Unit 3 - Individual Rights and Freedoms

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s):
Time Period: **December**
Length: **11 block classes**
Status: **Published**

Enduring Understandings

Understand the legal rights and freedoms that have been extended to all American citizens, whether criminal or civil offenses. Further understand how these rights and resposibilites impact student lives inside their schools.

Essential Questions

- Where did our ideas about civil liberties orginate from?
- How are 1st Amendment freedoms the cornerstone of American democracy and liberty?
- How are civil liberties protected?
- What constitutes due process and how does that liberty extend to the rights of students?
- How is privacy protected under existing amendments?
- How has the social contract changed in the face of terrorism?
- What types of discrimination are legal and illegal?
- How can one proceed if illegally discriminated against?

Skills

- Identify the basic principles in the Bill of Rights and the 14th Amendment to the US Consitution.
- Explain the influences of the enlightenment philosphes on American government and freedoms.
- Explain the difference between civil liberties and civil rights.
- Analyze landmark Supreme Court Cases.
- Apply constitutional law principles to relative experiences of a teenager of high school student.
- Outline the changes and evolution of rights and responsibilities over time in America.
- Debate and present on current cases before the US Supreme Court. (preferably cases with implications for high school students in and out of school)
- Form opinions on how civil rights and liberties have been impacted due to the growing terrorism against America at home and abroad.

Resources

Constitution of the United States

Street Law: A Practical Course in Law

Annenberg Learner Video Series for Civil Liberties & Civil Rights

SCOTUS blog for cases currently petitioned and being heard by Supreme Court.

Standards

6.1.12.A.1.a Explain how British North American colonies adapted the British governance structure to fit their ideas of individual rights, economic growth, and participatory government.

6.1.12.A.1.b Analyze how gender, property ownership, religion, and legal status affected political rights.

6.1.12.A.2.a Assess the importance of the intellectual origins of the Foundational Documents (i.e., Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights) and assess their importance on the spread of democracy around the world.

6.1.12.A.2.d Explain how judicial review made the Supreme Court an influential branch of government, and assess the continuing impact of the Supreme Court today.

6.1.12.A.4.c Judge the effectiveness of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments in obtaining citizenship and equality for African Americans.

6.1.12.A.13.b Analyze the effectiveness of national legislation, policies, and Supreme Court decisions (i.e., the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, the Equal Rights Amendment, Title VII, Title IX, Affirmative Action, Brown v. Board of Education, and Roe v. Wade) in promoting civil liberties and equal opportunities.

6.1.12.A.14.b Analyze how the Supreme Court has interpreted the Constitution to define the rights of the individual, and evaluate the impact on public policies

6.1.12.B.2.a Analyze how the United States has attempted to account for regional differences while also striving to create an American identity**.**

6.1.12.D.14.d Evaluate the extent to which women, minorities, individuals with gender preferences, and individuals with disabilities have met their goals of equality in the workplace, politics, and society.

6.1.12.D.14.f Determine the influence of multicultural beliefs, products (i.e., art, food, music, and literature), and practices in shaping contemporary American culture.

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SOC.6.1.12.A.14.b	Analyze how the Supreme Court has interpreted the Constitution to define the rights of the individual, and evaluate the impact on public policies.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.d	Analyze the conflicting ideologies and actions of political parties regarding spending priorities, the role of government in the economy, and social reforms.
SOC.6.1.12.A.14.f	Determine the extent to which nongovernmental organizations, special interest groups, third party political groups, and the media affect public policy.
SOC.6.1.12.B.2.a	Analyze how the United States has attempted to account for regional differences while also striving to create an American identity.