

### Syllabus Outline for American Government

Timeline: 1<sup>st</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

#### Unit 1 People, Government, and Origins of American Government (Chapter 1/2)

Day	Topic	Pages/Assignment
1	Principles of Government	HOME: Textbook: 5-11/ Notes
2	Constitutions and Governments	HOME: Textbook: 13-15/Notes CLASS: "Iroquois vs. US Constitution" Worksheet
3	Types/ Systems of Governments	HOME: Textbook: 12, 18-20/Notes
4	Democracy	HOME: Textbook: 20-24/Notes
5	The Colonial Period	HOME: Textbook: 35-38/Notes CLASS: "Principles and Rights" Worksheet
6	Uniting for Independence	HOME: Textbook: 39-47/Notes CLASS: "The Mayflower Compact" Worksheet
7	Articles of Confederation	HOME: Textbook: 48-52/Notes CLASS: "A Less Perfect Union" Worksheet
8	The Constitutional Convention	HOME: Textbook: 53-58/Notes CLASS: "Constitutional Debate" Worksheet

#### UNIT 1 GRADES (100 POINTS)

##### Class Activities 30 Points

During class, we will often complete readings and/or activities. These will be collected at the end of the unit and graded for completion. If you miss class or are unable to complete these activities in class, you must complete these on your own time. If you are absent, there will be copies for you in the back trays.

##### Notes: 40 Points

At the end of the unit, you will be asked to turn in your notes from your text reading and from class. This will check to see if you are reading and also taking notes in class.

##### Project: 30 Points

At the end of the unit, you will be asked to turn in a project. This will check for your understanding of the material. Choose ONE of the following.

- Write an opinion essay (2 to 2 ½ pages typed and double-spaced) about the proper role of government in a representative democracy and how well the government performs that role for the American people. Please state a clear opinion and use examples to support your thoughts! When you use someone else's thoughts, please cite with in-text citations. Attach copies of at least one "outside" source that you use.
  - Create a collage showing how government meets the needs of its citizens. The collage should include photographs, drawings, captions, graphics, poems, etc. Attached to the collage should be a typed, 1 ½ to 2 page description of what your collage and its various components are representing.
  - Write the Declaration of Independence concerning an application to everyday life. Include a copy of the original text of the Declaration of Independence in addition to your "modern" copy. Your "modern" copy should follow the format of the original. This should be typed.
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