Unit 5: The Four Pillars of American Government: Pillar II - Congress

Content Area: **Social Studies**
Course(s): **AP Government and Politics**
Time Period: **January**
Length: **4 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Transfer

Congress

Enduring Understandings

The U.S. Constitution created a national government composed of three branches, each of which has a unique structure and function, specifically the Congress

Each subject to checks and balances, the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government work to uphold the principles defined in our

Constitution

Essential Questions

Where does the "real" work of Congress occur?

What motivated the Founders to delegate certain responsibilities to specific branches of government?

Content

Vocabulary

Vocabulary

Reappointment, gerrymandering, redistricting, Constituency service, casework, pork barrel, logrolling formal and informal structures, committee system, markup session, filibuster/cloture rule, oversight, Non- germane

amendment, framers intent, Ways and Means,

Skills

Identify the structure, powers, and various functions o the legislature.

Analyze the legislative Process and the importance of committees in that process

Evaluate the Influence of lobbies and special interest groups in influencing legislation

identify and analyze the power balances and relationship between Congress and the President

Mandatory Document Analysis

- Federalist #70
- Federalist #78

Mandatory Supreme Court Cases

- Baker v. Carr
- Shaw v. Reno
- Marbury v. Madison

Disciplinary skills

- Apply political concepts and processes to scenarios in context
- Apply Supreme Court decisions Practice
- Analyze and interpret quantitative data represented in tables, charts, graphs, maps, and infographics Practice
- Read, analyze, and interpret foundational documents and other text-based and visual sources Practice
- Develop an argument in essay format

Standards

6.1.12. A.14.a Determine the relationship between United States domestic and foreign policies.

6.1.12.D.10.b Compare the leadership abilities of Franklin Delano Roosevelt to those of past and recent presidents

6.1.12. C.13.c Determine the effectiveness of social legislation that was enacted to end poverty in the 1960s and today.

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

6.1.12. A.10.a Explain how and why conflict developed between the Supreme Court and other branches of government over aspects of the New Deal.

Assessments

Multiple Choice

■ Quantitative Analysis: Analysis and application of quantitative-based source material

■ Qualitative Analysis: Analysis and application of text-based (primary and secondary) sources ■ Visual Analysis: Analysis and application of qualitative visual information

■ Concept Application: Explanation of the application of political concepts in context

■ Comparison: Explanation of the similarities and differences of political concepts

■ Knowledge: Identification and definition of political principles, institutions, processes, policies, and behaviors

FRQ

■ Concept Application: Respond to a political scenario, explaining how it relates to a political principle, institution, process, policy, or behavior

■ Quantitative Analysis: Analyze quantitative data, identify a trend or pattern, draw a conclusion for the visual representation, and explain how it relates to a political principle, institution, process, policy, or behavior

■ SCOTUS Comparison: Compare a nonrequired Supreme Court case with a required Supreme Court case, explaining how information from the required case is relevant to that in the nonrequired one

■ Argument Essay: Develop an argument in the form of an essay, using evidence from one or more required foundational documents

Formative

Vocabulary checks

Reading checks

Thematic class discussion

Group work

Summative

Unit Test/Quizzes with questions culled from past AP test

FRQs