

# Unit 1: A Foundation For Understanding Constitutional Law

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **Constitutional Law**  
Time Period: **1 marking period**  
Length: **10 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Overview

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Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the historical overview of the development of the Constitution and of the Supreme Court.

## Transfer

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Students will be able to evaluate how and why the Constitution was written and be able to illustrate why the Supreme Court has the final word.

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For more information, read the following article by Grant Wiggins.

[http://www.authenticeducation.org/ae\\_bigideas/article.lasso?artid=60](http://www.authenticeducation.org/ae_bigideas/article.lasso?artid=60)

## Meaning

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## Understandings

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Students will understand...

- the development of the United States

- the importance of the Declaration of Independence and how it led to the Articles of Confederation
- how the Constitution took shape
- an overview of the Six Articles of the Constitution
- why the Bill of Rights was added and its importance
- federalism in the the Criminal Justice System
- the authority and jurisdiction of the Supreme Court
- the history, meaning, and controversy of judicial review
- the makeup of the Supreme Court Justices (past and present)
- the tradition and power of the Supreme Court

### **Essential Questions**

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Students will keep considering...

- the overall importance of the Constitution
- the rights that directly affect the Criminal Justice System
- the power of the Supreme Court

### **Application of Knowledge and Skill**

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### **Students will know...**

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Students will know...

- the significance of the Constitution
- the specific parts of the Bill of Rights
- role the Supreme Court plays in the Criminal Justice System

### **Students will be skilled at...**

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Students will be skilled at...

- Comparing and contrasting the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution
- Analyzing the different parts of the Constitution
- Evaluating the effectiveness of the Supreme Court
- taking a position on the importance of the Supreme Court

### **Academic Vocabulary**

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amendments, Anti-Federalist, Federalist, charters, compacts, constitution, Great Compromise, law, Loyalist, minutemen, Patriot, pluralism, Quartering Act, ratify, Stamp Act, supremacy clause, certiorari, concurring opinion, conservative, dissenting opinion, judicial review, liberal, opinion, recesses, sittings, strict construction.

### **Learning Goal 1**

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Students will be able to examine the Constitution and analyze its parts and effectiveness.

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CRP.K-12.CRP1

Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.

CRP.K-12.CRP1.1

Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going

	beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP2.1	Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive. They make connections between abstract concepts with real-world applications, and they make correct insights about when it is appropriate to apply the use of an academic skill in a workplace situation.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2	Civics, Government, and Human Rights
SOC.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.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.b	Compare and contrast state constitutions, including New Jersey's 1776 constitution, with the United States Constitution, and determine their impact on the development of American constitutional government.
SOC.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.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.d	Describe how the Supreme Court increased the power of the national government and promoted national economic growth during this era.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.f	Compare and contrast the successes and failures of political (i.e., the 1844 State Constitution) and social (i.e., abolition, women's rights, and temperance) reform movements in New Jersey and the nation during the Antebellum period.
SOC.6.1.12.A.4.b	Analyze how ideas found in key documents (i.e., the Declaration of Independence, the Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments and Resolution, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Gettysburg Address) contributed to demanding equality for all.
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.16.a	Examine the impact of media and technology on political and social issues in a global society.
SOC.6.1.12.D.2.b	Explain why American ideals put forth in the Constitution (i.e., due process, rule of law, and individual rights) have been denied to different groups of people throughout time.
SOC.6.1.12.CS2	Revolution and the New Nation: The war for independence was the result of growing ideological, political, geographic, economic, and religious tensions resulting from Britain's centralization policies and practices. The United States Constitution and Bill of Rights were designed to provide a framework for the American system of government, while also protecting individual rights. Debates about individual rights, states' rights, and federal power shaped the development of the political institutions and practices of the new Republic.
SOC.6.1.12.CS16	Contemporary United States: Interconnected Global Society: Scientific and technological changes have dramatically affected the economy, the nature of work, education, and social interactions.

SOC.6.2.12	World History/Global Studies: All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically and systematically about how past interactions of people, cultures, and the environment affect issues across time and cultures. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions as socially and ethically responsible.
SOC.6.3.12.D.1	Analyze the impact of current governmental practices and laws affecting national security and/or individual civil rights/privacy.
SOC.6.3.12.D.2	Analyze a current foreign policy issue by considering current and historical perspectives, examining strategies, and presenting possible actions.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.8	Assess the impact of litigation and court decisions on employment laws and practices.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.12.D.CS2	Demonstrate personal responsibility for lifelong learning.
TECH.8.2.12.D.4	Assess the impacts of emerging technologies on developing countries.

## Target 1

### Examine why the Constitution was needed and written.

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CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP2.1	Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive. They make connections between abstract concepts with real-world applications, and they make correct insights about when it is appropriate to apply the use of an academic skill in a workplace situation.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP5.1	Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP8.1	Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of problems when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing solutions. They carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through their own actions or the actions of others.
SOC.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.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.b	Compare and contrast state constitutions, including New Jersey's 1776 constitution, with the United States Constitution, and determine their impact on the development of American constitutional government.
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.D.2.b	Explain why American ideals put forth in the Constitution (i.e., due process, rule of law, and individual rights) have been denied to different groups of people throughout time.
SOC.6.1.12.CS2	Revolution and the New Nation: The war for independence was the result of growing ideological, political, geographic, economic, and religious tensions resulting from Britain's centralization policies and practices. The United States Constitution and Bill of Rights were designed to provide a framework for the American system of government, while also protecting individual rights. Debates about individual rights, states' rights, and federal power shaped the development of the political institutions and practices of the new Republic.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.12.D.CS2	Demonstrate personal responsibility for lifelong learning.

## Target 2

Analyze how the Constitution has evolved and it's effectiveness on the Criminal Justice System.

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- Analyze how the Constitution has evolved and it's effectiveness on the Criminal Justice System.

CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP4.1	Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas, and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal, and/or visual methods. They communicate in the workplace with clarity and purpose to make maximum use of their own and others' time. They are excellent writers; they master conventions, word choice, and organization, and use effective tone and presentation skills to articulate ideas. They are skilled at interacting with others; they are active listeners and speak clearly and with purpose. Career-ready individuals think about the audience for their communication and prepare accordingly to ensure the desired outcome.
CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
CRP.K-12.CRP8.1	Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem. They are aware of problems when they occur and take action quickly to address the problem; they thoughtfully investigate the root cause of the problem prior to introducing solutions. They carefully consider the options to solve the problem. Once a solution is agreed upon, they follow through to ensure the problem is solved, whether through their own actions or the actions of others.
CRP.K-12.CRP11.1	Career-ready individuals find and maximize the productive value of existing and new

technology to accomplish workplace tasks and solve workplace problems. They are flexible and adaptive in acquiring new technology. They are proficient with ubiquitous technology applications. They understand the inherent risks-personal and organizational-of technology applications, and they take actions to prevent or mitigate these risks.

SOC.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.
SOC.6.1.12.A.4.b	Analyze how ideas found in key documents (i.e., the Declaration of Independence, the Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments and Resolution, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the Gettysburg Address) contributed to demanding equality for all.
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.D.2.b	Explain why American ideals put forth in the Constitution (i.e., due process, rule of law, and individual rights) have been denied to different groups of people throughout time.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.12.D.CS2	Demonstrate personal responsibility for lifelong learning.

## Learning Goal 2

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Students will be able to summarize the authority of the Supreme Court and the influence on the Criminal Justice System.

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CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP2.1	Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive. They make connections between abstract concepts with real-world applications, and they make correct insights about when it is appropriate to apply the use of an academic skill in a workplace situation.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
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CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.
CRP.K-12.CRP6.1	Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization. They can consider unconventional ideas and suggestions as solutions to issues, tasks or problems, and they discern which ideas and suggestions will add greatest value. They seek new methods, practices, and ideas from a variety of sources and seek to apply those ideas to their own workplace. They take action on their ideas and understand how to bring innovation to an organization.
SOC.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.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.d	Describe how the Supreme Court increased the power of the national government and promoted national economic growth during this era.
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.
TECH.8.1.12.A	Technology Operations and Concepts: Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems and operations.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.12.C	Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.

## Target 1

### Examine the controversy over and alternatives to Judicial Review.

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- Students will be able to summarize the authority of the Supreme Court and the influence on the Criminal Justice System.

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CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
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CRP.K-12.CRP8	Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
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SOC.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.
SOC.6.1.12.A.16.a	Examine the impact of media and technology on political and social issues in a global society.
SOC.6.2.12	World History/Global Studies: All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically and systematically about how past interactions of people, cultures, and the environment affect issues across time and cultures. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions as socially and ethically responsible.
TECH.8.1.12.B.CS1	Apply existing knowledge to generate new ideas, products, or processes.
TECH.8.1.12.D.CS2	Demonstrate personal responsibility for lifelong learning.

## Target 2

Describe the influence of past and present Supreme Courts.

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CRP.K-12.CRP1	Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.
CRP.K-12.CRP1.1	Career-ready individuals understand the obligations and responsibilities of being a member of a community, and they demonstrate this understanding every day through their interactions with others. They are conscientious of the impacts of their decisions on others and the environment around them. They think about the near-term and long-term consequences of their actions and seek to act in ways that contribute to the betterment of their teams, families, community and workplace. They are reliable and consistent in going beyond the minimum expectation and in participating in activities that serve the greater good.
CRP.K-12.CRP5	Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.
CRP.K-12.CRP5.1	Career-ready individuals understand the interrelated nature of their actions and regularly make decisions that positively impact and/or mitigate negative impact on other people, organization, and the environment. They are aware of and utilize new technologies, understandings, procedures, materials, and regulations affecting the nature of their work as it relates to the impact on the social condition, the environment and the profitability of the organization.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.

CRP.K-12.CRP6.1	Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization. They can consider unconventional ideas and suggestions as solutions to issues, tasks or problems, and they discern which ideas and suggestions will add greatest value. They seek new methods, practices, and ideas from a variety of sources and seek to apply those ideas to their own workplace. They take action on their ideas and understand how to bring innovation to an organization.
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SOC.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.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.d	Describe how the Supreme Court increased the power of the national government and promoted national economic growth during this era.
SOC.6.2.12.A.5.e	Assess the progress of human and civil rights around the world since the 1948 U.N. Declaration of Human Rights.
SOC.6.3.12.D.1	Analyze the impact of current governmental practices and laws affecting national security and/or individual civil rights/privacy.
TECH.8.1.12.D.CS2	Demonstrate personal responsibility for lifelong learning.
TECH.8.2.12.D.4	Assess the impacts of emerging technologies on developing countries.

## **Summative Assessment**

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All assessments are differentiated and aligned to the social studies standards and curriculum.

Alternate assessments may include problem based learning, projects or presentations, or a common paper/pencil assessment or combination of any of these.

Common summative assessments will be devised by the teachers teaching this course during a common planning time.

## **21st Century Life and Careers**

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CRP.K-12.CRP2	Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.
CRP.K-12.CRP4	Communicate clearly and effectively and with reason.
CRP.K-12.CRP6	Demonstrate creativity and innovation.

## **Formative Assessment and Performance Opportunities**

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Do Nows

Teacher observation

Q and A

Cooperative learning opportunities

Surveys

Guided notes

Benchmark

Projects

## **Accommodations/Modifications**

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Enrichment opportunities: extra credit for those who choose to do outside the classroom work

Differentiation: 504 accommodations and IEP modifications

## **Unit Resources**

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Internet

Power Points

Surveys

Supplemental text/teacher resources

Videos

Student notebook/journal

Guest Speakers

iCivics.com

Flocabulary: Week in Rap, three branches of government

### **Interdisciplinary Connections**

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