

Cocalico School District
Year-at-a-Glance - Curriculum Overview

Department: High School Social Studies Course: Advanced Placement US Government and Politics
Grade Level: 11-12

Big Ideas

- A balance between governmental power and individual rights has been a hallmark of American political development.
- Federalism reflects the dynamic distribution of power between national and state governments.
- The republican ideal in the U.S. is manifested in the structure and operation of the legislative branch.
- Provisions of the U.S. Constitution’s Bill of Rights are continually being interpreted to balance the power of government and the civil liberties of individuals.
- Citizen beliefs about government are shaped by the intersection of demographics, political culture, and dynamic social change.
- Political parties, interest groups, and social movements provide opportunities for participation and influence how people relate to government and policymakers.

Units of Study	% of Course Time	Textbooks & Supplemental Materials	Assessments	Standards Addressed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy 	18%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Government: Roots and Reform • AP Central/College Board website • Various primary resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes • Unit Exams • AP Central Progress Checks • Primary Source analyses 	<p><i>Note: These standards correspond with the Big Ideas and Disciplinary Practices in AP Central</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOR 1 and 4 • CON 1, 2, 4 & 5 • PMI 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 2: Interactions Among Branches of Government 	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Government: Roots and Reform • AP Central/College Board website • Various primary resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes • Unit Exams • AP Central Progress Checks • Primary Source analyses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CON 1-4 • PMI 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights 	16%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Government: Roots and Reform • AP Central/College Board website • Various primary resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes • Unit Exams • AP Central Progress Checks • Primary Source analyses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOR 1, 2, 4 & 5 • PRD 4 • PMI 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 4: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs 	13%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Government: Roots and Reform • AP Central/College Board website • Various primary resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes • Unit Exams • AP Central Progress Checks • Primary Source analyses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPA 1, 3 & 4 • PMI 1, 3 & 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unit 5: Political Participation 	23%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Government: Roots and Reform • AP Central/College Board website • Various primary resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes • Unit Exams • AP Central Progress Checks • Primary Source analyses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPA 1 & 3 • PMI 1, 3 & 4 • PRD 2 & 5

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Eagle P.A.C.T. Course Connections:

To foster lifelong civic knowledge and participation, as well as prepare students to take the AP exam, *AP U.S. Government and Politics* encourages students to critically think and collaborate to analyze the basic foundations of economics, governmental principles, and citizenship through various methods, including communication via writing, speaking, and other media productions.