

World History Syllabus - 2024-2025

Instructor: Zachery Peppers

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Classroom: 122

Course Outcomes

- **Course Description:** This course introduces students to the principles, structure, and functions of the U.S. government. Students will explore topics such as the Constitution, the three branches of government, civil liberties, public policy, and civic engagement.
 - **Curriculum Standards:** Tennessee state standards for Government and Civics ([[hyperlink to standards](#)]).
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Instruction

- **Topics/Competencies/Skills:**
 - Foundations of Government
 - The U.S. Constitution and Federalism
 - The Legislative Branch
 - The Executive Branch
 - The Judicial Branch
 - Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
 - Political Participation and Behavior
 - Public Policy and Administration
 - State and Local Government
 - **General Pacing:** Provided in weekly units, aligning with the school calendar.
 - **Materials Needed for the Class:**
 - Notebook
 - Writing utensils
 - Textbook: [Title and Edition]
 - Access to online resources (ASPN or school-provided tools)
 - **Resources:** Textbook, multimedia resources, supplemental handouts.
 - **Safety Procedures:** Not applicable.
 - **Intervention Offered:** Tutoring available after school on [specific days and times].
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Assessment and Grading

- **Grading Policy:**
 - Daily Work: 33%
 - Quizzes and Projects: 33%
 - Tests: 33%
 - **Explanation of Assignments:** Detailed rubrics and guidelines will accompany all major assignments and projects.
 - **Make-Up and Late Work Policy:**
 - Late assignments are accepted up to one week past the due date with a 10% deduction per day.
 - Students who miss class due to excused absences must coordinate with the teacher for makeup work within one week.
 - **Grade Posting Policy:** Grades will be updated in ASPEN weekly.
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General Expectations

Students

- **Attendance Policy:** Follow school guidelines as stated in the student handbook.
 - **Classroom Policies:**
 - Respect your peers, teacher, and property.
 - Come to class prepared and stay on task.
 - Follow school policies regarding appropriate behavior and technology use.
 - **Honor Code:** Students are expected to act with integrity and follow the school's PBIS plan. Violations, such as cheating or plagiarism, will result in disciplinary action.
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Plagiarism

Plagiarism, including the use of generative AI, is considered academic fraud.

- **Definition:** According to the Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition, plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else's ideas, research, or opinions as your own without proper documentation, even if rephrased.
 - **Examples of Plagiarism:**
 - Copying verbatim or paraphrasing without citing the source.
 - Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without proper attribution.
 - **Consequences:**
 - Students found guilty of plagiarism may redo the assignment for a reduced grade or take a zero, as determined by the teacher in consultation with parents.
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Religion in the Classroom

The teaching of religion will follow Board Policy 4.804, ensuring it is factual, objective, and respectful.

- **Board Guidelines:** A focus on educational discussion about religion's historical, cultural, and political significance without promoting specific beliefs.

Curriculum Outline

U.S. Government & Civics Curriculum Outline for 2024-2025 School Year

School Calendar Key Dates:

- **First Student Day:** August 2, 2024
 - **Midterms:** December 19, 2024
 - **Finals:** May 20, 2025
 - **Fall Break:** October 7-11, 2024
 - **Thanksgiving Break:** November 27-29, 2024
 - **Christmas Break:** December 23, 2024 - January 1, 2025
 - **Spring Break:** March 24-28, 2025
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Unit One: Foundations of American Government

August 2 - September 6

Chapter 1: Origins of American Government

- **August 2 - August 16**
 - Lesson 1: Purposes and Origins of Government
 - Lesson 2: Government in Colonial America
 - Lesson 3: Uniting for Independence
 - Lesson 4: The Articles of Confederation
 - Lesson 5: Creating the Constitution

Chapter 2: The Constitution

- **August 19 - September 6**
 - Lesson 1: Structure and Principles of the Constitution
 - Lesson 2: The Three Branches of Government
 - Lesson 3: Amendments
 - Lesson 4: State Constitutions and Local Charters

Unit Two: The Legislative Branch

September 9 - October 18

Chapter 3: Federalism

- **September 9 - September 20**
 - **Lesson 1: Dividing and Sharing Power**
 - **Lesson 2: Relations Between the National and State Governments**
 - **Lesson 3: State Powers and Interstate Relations**
 - **Lesson 4: Differing Views About Federalism**

Chapter 4: The Structure of Congress

- **September 23 - October 4**
 - **Lesson 1: Congressional Membership**
 - **Lesson 2: The House of Representatives**
 - **Lesson 3: The Senate**
 - **Lesson 4: Congressional Committees**
 - **Lesson 5: Staff and Support Agencies**

Chapter 5: Congressional Powers

- **October 7 - October 18**
 - **Lesson 1: Constitutional Powers**
 - **Lesson 2: Investigations and Oversight**
 - **Lesson 3: Congress and the President**

Unit Three: The Executive Branch

October 21 - November 29

Chapter 6: Congress at Work

- **October 21 - November 1**
 - **Lesson 1: How a Bill Becomes a Law**
 - **Lesson 2: Taxing and Spending Bills**
 - **Lesson 3: Influencing Congress**
 - **Lesson 4: Helping Constituents**

Chapter 7: State and Local Legislative Branches

- **November 4 - November 15**
 - **Lesson 1: State Legislatures**
 - **Lesson 2: Local Legislatures**
 - **Lesson 3: State and Local Legislative Policy**

Chapter 8: The Presidency

- **November 18 - November 29**
 - **Lesson 1: Sources of Presidential Power**
 - **Lesson 2: Head of State and Chief Executive**
 - **Lesson 3: Commander in Chief and Chief Diplomat**
 - **Lesson 4: Legislative, Economic, and Party Leader**

Midterm Review and Exams

December 2 - December 19

- **Review all content from Units 1-3**
- **Midterm exams preparation and administration**

Unit Four: The Judicial Branch

January 6 - February 21

Chapter 10: Structure and Functions of the Executive Branch

- **January 6 - January 17**
 - **Lesson 1: The Cabinet and the Executive Office of the President**
 - **Lesson 2: Cabinet Departments and Independent Agencies**
 - **Lesson 3: The Federal Workforce and Civil Service**
 - **Lesson 4: The Executive Branch at Work**

Chapter 11: State and Local Executive Branches

- **January 20 - January 31**
 - **Lesson 1: Powers and Roles of State and Local Executives**
 - **Lesson 2: Choosing Governors and Mayors**
 - **Lesson 3: State and Local Executive Branches at Work**

Chapter 12: Federal and State Court Systems

- **February 3 - February 14**
 - **Lesson 1: The Judicial System in Our Democracy**
 - **Lesson 2: Trials**
 - **Lesson 3: Constitutional Rights at Trial**
 - **Lesson 4: Appeals**

Chapter 13: The Supreme Court of the United States

- **February 17 - February 21**
 - **Lesson 1: Selecting Cases at the Supreme Court**

- Lesson 2: Deciding Cases
- Lesson 3: Selecting Supreme Court Justices
- Lesson 4: Constitutional Interpretation

Unit Five: Participating in Government

February 24 - April 18

Chapter 14: Constitutional Freedoms

- **February 24 - March 7**
 - Lesson 1: Freedom of Speech
 - Lesson 2: Freedoms of Press, Assembly, and Petition
 - Lesson 3: Freedom of Religion
 - Lesson 4: The Fourteenth Amendment
 - Lesson 5: Equal Protection and Discrimination
 - Lesson 6: The Rights to Bear Arms and to Privacy

Chapter 15: Voting and Elections

- **March 10 - March 21**
 - Lesson 1: Expanding Voting Rights
 - Lesson 2: Influences on Voters
 - Lesson 3: Campaigns and Financing
 - Lesson 4: Voting and Citizenship

Chapter 16: Public Opinion and Interest Groups

- **April 1 - April 11**
 - Lesson 1: Shaping Public Opinion
 - Lesson 2: Measuring Public Opinion
 - Lesson 3: Interest Groups and Their Roles
 - Lesson 4: Affecting Public Policy

Chapter 17: Mass Media in the Digital Age

- **April 14 - April 18**
 - Lesson 1: How Media Impact Our Government
 - Lesson 2: Regulating Print and Broadcast Media
 - Lesson 3: The Internet and Democracy

Final Review and Exams

April 21 - May 20

- **Review all content from Units 4-5**

- **Final exams preparation and administration**