

**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BOISE CITY  
IDAHO ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS  
GRADE 9-12  
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**

**Students are expected to know content and apply skills from previous grades.**

**Standard 1: History**

No goals or objectives in American Government.

**Standard 2: Geography**

No goals or objectives in American Government.

**Standard 3: Economics**

No goals or objectives in American Government.

**Standard 4: Civics and Government**

Students in American Government build an understanding of the foundational principles of the American political system, the organization and formation of the American system of government, that all people in the United States have rights and assume responsibilities, and the evolution of democracy.

**Goal 4.1: Build an understanding of the foundational principles of the American political system.**

**Objective(s): By the end of American Government, the student will be able to:**

- 9-12.G.4.1.1 Describe the origins of constitutional law in western civilization, including the natural rights philosophy, Magna Carta (1215), common law, and the Bill of Rights (1689) in England.
- 9-12.G.4.1.2 Describe historical milestones that led to the creation of limited government in the United States, such as the Declaration of Independence (1776), Articles of Confederation (1781), state constitutions and charters, United States Constitution (1787), and the Bill of Rights (1791) in the United States.
- 9-12.G.4.1.3 Analyze the essential ideals and objectives of the original organizing documents of the United States including the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, and the United States Constitution.
- 9-12.G.4.1.4 Explain the central principles of the United States governmental system including written constitution, popular sovereignty, limited government, separation of powers, majority rule with minority rights, and federalism.

**Goal 4.2: Build an understanding of the organization and formation of the American system of government.**

**Objective(s): By the end of American Government, the student will be able to:**

- 9-12.G.4.2.1 Identify the three branches of federal government, their powers, and responsibilities.
- 9-12.G.4.2.2 Explain the functions, powers, interactions, and relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments.
- 9-12.G.4.2.3 Analyze and explain sovereignty and the treaty/trust relationship the United States has with American Indian tribes with emphasis on Idaho, such as hunting and fishing rights, and land leasing.
- 9-12.G.4.2.4 Analyze the role of political parties and other political organizations and their impact on the American system of government.
- 9-12.G.4.2.5 Explain the electoral process at each level of government.

**Goal 4.3: Build an understanding that all people in the United States have rights and assume responsibilities.**

**Objective(s): By the end of American Government, the student will be able to:**

- 9-12.G.4.3.1 Explain the ways in which individuals become citizens and distinguish among obligations, responsibilities, and rights.
- 9-12.G.4.3.2 Explain the implications of dual citizenship with regard to American Indians.
- 9-12.G.4.3.3 Identify the ways in which citizens can participate in the political process at the local, state, and national level.
- 9-12.G.4.3.4 Analyze and evaluate decisions about rights of individuals in landmark cases of the United States Supreme Court, including *Gideon v. Wainwright*, *Miranda v. Arizona*.

**Goal 4.4: Build an understanding of the evolution of democracy.**

**Objective(s): By the end of American Government, the student will be able to:**

- 9-12.G.4.4.1 Analyze the struggles for the extension of civil rights.
- 9-12.G.4.4.2 Analyze and evaluate states' rights disputes past and present.
- 9-12.G.4.4.3 Provide and evaluate examples of the role of leadership in the changing relationship among the branches of American government.
- 9-12.G.4.4.4 Discuss the interpretation and application of the United States Constitution.

**Goal 4.5: Build an understanding of comparative government.**

No objectives in American Government

**Standard 5: Global Perspectives**

Students in American Government build an understanding of multiple perspectives and global interdependence.

**Goal 5.1: Build an understanding of multiple perspectives and global interdependence.**

**Objective(s): By the end of American Government, the student will be able to:**

- 9-12.G.5.1.1 Compare different forms of government, such as presidential with parliamentary, unitary with federal, democracy with dictatorship.
- 9-12.G.5.1.2 Discuss the mutual impact of ideas, issues, and policies among nations, including environmental, economic, and humanitarian.
- 9-12.G.5.1.3 Describe the characteristics of United States foreign policy and how it has been made and implemented over time.
- 9-12.G.5.1.4 Identify and evaluate the role of the United States in international organizations and agreements, such as United Nations, NAFTA, and the International Red Cross.