



# H.S. Government Curriculum

---

## Reading and Writing Standards

Marking Period	Reading Standards	Writing Standards
1	Examining the Preamble of the Constitution	Fundamental Rights in a Democracy
2	Analysis of the Articles of Confederation	Comparing the Ideas of John Locke and Thomas Hobbes
3	Lincoln / Douglas Debate	Analyzing Party Platforms
4	Early Supreme Court Cases	Final Paper - The Importance of Government and the Responsibility of Each Generation to Protect Democracy

## Scoring Guide for Written Work

Criteria	Limited	Developing	Proficient	Exemplary
<b>Demonstrate Understanding of the Content</b>	Demonstrates a limited understanding of the topic, providing incomplete or inaccurate information with significant gaps.	Demonstrates a partial understanding of the topic, providing some accurate and concise information but may lack depth or completeness.	Shows a solid understanding of the topic, providing accurate and concise information, addressing all key aspects of the prompt.	Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the topic, providing comprehensive, accurate, and concise information.  Complete: Addresses all aspects of the assigned topic or prompt  Accurate: Provides accurate and relevant information supported by evidence or examples  Concise: Presents ideas and information in a clear and concise manner without unnecessary repetition or digressions



# H.S. Government Curriculum

---

<p><b>Structure and Formatting</b></p>	<p>Lacks an engaging hook, inconsistent or insufficient use of citations, minimal use of CER (Claim, Evidence, Reasoning) structure, and unclear or weak topic sentences.</p>	<p>Attempts to engage the reader with a hook, includes citations, attempts to use CER (Claim, Evidence, Reasoning) structure, and provides topic sentences, but with some inconsistencies or lack of clarity.</p>	<p>Begins with an engaging hook, includes proper citations, effectively utilizes CER (Claim, Evidence, Reasoning) structure, and presents clear topic sentences.</p>	<p>Engages the reader with a captivating hook, includes proper citations, effectively utilizes CER (Claim, Evidence, Reasoning) structure, and presents clear and well-developed topic sentences.</p> <p>Hook: Engages the reader with a compelling opening that grabs attention</p> <p>Citation: Includes appropriate citations and references to give credit to sources used</p> <p>CER (Claim, Evidence, Reasoning): Constructs well-developed claims supported by relevant evidence and logical reasoning</p> <p>Topic Sentences: Clearly and effectively introduces the main ideas of paragraphs</p>
<p><b>Critical Thinking / Original Point of View</b></p>	<p>Shows limited evidence of critical thinking skills, with arguments or perspectives lacking coherence or supporting evidence.</p>	<p>Shows some evidence of critical thinking skills, but arguments or perspectives may be limited in depth or clarity.</p>	<p>Displays sound critical thinking skills, offering well-reasoned arguments and perspectives supported by relevant evidence.</p>	<p>Exhibits exceptional critical thinking skills, offering unique and insightful perspectives supported by strong reasoning and evidence.</p> <p>Demonstrates critical thinking skills by analyzing and evaluating information or arguments</p> <p>Presents a unique and original perspective or interpretation of the topic</p> <p>Supports arguments or ideas with thoughtful reasoning and evidence</p>



# H.S. Government Curriculum

---

<p><b>Research / Reference</b></p>	<p>Relies on minimal sources, lacks integration of research findings, and shows inconsistent or inadequate citation and referencing.</p>	<p>Incorporates some sources, but may not fully integrate research findings or include proper citation and referencing consistently.</p>	<p>Incorporates appropriate sources, integrates research findings to support the content, and follows proper citation and referencing conventions with minor errors.</p>	<p>Research / Reference: Utilizes a wide range of relevant and credible sources, effectively integrating research findings into the writing, and consistently follows proper citation and referencing conventions.</p> <p>Utilizes relevant and credible sources to support arguments or claims</p> <p>Effectively incorporates research findings to strengthen the overall content and understanding of the topic</p> <p>Demonstrates the ability to properly cite and reference sources in the appropriate format (MLA)</p>
<p><b>Academic Writing</b></p>	<p>Contains frequent and significant errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure that impede readability.</p>	<p>Contains noticeable errors in spelling, grammar, punctuation, or sentence structure that occasionally hinder readability.</p>	<p>Demonstrates proficient spelling, grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure with occasional minor errors that do not hinder readability.</p>	<p>Demonstrates exemplary spelling, grammar, punctuation, and sentence structure with no or minimal errors.</p> <p>Spelling: Exhibits correct spelling throughout the writing</p> <p>Grammar: Demonstrates mastery of grammar rules, including proper subject-verb agreement, verb tense consistency, and pronoun usage</p> <p>Punctuation: Applies appropriate punctuation marks, such as commas, periods, and quotation marks, correctly</p> <p>Sentence Structure: Constructs clear and varied sentence structures, including complex and compound sentences</p>



# H.S. Government Curriculum

<b>Subject Specific Requirement</b>	Demonstrates minimal understanding or application of subject-specific requirements, with little or no effectiveness in enhancing the writing.	Attempts to incorporate subject-specific requirements, but the execution may lack clarity or effectiveness.	Incorporates subject-specific requirements effectively, demonstrating a good understanding and application of the assigned requirement.	Skillfully incorporates subject-specific requirements, showcasing creativity, foreshadowing, or point of view to enhance the overall quality of the writing.  Incorporates subject-specific requirements (e.g., creativity, foreshadowing, point of view) as specified in the assignment  Applies the specific requirement effectively to enhance the overall quality and depth of the writing
-------------------------------------	---	---	---	--

## Content Topics and Pacing

Topic	Duration	Guiding Questions	Reading/Writing Assignments
<b>Introduction to Government</b>	<b>3 Weeks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand what a State is, and what characteristics must be present.</li> <li>• Understand the purpose of Government.</li> <li>• Understand the purpose of the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution.</li> <li>• Understand the various forms of Government, and the various types of Governments that exist in the world today.</li> <li>• Understand the characteristics of democracy and why they are important.</li> <li>• Understand what elements and conditions help to allow a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examining the Preamble of the Constitution</li> <li>• Fundamental Rights in a Democracy</li> </ul>



# H.S. Government Curriculum

---

		democracy to flourish.	
<b>Founding and Development of Government</b>	<b>6 Weeks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand and compare the various governments that existed in Ancient Greece.</li><li>• Understand how the Magna Carta and the English Petition of Right lead to the development of the English Bill of Rights</li><li>• Understand how Enlightenment philosophers influenced the U.S. founders.</li><li>• Compare the ideas of Locke and Hobbes.</li><li>• Understand the purpose and reasoning of the Mayflower Compact, and its significance</li><li>• Understand the revolutionary ideas of Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Pain, and John Locke</li><li>• Understand the influence George Mason and Thomas Jefferson had on the Declaration of Independence</li><li>• Understand the reasoning and purpose of the Declaration of Independence.</li><li>• Compare and Contrast the Declaration of Independence and the Declaration of the Rights of Man.</li><li>• Understand the achievements and failures of the Articles of Confederation.</li><li>• Understand who the main participants of the Constitutional</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Comparing Greek Forms of Government</li><li>• Comparing the Ideas of John Locke and Thomas Hobbes</li><li>• Analysis of the Articles of Confederation</li><li>• Federalist 10</li></ul>



# H.S. Government Curriculum

---

		<p>Convention were and their roles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compare and Contrast the Plans of the Constitutional Convention, and understand the compromises that were made.</li><li>• Understand how power is divided in the U.S. government.</li></ul>	
<b>Political Parties</b>	<b>5 Weeks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand where the two party systems come from and the beliefs and platforms of various political parties.</li><li>• Analyze Political Parties</li><li>• Understand the political spectrum</li><li>• Understand the use of propaganda by political parties</li><li>• Understand the voting process</li><li>• Understand the importance of campaign finance and where the money comes from</li><li>• Understand the role of the electoral college in Presidential elections</li><li>• Understand the role of gerrymandering and redistricting and how it impacts elections</li><li>• Understand how media and fake news impact the general public and elections</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Analyzing Party Platforms</li><li>• Lincoln / Douglas Debate</li></ul>
<b>Structure and Function of Government</b>	<b>7 Weeks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand basic terminology of the Judicial System</li><li>• Understand how a case goes to the Supreme Court</li><li>• Understand the significance of Marbury v. Madison</li><li>• Understand the differences and</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Early Supreme Court Cases</li><li>• Final Paper - The Importance of Government and the Responsibility of Each Generation to Protect Democracy</li></ul>



# H.S. Government Curriculum

---

		<p>purpose of judicial activism and judicial restraint</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand the role the Supreme Court has played in Civil Rights</li><li>• Understand the structures and functions of Congress.</li><li>• Understand the various leadership roles of Congress.</li><li>• Understand the expressed and implied powers of congress.</li><li>• Understand the functions and jurisdictions of various Congressional Committees</li><li>• Understand How a Bill Becomes a Law</li><li>• Understand the qualifications to be President and the Powers the President possess</li><li>• Understand the roles of President including: Chief of State, Chief Executive, Chief Diplomat, Commander-In-Chief, Chief Legislator, Party Chief, Chief Guardian of the Economy</li><li>• Understand the purpose of Presidential Cabinets</li><li>• Understand the functions of the Vice President</li></ul>	
--	--	--	--