Unit 1: the 'living bedrock' of the Republic, The Constitution

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

Transfer

The "living bedrock" of the Republic, The Constitution

Enduring Understandings

Societies require rules, laws and government.

Our government was founded on the principles of fairness, equality and respect for diversity.

The Constitution is a living document that helps s defines the roles of all its citizens.

Essential Questions

Why did certain controversies fuel debate at the Constitutional Convention?

Unique to the United States, how and why has the federalist system evolved since our founding?

Is federalism a viable form of government today?

Is the concept of separation of powers a reality today?

Content

Vocabulary

Declaration of Independence

Articles of Confederation

Shay's Rebellion

Virginia and New Jersey Plans

Connecticut Compromise

Three-Fifths Compromise

Habeas Corpus

Bill of Attainder

Ex Post Facto

Bill of Rights

War powers Act

Legislative Veto Block Grants

Categorical Grants

Mandates

Americans with Disabilities Act

Clean Air/Water Act

No Child Left Behind Act

Learning Objectives

Analyze intellectual forces affected the founding of our nation

Evaluate central problems existed in framing our Constitution

Understand the interests that motivated the Federalists and Anti federalists

Evaluate the causes of dual federalism to be replaced by cooperative Federalism

Analyze how has the grants-in aid system changed the role of federal politics

Mandatory Document Analysis

- Articles of Confederation
- Declaration of Independence

- U.S. Constitution
- Federalist #10
- Federalist #51
- Brutus #1

Mandatory Supreme Court Cases

- McCulloch v Maryland
- United States v. Lopez

Essay Writing Skills:

- Develop Essay and FRQ writing in this unit

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

SOC.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.
SOC.6.1.12.A.10.a	Evaluate the arguments regarding the role of the federal government during the New Deal era.
SOC.6.1.12.A.10.c	Evaluate the short- and long-term impact of the expanded role of government on economic policy, capitalism, and society.
SOC.6.1.12.C.9.a	Explain how government can adjust taxes, interest rates, and spending and use other policies to restore the country's economic health.
SOC.6.1.12.D.14.a	Determine the relationship between United States domestic and foreign 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

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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

Discussion questions

Group work

Summative

Unit Test/ Quizzes based on past AP test

Free Response Questions (FRQs)