

Course Title

Government, United States

Description of Target Group

This course is for 12th grade students.

Purpose

The purpose of GOVERNMENT, UNITED STATES is to acquaint the student with the structure of city, county, state, and federal government. Additionally, this course will provide students with an introduction to the legal rights of individuals as guaranteed by the constitution. This is a one-semester course. It is a required course.

Standards of Expected Student Achievement

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to successfully demonstrate the following skills:

1. Understand the concept of a "checks and balances" approach to government.
2. Understand the concept of a "living" constitution.
3. Be familiar with various aspects of local and state government.
4. Understand personal political responsibilities.
5. Discuss the meaning of charts, graphs, and cartoons relating to government.
6. Develop critical thinking skills by:
 - a. Understanding cause and effect
 - b. Differentiating between fact and opinion
 - c. Identifying relevant information
 - d. Categorizing
 - e. Drawing conclusions

Instructional Materials

Text and Supplementary Materials

Refer to: Secondary Adopted Texts and Approved Supplementary Books Used in the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District

Audio-visual materials: filmstrips, films, videocassettes, records, audiotapes