

QCA Curriculum Map 2024-2025

Subject: United States and Massachusetts Government and Civic Life	8
Materials and Resources: American History (Savvas Learning Company: copyright 2016), Constitution of the United States of America, Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, <i>Junior Scholastic</i> , videos, artifacts, bulletin boards, related apps	
Special Activities /Projects: Special Activities /Projects: Assessments: Formative (brainstorming, debates, essays, Cooperative Group work, practice quizzes and tests, homework)	
Assessments: Formative (brainstorming, debates, essays, Cooperative Group work, practice quizzes and tests, homework) Summative (essay, multiple choice, concept completion, home and classroom created projects, presentations)	

Term	Topic	Concepts	MA Standards
ONE	Topic 1. The philosophical foundations of the United States political system	1. Factors that influenced the formation of the United States government: -government in ancient Athens and Rome -Magna Carta and English Bill of Rights -Enlightenment philosophers -governments of Native Peoples -Colonial experiences	SS 8.T1
	Topic 2. The development of	1. Declaration of Independence -Preamble	SS 8.T2

TWO	the United States government	-natural rights -grievances 2. Articles of Confederation -strengths -weaknesses 3. Constitutional Convention -leaders -Great Compromise -$\frac{3}{4}$ Compromise -Slave Trade Compromise 4. Ratification -process -Federalist and Anti-Federalist debates 5. Constitution -Goals and principles -Preamble -Articles -Amendments	
	Topic 3. The institutions of the United States government	1. Elections for Congress, the presidency, and nomination and confirmation process for Supreme Court Justices 2. Powers and limits of the branches of government -Legislative -Executive -Judicial	SS 8.T3
	Topic 4. Rights and responsibilities of citizens	1. American citizenship 2. Naturalization process 3. Democratic values 4. Responsible citizenship	SS 8.T4
	Topic 5.	1. Changes to, and evolution of, the Constitution	SS 8.T5

THREE	The Constitution, Amendments, and Supreme Court decisions Topic 6. The structure of Massachusetts state and local government	-elastic clause -amendments -Supreme Court cases 1. Compare and contrast the United States Constitution and Massachusetts Constitution 2. Compare and contrast the functions of state and local governments 3. Powers and limits of state governments as outlined in the Tenth Amendment to the United States Constitution 4. Protections provided by Massachusetts Constitution beyond those found in United States Constitution 5. Responsibilities of government at the federal, state, and local level 6. Components of Massachusetts local government -mayors -city and town councils -town managers -select boards -school committees -town meeting -county courts and sheriffs' departments	SS 8.T6
	Topic 7. Freedom of the press and news/media literacy	1. First Amendment of the United States Constitution 2. Article 16 of the Massachusetts Constitution 3. Purpose of: -news articles -editorials -editorial cartoons -“op-ed” commentaries	SS 8.T7

		4. Digital news and social media in a democracy 5. Evaluate and analyze print and online media -credibility -competing information -opinion -point of view	
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