Iowa Social Studies

Grades 9-12: Civics/Government

Foundations of American Government

Civics/Government: Constitutional Principles and Civic Virtues

1 Analyze the origins of government with attention to the purpose(s) of government, and alternative models from other nations and groups. SS.9-12.GOV.1

2 Analyze the Enlightenment principles that informed the structure and principles of the United States government and its institutions. SS.9-12.GOV.2

3 Analyze important founding and historical documents to the United States and the State of Iowa. SS.9-12.GOV.3

4 Analyze the underlying principles established by the United States Constitution. SS.9-12.GOV.4

5 analyze the role of the government in maintaining order. SS.9-12.GOV.5

Branches of Government: Legislative, Executive, and Judicial

Role and Systems of Government

6 Analyze the function, duties, and authority of the legislative branch, including the process of lawmaking and the power of the purse. SS.9-12.GOV.6

7 Analyze the function, duties, and authority of the executive branch, including the scope of presidential powers, executive orders, executive agreements, and the president's role in foreign and domestic policy. SS.9-12.GOV.7

8 Analyze the function, duties, and authority of the judicial branch, including the power of judicial review and interpretation of laws. SS.9-12.GOV.8

9 Assess how the United States federal system divides powers between national and state governments. SS.9-12.GOV.9

10 Analyze the basic requirements and responsibilities to serve in public office. SS.9-12.GOV.10

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Political Participation, Key Institutions, and Elections

Processes, Rules and Laws

11 Analyze the historical, contemporary, and emerging patterns of political action and activism. SS.9-12.GOV.11

12 Critique the influence of intermediary institutions on government and policy. SS.9-12.GOV.12

13 Analyze the electoral process and election systems in the United States, specifically Iowa election law including registration requirements, paper ballots, and absentee voting. SS.9-12.GOV.13

Citizenship and Civic Responsibilities

Citizenship and Civic Rights and Responsibilities

14 Analyze the role of citizens in the U.S. political system, with attention to the definition of who is a citizen, the expansion of that definition over time. SS.9-12.GOV.14

15 Assess the contributions of exemplary Iowans and Americans who have played a role in promoting civic virtues and democratic principles. SS.9-12.GOV.15

16 Analyze the concept of civic virtue and its importance to a well-functioning democracy. SS.9-12.GOV.16

17 Analyze the rights, liberties, duties, and responsibilities of citizens of the United States and the state of Iowa. SS.9-12.GOV.17

State and Local Government of Iowa

Role and Systems of Government

18 Identify the function, duties, and authority of the government of the state of Iowa. SS.9-12.GOV.18

19 Identify the function, duties, and authority of the sovereign Meskwaki Nation tribal government. SS.9-12.GOV.19

20 Identify the functions and organizational structures of Iowa's local governments. SS.9-12.GOV.20