

Quarter 1

- Immigration and Naturalization-

Learning Goal: Students will understand the legal means of becoming a citizen.

- Citizenship: Responsibilities and Obligations –

Learning Goal: Students will understand the obligations and responsibilities of citizenship.

- Political Parties and the Electoral Process-

Learning Goal: Students will understand the IDEAS of and the differences between America's current POLITICAL PARTIES and how the nation ELECTS its representatives.

- Propaganda and Media-

Learning Goal: Students will be able to examine multiple views on public and current issues by analyzing media and political communications (bias, symbolism, propaganda) and the impact it can have on government.

- Forms and Systems of Government-

Learning Goal: Students will be able to compare different forms and systems of government.

Quarter 2

- The Path to Democracy (Enlightenment, Influential Documents, Events leading to the Declaration of Independence, and the Declaration of Independence)-

Learning Goal: The student will understand how Enlightenment ideas (Locke and Montesquieu, Natural rights and checks and balances/separation of powers) influenced the thinking of our nation's Founders.

Learning Goal: The student will be able to analyze how the ideas of the Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights, Mayflower Compact, and Common Sense influenced the ideas of the Articles of Confederation and later the U.S. Constitution.

Learning Goal: The student will understand how the colonial response to English policies led to the writing of the Declaration of Independence.

Learning Goal: Students will understand the ideas and grievances (COMPLAINTS against the KING) set forth in the Declaration of Independence.

- Making the Constitution (Articles of Confederation AND Preamble of the Constitution, Federalists vs. Anti-federalists)-

Learning Goal: The student will understand how the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation led to the development of the Constitution AND that the U.S. Constitution establishes the government and the PRINCIPLES upon which it is based (found in the Preamble).

Learning Goal: The student will be able to evaluate the Bill of Rights and other amendments to the Constitution, in relation to the viewpoints of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists.