Obtaining and completing a voter registration form ■ Contacting elected officials <p>Participating in the Electoral Process 12.G4c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Evaluating promises and voting records of incumbents ■ Analyzing and evaluating candidates’ experiences ■ Calendar for federal, state, and local elections ■ Obtaining an absentee ballot ■ Contributing money to political campaign (McCain-Feingold Bill (2002), <i>Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission</i> (2009)) <p>Political Parties 12.G4d</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Founders’ views on political parties ■ Joining a political organization ■ Personnel (staff, volunteers, allies) ■ Campaign strategy (offensive and defensive) ■ Political, economic, and social philosophies and party platforms <p>Volunteerism, Advocacy and Civic Participation 12.G4e</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Volunteering to work in a political campaign ■ Community improvement projects, coalition building with local government, neighborhood CBOs and advocacy groups. ■ Civic participatory action (contacting elected officials, signing/organizing petitions, protesting, canvassing, and participating in/organizing boycotts) ■ Citizens as activists (opposing arguments on abolition, women’s rights, immigration, LGBT rights, environmental policy, housing rights, etc.) <p>12.G5 PUBLIC POLICY: All levels of government—local, state, and federal—are involved in shaping public policy and responding to public policy issues, all of which influence our lives beyond what appears in the Constitution.</p> <p>Executive Branch and Public Policy 12.G5a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Policy (roles, shaping, implementing, amending, and enforcing) ■ Executive Address ■ State of the Union <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cont.</i></p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists ■ Constitutional Compromises (Great Compromise, 3/5 Compromise, Commerce Compromise, Bill of Rights) ■ No one is above the law (<i>U.S. v. Nixon</i> (1972), impeachment process, Johnson impeachment (1868), Nixon resignation (1974), Clinton impeachment (1999)) <p>Separation of Powers 12.G1c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Article I, II, III setting forth powers and responsibilities of each branch, systems of checks and balances and system of federalism ■ Limited government ■ Separation of powers ■ System of federalism (creation of Constitutional Convention) ■ Three branches ■ The system of checks and balances ■ Structure at all levels of government ■ Tests of Federal Government (<i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> (1819), Nullification Crisis (1832), Civil War, Little Rock 9 (1957), states challenging Affordable Health Care Act (2013-present)) ■ State vs. national concerns of federal government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – National concerns such as interstate commerce which rely on federal action (<i>Gibbons v. Ogden</i> (1805), <i>Wabash v. Illinois</i> (1886), Sherman Anti-Trust Act, Interstate Commerce Commission) – State concerns such as police power which rely on state and local actions (Ferguson Mo. (2014), Department of Defense Excess Property Program) – Federal government such as education policy ((IDEA), No Child Left Behind, Race to the Top) <p>The Executive Branch 12.G5a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ United States electoral and representational system single-member districts ■ Winner-take-all elections ■ The electoral college ■ Compromise over the electoral college <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cont.</i></p>	<p>Rights: Legal Status and Location 12.G2e</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Rights are not absolute ■ Rights and location (schools, workplace, private property) ■ Debates around extension and limitations of rights ■ Rights and responsibilities of minors (workplace, family, emancipation) ■ Rights and responsibilities related to medical treatment or public assistance for minorities ■ Limits on individual legal rights and responsibilities when interacting with other countries ■ Freedom of expression inside and outside of school (<i>Tinker v. Des Moines</i> (1969), <i>Bethel v. Fraser</i> (1982), <i>New Jersey v. T.L.O</i> (1985)) ■ Some legal rights change when moving to another state <p>Freedom of the Press 12.G2f</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ First Amendment ■ Forms of news media (daily newspapers, weekly magazines, television, radio, internet, advertising, <i>Nixon v. NY Times</i> (1973), <i>FCC v. Pacifica Foundation</i> (1978), <i>People v. RJ Reynolds</i> (1998)) ■ Free and open flow of information ■ Venue for a variety of views ■ Limitations of freedom of the press, role of sponsors and oligopoly <p>12.G3 RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF CITIZENSHIP: Active, engaged, and informed citizens are critical to the success of the United States representative democracy. United States citizens have certain rights, responsibilities, and duties, the fulfillment of which help to maintain the healthy functioning of the national, state, and local communities.</p> <p>Balancing Personal Liberties 12.G3a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Balance of personal liberty and social responsibility ■ Rights of the accused ■ 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 14th Amendments <p style="text-align: right;"><i>cont.</i></p>	<p>Governmental Branches and Agencies Determine Policy 12.G5b, 12.G5c</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Balancing regional and national needs, existing political positions and loyalties, and sources of political power ■ Negotiating and implementing government policy ■ Government action across levels of government ■ Governmental departments and agencies ■ Department of Homeland Security ■ Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA, Hurricane Sandy (2012)) ■ U.S. Department of Education (Race to the Top) ■ Border controversy (Texas and Arizona vs. federal government) ■ Public works projects (Alaskan Bridge to Nowhere) ■ Keystone XL Pipeline <p>Effective Media Consumers 12.G5d</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Citizens as watchdogs of government ■ Increasing amount of sources ■ Evaluating media sources and public policy research ■ Effective and informed citizens engage in public policy research ■ Bills and laws, legislative history ■ Legislative and executive reports ■ Newspapers and other periodicals ■ Libraries, archives ■ Internet ■ Conducting an interview, Institutional Review Board Guidelines

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UNIT 1: Foundations of American Democracy

SEPTEMBER — MID-OCTOBER or FEBRUARY — MID-MARCH

Essential Question:
How has American democracy evolved?

- Election of 1800 (Revolution of 1800), Election of 1876
- Controversy/modern day applicability of electoral college
- Electoral college as it relates to proportions of campaigning and financing
- Red states, blue states, purple/battleground states
- *Bush v. Gore* (2000)
- Governments make and change policy, executive-legislative relations
- Address by chief executive, seeking popular and legislative acceptance of a policy agenda
- Executive officials, legislators, constituency groups, and advocacy groups battle for their causes
- Case study of presidencies – Jackson, Polk, McKinley, T. Roosevelt, Wilson, FDR, Nixon

Supreme Court and Judicial System 12.G1d

- Rule of law
- Evolution of the U.S. legal system
- Common law
- Constitutional law
- Statutory law
- Administrative regulations

Judicial branch

- *Marbury v. Madison* (1803)
- Controversy of judicial review
- Case studies (*Dredd Scott* (1857), *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896), *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), *Roe v. Wade* (1973))
- Jefferson’s view of Supreme Court as an oligarchy
- *Worcester v. Georgia* (1832)
- Role of John Marshall

Reserving Powers to the States 12.G1e

- States’ rights and states’ powers
- Debate over federal powers vs. state powers

cont.

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UNIT 2: Rights and Responsibilities

MID-OCTOBER — NOVEMBER or MID-MARCH — APRIL

Essential Question:
Has the evolution of American principles and practices promoted greater democracy?

- Warren Court
- *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966), *Gideon v. Wainwright* (1964), *Mapp v. Ohio* (1961), *Escobedo v. Illinois* (1965), *Terry v. Ohio* (1968)

Voting and Participating in Government 12.G3b

- Voting (pivotal form of political participation)
- Debates about voter registration and identification issues (Arizona and voter ID)
- Right of citizens to be elected to public office
- Qualifications of public office positions
- Responsibilities of U.S. residents (filing tax returns, voting, etc.)
- Debates over legal age (voting, military, smoking, drinking)

Citizen Contribute and Participate 12.G3c, 12.G3d

- Military Selective Service Act
- Duty of every male citizen and resident of the U.S., ages 18-26, to register
- *Rostker v. Goldberg*, 453 U.S. 57 (1981)
- Mandatory registration vs. mandatory draft
- Constitutional history of military service
- Military and political importance of a militia in colonial times
- Second Amendment
- Conscription and military draft
- Wartime occurrences of civil disobedience
- Conscientious objection
- Struggle against racial and gender discrimination in the armed services
- National security vs. civil liberties (*Alien Sedition Act* (1798), *Lincoln’s Removal of Habeas Corpus* (1861), *Schenk v. U.S.* (1919), *Korematsu v. U.S.* (1944), *USA PATRIOT Act* (2001), military tribunals, legal status of terrorists awaiting trial)

cont.

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<p>Amendment Process 12.G1f</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Amendment Process ■ State and federal participation in amendment process ■ Constitution evolution ■ Constitutional interpretation of loose construction vs. strict construction ■ Use of elastic clause in National Bank, Louisiana Purchase (1803), Supreme Court’s ruling on <i>Bush v. Gore</i> (2000), American Affordable Health Care Act (2009) 	<p><i>Taxation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Civic contribution and legal obligation ■ Governments rely on taxation (income, property, and sales) as a major source of revenue ■ Public policy influences and regulates financial incentives (buying a home) and disincentives (spending retirement savings before retirement age) <p><i>Jury duty</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Eligible to serve at 18 years of age ■ May oppose jury service for religious reasons ■ Juror qualification vs. jury summons ■ Grand and petit juries ■ Civil and criminal cases ■ Federal and state court systems ■ Legal right of defendant to be judged by a jury of his/her peers (5th and 6th Amendments) ■ Political right of citizens to serve as jurors (6th and 7th Amendments) 	