Department: Social Studies
Course Title: Civics
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Unit Title	Unit Length (weeks)	Dates of Unit (Month - Month)	Essential Questions	Topics to be Covered Texts Used	Skills to be Assessed	Standard Alignment	Formative Assessments	Summative Assessments
Origins & Purpose of Government	6 weeks	August - October	1. What is a government and why is it important? 2. What is the purpose of a social contract with regard to keeping order? 3. How were the ideals of limited and representative government evident in colonial governments? 4. What were some of the ideals that influenced the writing of the Declaration of Independence? 5. What were the major strengths and weaknesses of the government under the Articles of Confederation? 6. What major competing plans of government did the Convention delegates debate and what was the result of that debate? 7. What compromises were reached specifically focusing on the slavery and government issues? 8. What role did the Bill of Rights play in the debate? 9. How did the Federalists and Anti-Federalists agree and disagree?	1. The origins and purpose of the government. 2. The purpose of a social contract to serve as a model of behavior. 3. The power of early colonial governments that led to the American Revolution. 4. The various British policies that led to the American Revolution. 5. The strive to write the Declaration of Independence and the reasons against the King to declare independence. 6. The strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation. 7. The competing plans for the development of the Constitution. 8. The various compromises reached regarding issues such as the Constitution and slavery.	INQ 9-12.5 Determine the kind of sources that will be helpful in answering compelling and supporting questions, taking into consideration multiple points of view represented in the sources, the types of sources available, and the potential uses of the sources. INQ 9-12.7 Evaluate the credibility of a source by examining how experts value the sources. CIV 9-12.4 Explain how the U. S. Constitution establishes a system of government that has powers, responsibilities, and limits that have changed over time and that are still contested. CIV 9-12.7 Apply civic virtues and democratic principles when working with others. CCR 9-10.2 Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text. CCR 9-10.6 Compare the point of view of two or more authors for how they treat the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts.	INQ 9-12.5 INQ 9-12.7 CIV 9-12.4 CIV 9-12.7 CCR 9-10.2 CCR 9-10.6	1. Guided note taking 2. Worksheets featuring graphic organizers and Venn Diagrams 3. Debates and compromises 4. Reading and analyzing primary sources and responding to questions 5. Comparing and contrasting the Articles of Confederation and the US Constitution 6. Comparing and contrasting the Virginia and New Jersey Plans 7. Comparing and contrasting the Federalist and Anti-Federalist points of view. 7. Identifying the compromise on slavery and using primary sources to support their ideas 8. Reading of the textbook and responding to questions from the text	End-of-unit test
The United States Constitution and Federalism	6 weeks	October - November	1. What are the five basic principles of the U.S. Constitution and how does it ensure people's authority over the government? 2. In what way does the Constitution protect the rights of the states? 3. What are the methods for amending the Constitution? 4. What is the purpose of the Bill of Rights? 5. How does the Constitution give the three branches of government flexibility in using their powers? 6. How have political parties changed the way government operates? 7. Which powers are granted to the federal government? The state government? Which powers are denied to each?	1.How the government works to balance the rights of the individual with the overall well-being of society. 2.How power and responsibility are distributed, shared, and limited in a government to meet the need of its purpose. 3.How different systems and/or levels of government at meeting the needs of the people. 4.The role of the political parties and factions in the U. S. political system.	CIV 9-12.1 Distinguish the powers and responsibilities of local, state, tribal, national and international civic and political institutions. CIV 9-12.3 Analyze the impact of constitutions, laws, treaties, and international agreements on the maintenance of national and international order. CIV 9-12.4 Explain how the U. S. Constitution establishes a system of government that has powers, responsibilities, and limits that have changed over time and that are still contested. CIV 9-12.14 Analyze historical, contemporary, and emerging means of changing societies, promoting the common good, and protecting rights.	CIV 9-12.1 CIV 9-12.3 CIV 9-12.4 CIV 9-12.14	1. Guided note taking 2. Worksheets featuring graphic organizers and Venn Diagrams 3. Debates and compromises 4. Reading and analyzing primary sources and responding to questions 5.Reading of the textbook and responding to questions from the text	End-of-unit test
The Three Branches of Government	6 weeks	November - January	1. What are the roles of Congress in relation to domestic and foreign policy? 2. How is Congress structured to represent the people? 3. What are the various functions of the executive branch and how do they relate to foreign policy? To domestic policy? 4. What factors influence foreign policy? 5. What is the general role of the courts within the United States? 6. What are the basic types of laws in the United States? 7. How does the structure of the United States legal system influence social behavior and domestic policy?	1. The roles and powers of Congress 2. The methods of passing a bill into law 3. The various roles of the President in relation to foreign and domestic policy 4. The legal system in the United States and its relation to current events	CIV 9-12.1 Distinguish the powers and responsibilities of local, state, tribal, national and international civic and political institutions. CIV 9-12.3 Analyze the impact of constitutions, laws, treaties, and international agreements on the maintenance of national and international order. CIV 9-12.4 Explain how the U. S. Constitution establishes a system of government that has powers, responsibilities, and limits that have changed over time and that are still contested. CIV 9-12.14 Analyze historical, contemporary, and emerging means of changing societies, promoting the common good, and protecting rights.	CIV 9-12.1 CIV 9-12.3 CIV 9-12.4 CIV 9-12.14	1. Guided note taking 2. Worksheets featuring graphic organizers and Venn Diagrams 3. Debates and compromises 4. Reading and analyzing primary sources and responding to questions 5.Reading of the textbook and responding to questions from the text 6. Usage of various video clips and responses to those clips	End-of-unit test