

# American Government Curriculum Alignment

## Chapter Alignment and Focus

*\*Political concepts discussed, do not fall into Magruder's American Government Textbook into that particular unit, still covered in class*

### **UNIT 1: PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNMENT / CONGRESS**

#### 1.1 Government and the State

Branches of Government, Definition of State and Government, Political Ideas and Purpose of Government, 4 theories of Government, Preamble

#### 1.2 Forms of Government

Participation, Types of Government, Unitary v Federal Government, Executive and Legislative Branches

#### 1.3 Basic Concepts of Democracy

Foundations of Democracy, Duties/Responsibilities of Citizens, Free Enterprise System

#### 10.1 The National Legislature

Bicameral Congress, Terms and Sessions

#### 10.2 The House of Representatives

Size and Terms, Reapportionment, Congressional Elections, Qualifications

#### 10.3 The Senate

Size, Election, and Terms, Qualifications,

*\*Philosophies of Government, Major Philosophers*

### **UNIT 2: ORIGINS OF AMERICAN GOVERNMENT**

#### 2.1 Our Political Beginnings

Basic Concepts, Magna Carta, English Bill of Rights

#### 2.2 The Coming of Independence

British Colonial Policies, First Continental Congress, The Second Continental Congress, The First State Constitutions

#### 2.3 The Critical Period

Problems with the Articles of Confederation, Constitutional Convention

#### 2.3 Plans of Government

Virginia Plan, New Jersey Plan, Great Compromise, 3/5<sup>th</sup> Compromise,

*\*Mayflower Compact, John Locke's Second Treaty, Iroquois Confederation, Montesquieu's Spirit of Law, Declaration of Independence, Paine's Common Sense, Northwest Ordinance, Federalist Papers*

### **UNIT 3: THE CONSTITUTION**

#### 3.1 Basic Principles

Outline of the Constitution (Preamble, Articles, Amendment), Popular Sovereignty, Limited Government, Separation of Powers, Checks and Balances, Judicial Review, Federalism

#### 3.2 Formal Amendment

The Formal Amendment Process, 27 Amendments

### 3.3 Change by Other Means

Legislative, Executive and Judicial Influence, Party Practice, Custom

*\*Marbury v Madison, Articles of Confederation v. Constitution, Unratified Amendments*

## **UNIT 4: FEDERALISM**

### 4.1 Federalism: Powers Divided

Framers and Federalism, Powers of the Federal Government, Delegated Powers, Expressed Powers, Implied Powers, Inherent Powers, Exclusive and Concurrent Powers, Supreme Court

### 4.2 The National Government and the 50 States

The Environment and States' Rights, Interstate Relations, Republican Form of Government, Admitting New States, Grants

### 4.3 Interstate Relations

Compacts, Full Faith and Credit, Extradition, Privileges and Immunities

*\*Developing goals*

## **UNIT 5: CAMPAIGNS/PROCESS**

### 7.2 Elections

Electoral College, Primary, Caucus, Gerrymandering

### 8.1 Formation of Public Opinion

Definition of Public Opinion, Formation of Public Opinion

### 8.2 Measuring Public Opinion

Measuring Public Opinion, Public Opinion Polls, the Polling Process, Evaluating Polls

### 8.3 Mass Media

Political Advertisements

## **UNIT 6: CORE VALUES / HISTORICAL COURT CASES**

Core Values and Constitutional Principles: Life, Liberty, Pursuit of Happiness, Common Good, Justice, Equality, Diversity, Truth, Popular Sovereignty, Patriotism, Rule of Law, Separation of Powers, Representative Government, Checks and Balances, Individual Rights, Freedom of Religion, Federalism, Civilian Control of the Military

Court Cases: Gibbons v Ogden, Marbury v Madison, McCulloch v Maryland, US v Nixon, US v Obrien, Tinker v DesMoines, Texas v Johnson, Scheneck v US, Mapp v Ohio, Gideon v Wainwright

## **UNIT 7: OTHER**

Civil Rights/Equal Justice, Local Law, Michigan Constitution, 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, Federal v State Court