Unit 6: The Four Pillars of American Government: Pillar III and IV - The Presidency and the Supreme Court

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

Transfer

The Presidency and the Supreme Court

Enduring Understandings

The Presidency is the branch in which implied power that is not specifically defined in the constitution, is acceptable by the people

The Supreme Court is not insulated from public opinion and does not render decisions in a political vacuum.

Essential Questions

How has the "necessary and proper" clause changed these responsibilities over time?

Has the presidency...as an institution...become too powerful?

Does the Court follow the "election returns"?

Has the Supreme Court become "super-legislatures?"

Content

Vocabulary

Vocabulary

Personal and public Presidency, Executive orders, executive privilege, impeachment, national Security Council, Office of Budget and management, pocket veto, imperial presidency, judicial activism and restraint, Writ of certiorari, district and circuit courts, Per curium decisions

Skills

Analyze the basic constitutional powers of the Presidency

analyze the Qualifications needed to become President

Evaluate the President's role with his party apparatusnand his position as commander in chief.

Assess and explain the role of the cabinet

Assess the powers and the remedies that exist through the judicial process.

Evaluate the differences between activist judges and those who employ judicial restraint

Analyze the scope and process of the federal judicial system.

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

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

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