

Independent School District of Boise City

1323 American Government

Course Description

This course is a study of the American political system and how it functions. American Government examines the fundamental political institutions of our nation and the governmental operations of the United States, both at home and abroad. Special emphasis is given to the role of citizens at the local, state, and national levels.

A Note on Standards

The American Government curriculum includes both Boise School District and State of Idaho standards. State standards include content knowledge and skills in the following areas: critical thinking; the evolution of democracy; civic life, politics and government; foundations, organization, and formation of the American system of government; United States foreign affairs; and citizen responsibilities and rights. While each standard is expressed through specific, associated instructional objectives, instructors should seek opportunities to apply the standards throughout the course.

Adopted Materials

Magruder's American Government, Ed. William A. McClenaghan. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall, 1998.

First Semester Timeline

Unit 1	Types & Functions of Government	2 weeks
Unit 2	Evolution of American Democracy	3 weeks
Unit 3	Foundations of the American Political System	3 weeks
Unit 4	Influencing Our Government	4 weeks
Unit 5	Legislative Branch	4 weeks

Second Semester Timeline

Unit 6	Executive Branch	5 weeks
Unit 7	State and Local Government	4 weeks
Unit 8	Judicial Branch	2 weeks
Unit 9	Civil Liberties and Rights	5 weeks

American Government		District Reference 1323
Unit 1	Types & Functions of Government	Semester 1, 2 Weeks

Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.01 Compare different forms of government, such as presidential with parliamentary, unitary with federal, democracy with dictatorship.		9-12.G.5.1.1	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Define the state and identify various theories of origin.	Text, Ch. 1	EOC TMA
02	Investigate what government is and why it exists	Ch. 1	EOC TMA
03	Classify types, compare purposes, and evaluate functions of governments.	Ch. 1	EOC TMA

Unit 2	Evolution of American Democracy	Semester 1, 3 weeks
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Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.02 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.4.1.1	
Associated Instructional Objectives:			
Discuss the interpretation and application of the United States Constitution.		9-12.G.4.4.4	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Understand the political heritage inherited by the United States from Classical Greece to colonial America.	Ch. 1 & 2	EOC TMA
02	Define constitutional law and understand its relationship to Rule of Law.	Ch. 2, 3	EOC TMA
03	Trace the development of Rule of Law from the Magna Carta to the U.S. Constitution.	Ch. 2, 3	TMA
Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.03 Analyze and evaluate decisions about rights of individuals in landmark cases of the United States Supreme Court, including <i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i> , <i>Miranda v. Arizona</i> .		9-12.G.4.3.4	
Associated Instructional Objectives:			
Analyze the struggles for the extension of civil rights.		9-12.G.4.4.1	
Analyze and evaluate states' rights disputes past and present.		9-12.G.4.4.2	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Analyze the tensions within society between the	Ch. 19, 20, 21	EOC

	interests of the individual and the community (ex: freedom vs. equality).		TMA
02	Provide examples that illustrate tensions in American democracy.	Ch. 19, 20, 21	TMA
Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.04 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.4.1.2	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Create a timeline illustrating the major events leading to the ratification of the Constitution.	Ch. 2	EOC TMA
02	Highlight key individuals involved in the events leading to the American Revolution through ratification of the Constitution.	Ch. 2	TMA
Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.05 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.4.1.3	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Trace the development of the Social Contract Theory through the philosophies of Hobbes, Locke, & Rousseau.	Ch. 2	EOC TMA
02	Demonstrate the application of the Social Contract Theory in the Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, and the Constitution.	Ch. 2, 3	EOC TMA
03	Compare the system of government under the Articles of Confederation with the Constitution.	Ch. 2, 3	EOC TMA
04	Explain the ways the U.S. Constitution can be changed, formally and informally.	Ch. 3	EOC TMA

Unit 3	Foundations of the American Political System	Semester 1, 3 weeks
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Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.06 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.		9-12.G.4.1.4	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Define the following concepts: sovereignty, popular sovereignty, limited government,	Ch. 3, 4	EOC TMA

	separation of powers, checks and balances and federalism.		
02	Distinguish between sovereignty and popular sovereignty.	Ch. 1, 3	TMA
03	Illustrate the principle of limited government by analyzing the role of separation of powers and checks and balances in our governmental system.	Ch. 3	EOC TMA
Instructional Objective 1323.07 Analyze and evaluate states' rights disputes past and present.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.4.2	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Diagram the specific powers granted to the federal government and state governments (e.g., expressed, implied, inherent, exclusive, concurrent and reserved).	Ch. 4	EOC TMA
02	Analyze and evaluate the relationship between the national and state government.	Ch. 4	TMA
03	Examine interstate relations as prescribed by Article IV of the Constitution and highlight with current examples.	Ch. 4	EOC TMA (current examples)
04	Explore the conflicting relationship between the national and state governments with case studies (e.g., grizzlies, drinking age and highway funds, nuclear waste transportation and storage, integration of public education).	Ch. 4 Current Periodicals State Library	TMA

Unit 4	Influencing Our Government	Semester 1, 4 weeks
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Instructional Objective 1323.08 Identify the ways in which citizens can participate in the political process at the local, state, and national level.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.3.3	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Discover opportunities for citizens to influence government.	Recurs throughout Unit 2 of text	TMA
Instructional Objective 1323.09 Analyze the role of political parties and other political organizations and their impact on the American system of government.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.2.4	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Define politics.	Ch. 5	EOC TMA
02	Define political parties and their functions.	Ch. 5	EOC TMA

03	Trace the development of the two-party system comparing the roles of the major and minor parties.	Ch. 5	EOC TMA
04	Describe and graph the political spectrum and have each student identify his place on it.	Ch. 5	TMA
05	Define interest groups and political action committees and understand their functions.	Ch. 5	EOC TMA
06	Compare and contrast political parties with interest groups.	Ch. 5	TMA
Instructional Objective 1323.10 Identify the ways in which citizens can participate in the political process at the local, state, and national level.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.3.3	
Associated Instructional Objective:			
Explain the ways in which individuals become citizens and distinguish among obligations, responsibilities, and rights.		9-12.G.4.3.1	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Examine the process of political socialization and relate it to individual student attitudes toward government.	Ch. 6, 8	EOC TMA
02	Ascertain how diverse populations emerge through political socialization and understand how they organize to influence government.	Ch. 6, 9	TMA
Instructional Objective 1323.11 Explain the electoral process at each level of government.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.2.5	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Outline the expansion of voting rights over time.	Ch. 6	EOC TMA
02	List the qualifications for voting and the method to register.	Ch. 6	EOC TMA
03	Examine voting behavior.	Ch. 6	TMA
04	Summarize the electoral process from nomination through primaries to the general election.	Ch. 7 Ch. 13	EOC TMA

Unit 5	Legislative Branch	Semester 1, 4 weeks
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Instructional Objective 1323.12 Identify the three branches of federal government, their powers, and responsibilities.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.2.1	
Associated Instructional Objective:			
Explain the functions, powers, interactions, and relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments.		9-12.G.4.2.2	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Discover the basic lawmaking function of	Ch. 10	EOC

	Congress by dissecting Article 1 of the US Constitution.	Article I	TMA
02	Describe the organization of Congress and the responsibilities of its members to their constituents.	Ch. 10, 12	TMA
03	Track the process of how a bill becomes a law.	Ch. 12 Article I Sec. 7	EOC TMA
04	Identify the scope of the powers of Congress including those expressed, implied and denied by the Constitution.	Ch. 11 Constitution	EOC TMA
05	Examine the non-legislative powers of Congress.	Ch. 11	EOC TMA
06	Relate the checks and balances of the executive and judicial branches with the legislative branch.	Ch. 3	EOC TMA
07	Describe the role of both houses of Congress in revenue raising and expenditures.	Ch. 10-11	EOC TMA
08	Describe the non-legislative budgetary responsibilities of Congress, e.g., Congressional oversight of expenditures.	Ch. 11,12,16	TMA

Unit 6	Executive Branch	Semester 2, 5 weeks
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Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.13 Identify the three branches of federal government, their powers, and responsibilities.		9-12.G.4.2.1	
Associated Instructional Objectives:			
Explain the functions, powers, interactions, and relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments.		9-12.G.4.2.2	
Explain the electoral process at each level of government.		9-12.G.4.2.5	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Describe the responsibilities of the chief executive in a presidential system.	Ch. 13-14 Constitution	EOC TMA
02	List and describe the roles of the presidency.	Ch. 13	EOC TMA
03	Examine the executive powers granted by the Constitution in Article II.	Ch. 14 Constitution	EOC TMA
04	Identify the qualifications, term, compensation and order of succession for the presidency.	Ch. 13 Constitution	EOC TMA
05	Chronicle the election sequence of the president from the primaries through the Electoral College.	Ch. 13	EOC TMA
Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.14 Provide and evaluate examples of the role of leadership in the changing relationship among the branches of American government.		9-12.G.4.4.3	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment

			Correlation
01	Categorize styles of Presidential leadership considering the historical context. Examine the lasting consequences of broad vs. narrow views of Presidential authority.	Ch. 14	EOC TMA
02	Examine the delegation of power by the President to execute the duties of the office. (V.P., Cabinet, Executive Office of President)	Ch. 14-15	TMA
Instructional Objective 1323.15 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.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.2.3	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Examine the relationship between Native American tribes in Idaho, the State of Idaho and the federal government.	www.cdatribe-nsn.gov www.colby.edu www.nigc.gov/ www.doi.gov	EOC TMA
Instructional Objective 1323.16 Describe the characteristics of United States foreign policy and how it has been made and implemented over time.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.5.1.3	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Trace the development and common themes of American foreign policy over time.	Ch. 17	EOC TMA
Instructional Objective 1323.17 Identify and evaluate the role of the United States in international organizations and agreements, such as United Nations, NAFTA, and the International Red Cross.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.5.1.4	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Gauge and assess the changing international role of the U.S. in the contemporary world.	Ch. 17	TMA
02	Identify and evaluate the involvement of the United States in international organizations and agreements.	Ch. 17	EOC TMA
Instructional Objective 1323.18 Discuss the mutual impact of ideas, issues, and policies among nations, including environmental, economic, and humanitarian.		Standard Reference 9-12.G.5.1.2	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Determine the relationship between American foreign policy and global environmental issues and	Current periodicals	EOC TMA

concerns (e.g., perform a cost-benefit analysis of treaty obligations).		
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Unit 7	State and Local Government	Semester 2, 4 weeks
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Instructional Objective 1323.19 Explain the functions, powers, interactions, and relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments.	Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.2.2
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Associated Instructional Objectives:	
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Identify the ways in which citizens can participate in the political process at the local, state, and national level.	9-12.G.4.3.3
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No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Compare the general structure of state government to the state government prescribed by the Idaho Constitution, e.g., size of government, length of legislative sessions, legislative branch: Nebraska, unicameral v. Idaho, bicameral; scope: Oregon v. Idaho)	Idaho Constitution Idaho Blue Book (Idaho Sec. Of State Office) Ch. 24	EOC TMA
02	Investigate the legislative branch of Idaho by examining the structure, powers and functions of the House and Senate with emphasis on legislative districts, term of office, House & Senate differences, committee system and leadership.	Idaho Constitution Idaho Blue Book Ch. 24	EOC TMA
03	Compare the legislative and budgetary processes of the State Legislature to Congress; include initiative and referendum.	Idaho Blue Book Ch. 12, 16, 25	EOC TMA
04	Investigate the executive branch of Idaho by examining the structure, powers and functions of the Governor and the other executive officers.	Idaho Constitution Idaho Blue Book Ch. 24	EOC TMA
05	Investigate the judicial branch of Idaho by examining the structure, powers and functions of the state court system.	Idaho Constitution Idaho Blue Book Ch. 25	EOC TMA

Instructional Objective 1323.20 Explain the functions, powers, interactions, and relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments.	Standard Reference 9-12.G.4.2.2
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Associated Instructional Objectives:	
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Identify the ways in which citizens can participate in the political process at the local, state, and national level.	9-12.G.4.3.3
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No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Understand the role of local governments as agents of state government, e.g., school boards.	www.piperinfo.com/sate Ch. 24	TMA
02	Investigate the local level of cities and counties by examining the structure, powers and functions of	Ch. 24	EOC TMA

	city councils and county commissions.		
03	Investigate the executive branch of the city by examining the structure, powers and functions of the mayor or city manager and the other executive officers.	Ch. 24	EOC TMA
04	Explain how local levels of government assess and collect revenues.	County Tax Notice Ch. 25	EOC TMA

Unit 8	Judicial Branch	Semester 2, 2 weeks
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Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.21 Identify the three branches of federal government, their powers, and responsibilities.		9-12.G.4.2.1	
Associated Instructional Objective:			
Explain the functions, powers, interactions, and relationships among federal, state, local, and tribal governments.		9-12.G.4.2.2	
Identify the ways in which citizens can participate in the political process at the local, state, and national level.		9-12.G.4.3.3	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Graph the national judicial branch and explain the interrelationship between the Supreme Court, lower federal courts and the state court system including the jurisdiction of each.	Ch. 18, 25	EOC TMA
02	Define and explain judicial review through applicable case studies. (<i>Marbury v. Madison</i>)	Ch. 18 www.findlaw.com	EOC TMA
03	Explore opportunities for citizen participation in the judicial branch through applicable case studies, e.g., <i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i> , <i>Brown v. Board of Education Topeka et al.</i> , <i>Griswold v. Connecticut</i> .	Ch. 18 www.findlaw.com	TMA

Unit 9	Civil Liberties and Rights	Semester 2, 5 weeks
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Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.22 Explain the ways in which individuals become citizens and distinguish among obligations, responsibilities, and rights.		9-12.G.4.3.1	
Associated Instructional Objectives:			
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.4.1.2	
Analyze and evaluate decisions about rights of individuals in landmark cases of the United States Supreme Court, including <i>Gideon v. Wainwright</i> , <i>Miranda v. Arizona</i> .		9-12.G.4.3.4	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment

			Correlation
01	Analyze the content of all 27 Amendments.	US Constitution Ch. 19-20	TMA
02	Define civil liberties, rights, and responsibilities, recognizing the courts' attempt to balance them through time.	US Constitution Ch. 19-20	EOC TMA
03	Trace the changing interpretation of key Constitutional amendments with emphasis on Amendments.	US Constitution Ch. 19-20	TMA
Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.23 Analyze the struggles for the extension of Civil Rights.		9-12.G.4.4.1	
Associated Instructional Objectives:			
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.		9-12.G.4.1.4	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Define the current court standard for equal protection including the rational basis test, suspect classification and the fundamental rights test, with emphasis on minority rights within majority rule.	Ch. 21	EOC TMA
02	Chronicle the expansion of civil rights from the Civil War to the present.	Ch. 21	TMA
03	Examine the pros and cons of Federal programs and Acts designed to facilitate the equal protection of the law (e.g., Affirmative Action).	Ch. 21	TMA
Instructional Objective		Standard Reference	
1323.24 Explain the ways in which individuals become citizens and distinguish among obligations, responsibilities, and rights.		9-12.G.4.3.1	
Associated Instructional Objective:			
Explain the implications of dual citizenship with regard to American Indians.		9-12.G.4.3.2	
No.	Performance Objective	Resource Reference	Assessment Correlation
01	Define citizenship and outline the process to become a citizen.	Ch. 21	EOC TMA
02	Evaluate American immigration policies, past and present.	Ch. 21	TMA

**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.