

Course Title:	Civics	
Michigan High School Social Studies Standards - Civics		
Unit 1	Governments, Citizenship, and the Responsibilities of Citizens	
Essential Questions:	1. Why are governments created? 2. What are the basic forms of government? 3. What does it mean to be a citizen? 4. How does a person become a citizen?	
Standards	Assignment	Description
C1-1.1.1, C1-1.2.1 C1-1.2.2, C1-1.2.3 C1-1.2.4, C3-3.4.1 C5-5.1.1, C5-5.2.1 C5-5.4.1, C5-5.4.2 C5-5.5.1	1.1	Why Do People Create Governments?
	1.2	Understanding Citizenship
	1.3	Becoming a Citizen
	1.4	Different Types of Governments
Unit 2	Foundations of American Political Philosophies	
Essential Questions:	1. What influence did English culture have on the later American political system? 2. How did the Enlightenment affect the American political system? 3. What factors led to the American Revolution? 4. What challenges did the American political system face after independence?	
Standards	Assignment	Description
C1-1.1.1 C2-2.1.1 C2-2.1.3	2.1	The Influence of English Culture on American Political Traditions
	2.2	The Enlightenment, the Great Awakening, and American Political Philosophies
	2.3	Becoming American: The Colonies Rebel against Great Britain
	2.4	Independence and its Challenges
Unit 3	The U.S. Constitution	
Essential Questions:	1. What were the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation? 2. What problems did the American government face in the period from 1776 to 1789? 3. What challenges did delegates face in the Constitutional Convention? 4. What compromises were made in getting the Constitution ratified?	
Standards	Assignment	Description
C2-2.1.2, C2-2.2.1	3.1	The First American Political System

C2-2.2.2, C2-2.2.3 C2-2.2.4, C2-2.2.5	3.2	Problems of the New American Government
	3.3	The Constitutional Convention
	3.4	Ratifying the U.S. Constitution
<b>Unit 4</b>	<b>The Bill of Rights and Amending the Constitution</b>	
<b>Essential Questions:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why was the Bill of Rights created?</li> <li>2. How can the Constitution be amended?</li> <li>3. What amendments have been made to protect civil rights?</li> <li>4. What political changes have occurred in the American system as a result of various amendments?</li> </ol>	
<b>Standards</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Description</b>
C2-2.1.3, C2-2.1.4 C3-3.4.2, C3-3.4.3 C5-5.2.2, C5-5.3.1 C5-5.3.2, C5-5.3.3 C5-5.3.4, C5-5.3.5 C5-5.3.6, C5-5.3.7	4.1	Creating a Bill of Rights
	4.2	The Process of Amending the U.S. Constitution
	4.3	Amendments Related to Civil Rights
	4.4	Amendments Addressing Political Changes
<b>Unit 5</b>	<b>Branches of Federal Government</b>	
<b>Essential Questions:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the three branches of the federal government?</li> <li>2. What powers are exercised by the various branches of the federal government?</li> <li>3. What is meant by the term “checks and balances,” and how do these work?</li> <li>4. What are the main areas of emphasis in American foreign policy?</li> </ol>	
<b>Standards</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Description</b>
C3-3.1.1, C3-3.1.2 C3-3.1.3, C3-3.1.4 C3-3.1.5, C3-3.2.1 C3-3.2.2, C3-3.2.3 C3-3.2.4, C3-3.4.4 C4-4.1.2, C4-4.2.1 C4-4.2.2, C4-4.2.3 C4-4.2.4	5.1	The Three Branches of the Federal Government
	5.2	Powers of the Branches of Government
	5.3	Checks and Balances on Branches of Government
	5.4	American Foreign Policy
<b>Unit 6</b>	<b>The Electoral Process</b>	
<b>Essential Questions:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why did political parties emerge in the United States?</li> <li>2. How have political parties changed over time?</li> <li>3. What is the Electoral College, and what role does it play in the American political system?</li> <li>4. How do present-day elections differ from elections in the past?</li> </ol>	
<b>Standards</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Description</b>

C3-3.5.1, C3-3.5.2 C3-3.5.3, C3-3.5.4 C6-6.2.1, C6-6.2.2	6.1	The Emergence of Political Parties in the United States
	6.2	Evolution of American Political Parties
	6.3	The Electoral College and American Politics
	6.4	Modern American Elections
<b>Unit 7</b>	<b>State and Local Governments</b>	
<b>Essential Questions:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What functions are typically performed by municipal and township governments?</li> <li>2. How are public school systems structured and funded?</li> <li>3. What functions do county governments typically perform?</li> <li>4. What functions do state governments typically perform?</li> </ol>	
<b>Standards</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Description</b>
C3-3.3.1, C3-3.2.2 C3-3.3.3, C3-3.3.4 C3-3.3.5	7.1	Municipal and Township Governments
	7.2	Public School Systems
	7.3	The Roles of County Governments
	7.4	State Governance
<b>Unit 8</b>	<b>Citizens and Public Policy</b>	
<b>Essential Questions:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are political action groups, and how do they function?</li> <li>2. Why do citizens protest or engage in acts of civil disobedience?</li> <li>3. What is a referendum, and how does this type of citizen action work?</li> <li>4. What roles are the Internet and social media beginning to play in the American political system?</li> </ol>	
<b>Standards</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Description</b>
C3-3.5.1, C3-3.5.5 C3-3.5.6, C5-5.4.1 C5-5.4.2, C6-6.2.3 C6-6.2.4, C6-6.2.5 C6-6.2.6, C6-6.2.7	8.1	The Role of Political Action Groups in a Democratic System
	8.2	Protest and Civil Disobedience
	8.3	The Use of the Initiative and the Referendum
	8.4	The Internet, Social Media, and Political Action