



Northampton Area High School General Social Studies Rotation #2:

Focus: Civics and Government

“Year at a Glance”

**General Social Studies A course teacher will choose most appropriate big ideas within the units and make modifications.*

Textbook: McGraw-Hill Building Citizenship: Civics & Economics (2014)

Common Units of Study with Sample Lesson Topics	Textbook Chapter(s)	Estimated % of Course Time	Estimated Time	Big Idea (s)	PA Academic Standard(s)
Foundations of Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compare and contrast the path to citizenship for each of the following groups: natural born citizens, naturalized citizens, and foreign born residents - Compare and contrast the duties and responsibilities for each of those groups - Analyze the origins and purposes of government - Analyze the ways different types of governments function - Summarize the evolution of political philosophy from ancient civilization through the Enlightenment 	Chapters: 1 and 2		4-5 weeks	What is a citizen and how does one become a United States citizen? Why, and how, do people create, structure, and change governments? How did 2,000 years of history and political philosophy culminate into our form of government?	5.1.12.A 5.1.12.B 5.1.12.D 5.2.12.A 5.2.12.D
The U.S. Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyze the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation - Recognize the five basic principles of government, and how they are incorporated in the US Constitution - Compare how those principles are applied to the PA constitution. - Differentiate between formal and informal change to the Constitution. - Develop a logical argument why the Framers favored a large national republic, rather than smaller state republics - Assess how Articles I through III separate the powers of government - Cite evidence from the US Constitution to illustrate the 	Chapters: 3 and 4		4-5 weeks	How are the basic principles of government woven throughout the U.S. Constitution and the PA Constitution? How and why does the United States provide checks and balances on government power? How do governments balance the rights of individuals with the common good?	5.1.12.A 5.1.12.C 5.1.12.D 5.1.12.E 5.2.12.C

<p>checks and balances between the branches of government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apprise how the Bill of Rights protects individual rights 					
<p>The Political Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyze the American political spectrum - Analyze the impact an individual can make through voting and membership in political parties and interest groups - Critique the way public opinion is shaped and influenced by the media - Investigate the factors that create a sense of political efficacy 	<p>Chapters: 8,9 and 10</p>		<p>4 weeks</p>	<p>How do citizens, both individually, and collectively, influence government policy? What are the rights and responsibilities of citizen participation in a republic? Evaluate the impact of US Supreme Court interpretation re: campaign finance</p>	<p>5.3.12.C 5.3.12.D 5.3.12.E 5.3.12.G 5.3.12.H 5.3.12.D 5.3.12.F</p>
<p>The Three Branches in Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Differentiate the legislative powers from the executive and judicial powers - Analyze the structure of the legislative branch, including bicameralism, the committee system, and party leadership - Analyze the legislative process - Differentiate the executive powers from the legislative and judicial powers - Differentiate between formal and informal powers the president exercises - Differentiate the judicial powers from the legislative and executive powers - Compare and contrast the national and state court systems - Analyze the separation of power between the three branches of government create gridlock, or does it provide necessary checks and balances of governmental power? 	<p>Chapters: 5,6 and 7</p>		<p>6 weeks</p>	<p>What are legislative powers, and how does our national legislative branch work? What are executive powers, and how does our national executive branch work? What are judicial powers, and how does our national judicial branch work? Analyze the interaction between the three branches of government.</p>	<p>5.3.12.A 5.3.12.C 5.3.12.F</p>
<p>Introduction to Economics and the American Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyze the impact of scarcity on the way individuals and societies seek to satisfy their needs and wants - Critique both market and command economies 	<p>Chapters: 16 and 17</p>			<p>Why and how do people and businesses make economic choices? How do economic systems</p>	<p>6.1.12.A 6.1.12.B 6.1.12.C 6.1.12.D 6.2.12.B</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define the law of supply and demand - Analyze the factors that cause either change in quantity demanded or a change in demand - Analyze the factors that cause either a change in quantity supplied or a change in supply - Differentiate between sole proprietorships, partnerships, corporations, and franchises - Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of each type of business - Investigate the collective bargaining process and its impact on the economy - Identify the factors of production - Determine what is and is not measure by GDP - What are the characteristics of the American free enterprise system? 			4 weeks	<p>influence society? How do the factors of supply and demand affect prices in a market-based economy? How are different types of businesses organized in the American economy? What is the role of organized labor in the U.S. economy? Why is Gross Domestic Product important to a nation? How do the consumer and business sectors interact in the American economy?</p>	6.2.12.D 6.1.12.E 6.2.12.F 6.2.12.G
<p>The Government and the Economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyze how public policy and regulations impact economic activity - Identify three functions of money - Identify the forms of money used in the past and today - Differentiate between different types of financial institutions - Analyze how the government protects the money we deposit into financial institutions. - Assess how the comparative advantage of a nation impacts its trade policies. - Compare and contrast various perspectives a nation may use to formulate its foreign policy - Identify the basic roles of president, Congress, the bureaucracy, and economic forces in the implementation of US foreign policy - Explain how governmental and non-governmental international organizations facilitate interactions among nations 	Chapters: 20		5 weeks	<p>How does government influence the economy and economic institutions? How do financial institutions work? What are the similarities and differences of monetary and fiscal policies? Why and how do nations trade with each other? Why and how do nations interact with one another? How does the international community try to protect human rights?</p>	5.3.12.1 6.3.12.A 6.3.12.B 6.3.12.C 6.5.12.H
<p>State and Local Government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Categorize examples of national, state, and concurrent powers 	Chapters: 11 and 12			<p>How does the federal system allow the national and state governments to share power? What characteristics do all state</p>	5.1.12.D 5.1.12.E 5.2.12.B 5.3.12.A

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compare and contrast the basic structures of national and state governments - Compare and contrast the similarities and differences among the various state governments - Recall the differences between legislative, executive, and judicial powers - Analyze landmark Supreme Court interpretations regarding legislative redistricting and apportionment - Investigate the executive powers at the state level, including roles, powers, and offices - Evaluate contemporary issue(s) before the Commonwealth of PA, and/or local government - Investigate the different forms of local government structure, generally and PA specific - Critique the different sources of funding: intergovernmental revenue, income, sales, and property taxes 			5 weeks	<p>governments share? How do the three branches of government function at the state level? What challenges to state governments face? How are local governments created, funded, and organized?</p>	<p>5.3.12.F 5.3.12.I 5.3.12.J</p>
<p>Personal Finance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Differentiate between saving and investing - Evaluate different options for saving money in banks or credit unions - Evaluate different investment options in terms of risk and return - Analyze different types of consumer debt and the impact interest rates have on borrowers 	<p>Chapters: 18</p>		3 weeks	<p>How can an individual's maximize the money he/she earns to achieve short-term, medium-term, and long-term goals?</p>	<p>5.2.12.D 6.1.12.A 6.1.12.B 6.1.12.C 6.5.12.G</p>