



Center for
Civic Education

AP Government ⇌

We the People Crosswalk

(Level 3, 5th edition)

created June 2026

AP Gov Topic	Learning Objective	We The People Lesson								
1.1 Ideals of Democracy	LO 1.1.A Explain how democratic ideals are reflected in the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Gettysburg Address.	Unit 1, Lesson 1: How do we study the Constitution?	Unit 1, Lesson 4: Why did American colonists want to free themselves from Great Britain?	Unit 2, Lesson 7: What problems were the delegates trying to solve at the Constitutional Convention?						
1.2 Types of Democracy	LO 1.2.A Explain how models of representative democracy are visible in major institutions, policies, events, or debates in the U.S.	Unit 2, Lesson 11: Were the Anti-Federalists justified in opposing the new Constitution?	Unit 2, Lesson 12: How did ratification succeed?	Unit 3, Lesson 13: What is the role of Congress in the American constitutional system?						
1.3 Government Power and Individual Rights	LO 1.3.A Explain Federalist and AntiFederalist views on central government and democracy.	Unit 2, Lesson 12: How did ratification succeed?	Unit 3, Lesson 13: What is the role of Congress in the American constitutional system?							
1.4 Challenges of the Articles of Confederation	LO 1.4.A Explain the relationship between key provisions of the Articles of Confederation, and the debate over granting the federal government greater power formerly reserved to the states.	Unit 2, Lesson 6: What did America's first government look like?								



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1.5 Ratification of the U.S. Constitution	LO 1.5.A Explain the impact of political negotiation and compromise at the Constitutional Convention on the development of the constitutional system.	Unit 2, Lesson 7: What problems were the delegates trying to solve at the Constitutional Convention?	Unit 2, Lesson 8: How did compromises shape the Constitution?	Unit 2, Lesson 9: How did the Constitutional Convention shape the powers of the executive and judicial branches?	Unit 2, Lesson 10: Did the Constitutional Convention create a complete government?	Unit 2, Lesson 11: Were the Anti-Federalists justified in opposing the new Constitution?	Unit 2, Lesson 12: How did ratification succeed?			
1.6 Principles of American Government	LO 1.6.A Explain the constitutional principles of separation of powers and checks and balances.	Unit 1, Lesson 1: How do we study the Constitution?	Unit 2, Lesson 8: How did compromises shape the Constitution?	Unit 2, Lesson 9: How did the Constitutional Convention shape the powers of the executive and judicial branches?	Unit 3, Lesson 13: What is the role of Congress in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 14: What is the role of the President in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 15: What functions do administrative agencies serve within the constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 16: What is the role of the Judiciary in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 17: How does the Constitution balance power among the branches of government?	
1.6 Principles of American Government	LO 1.6.B Explain the effects of separation of powers and checks and balances for the U.S. political system.	Unit 3, Lesson 13: What is the role of Congress in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 14: What is the role of the President in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 15: What functions do administrative agencies serve within the constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 16: What is the role of the Judiciary in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 17: How does the Constitution balance power among the branches of government?				
1.7 Relationship Between the States and National Government	LO 1.7.A Explain how the constitutional allocation of power between the national and state governments affects society.	Unit 2, Lesson 10: Did the Constitutional Convention create a complete government?	Unit 4, Lesson 19: What kind of union did the Constitution create?	Unit 4, Lesson 20: Why do the states matter?	Unit 4, Lesson 21: How much power do state governments have under the Constitution?					



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1.8 Constitutional Interpretations of Federalism	LO 1.8.A Explain how the balance of power between national and state governments has changed over time based on interpretations of the Supreme Court of the United States.	Unit 4, Lesson 21: How much power do state governments have under the Constitution?	Unit 4, Lesson 22: How did the Reconstruction amendments change American federalism?	Unit 4, Lesson 23: How does the Constitution recognize the sovereignty of Indigenous nations?					
1.9 Federalism in Action	LO 1.9.A Explain how the distribution of powers between national and state governments impacts policymaking.	Unit 4, Lesson 20: Why do the states matter?	Unit 4, Lesson 21: How much power do state governments have under the Constitution?						
2.1 Congress: The Senate and the House of Representatives	LO 2.1.A Describe the different structures, powers, and functions of each house of Congress.	Unit 3, Lesson 13: What is the role of Congress in the American constitutional system?							
2.2 Structures, Powers, and Functions of Congress	LO 2.2.A Explain how the structure, powers, and functions of both houses of Congress affect the policymaking process.	Unit 3, Lesson 13: What is the role of Congress in the American constitutional system?							
2.3 Congressional Behavior	LO 2.3.A Explain how congressional behavior is influenced by election processes, partisanship, and divided government.	Unit 3, Lesson 13: What is the role of Congress in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 17: How does the Constitution balance power among the branches of government?	Unit 5, Lesson 27: How have the people's right to vote and to have representation evolved?					



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2.4 Roles and Powers of the President	LO 2.4.A Explain how the president can implement a policy agenda.	Unit 3, Lesson 14: What is the role of the President in the American constitutional system?								
2.5 Checks on the Presidency	LO 2.5.A Explain how the president's agenda can create tension and frequent confrontations with Congress.	Unit 3, Lesson 14: What is the role of the President in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 15: What functions do administrative agencies serve within the constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 17: How does the Constitution balance power among the branches of government?						
2.6 Expansion of Presidential Power	LO 2.6.A Explain how presidents have interpreted and justified their use of formal and informal powers.	Unit 3, Lesson 14: What is the role of the President in the American constitutional system?								
2.7 Presidential Communication	LO 2.7.A Explain how communication technology has changed the president's relationship with the national constituency and the other branches.	Unit 3, Lesson 14: What is the role of the President in the American constitutional system?								
2.8 The Judicial Branch	LO 2.8.A Explain the principle of judicial review and how it checks the power of other branches	Unit 3, Lesson 16: What is the role of the Judiciary in the American constitutional system?								



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2.9 The Role of the Judicial Branch	LO 2.9.A Explain the role of legal precedent in judicial decision making	Unit 3, Lesson 16: What is the role of the Judiciary in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 18: In what ways has the Constitution been interpreted or amended to shape American institutions?						
2.10 The Court in Action	LO 2.10.A Explain how life tenure can lead to debate about the Supreme Court's power	Unit 3, Lesson 16: What is the role of the Judiciary in the American constitutional system?							
2.11 Checks on the Judicial Branch	LO 2.11.A Explain how the exercise of judicial review can lead to debate about the Supreme Court's power.	Unit 3, Lesson 16: What is the role of the Judiciary in the American constitutional system?							
2.11 Checks on the Judicial Branch	LO 2.11.B Explain how other branches in the government can limit the Supreme Court's power	Unit 3, Lesson 17: How does the Constitution balance power among the branches of government?							
2.12 The Bureaucracy	LO 2.12.A Explain how the bureaucracy carries out the responsibilities of the federal government.	Unit 3, Lesson 15: What functions do administrative agencies serve within the constitutional system?							



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2.13 Discretionary and Rulemaking Authority	LO 2.13.A Explain how the federal bureaucracy uses delegated discretionary authority for rulemaking and implementation.	Unit 3, Lesson 15: What functions do administrative agencies serve within the constitutional system?							
2.14 Holding the Bureaucracy Accountable	LO 2.14.A Explain how Congress uses its oversight power in its relationship with the executive branch.	Unit 3, Lesson 15: What functions do administrative agencies serve within the constitutional system?							
2.15 Policy and the Branches of Government	LO 2.15.A Explain the extent to which governmental branches can hold the bureaucracy accountable given the competing interests of Congress, the president, and the federal courts	Unit 3, Lesson 15: What functions do administrative agencies serve within the constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 17: How does the Constitution balance power among the branches of government?						
2.15 Policy and the Branches of Government	LO 2.15.B Explain how the distribution of powers among the three branches of government impacts policymaking.	Unit 3, Lesson 13: What is the role of Congress in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 14: What is the role of the President in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 15: What functions do administrative agencies serve within the constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 16: What is the role of the Judiciary in the American constitutional system?	Unit 3, Lesson 17: How does the Constitution balance power among the branches of government?			



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3.1 The Bill of Rights	LO 3.1.A Explain how the U.S. Constitution protects individual liberties and rights.	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?	Unit 5, Lesson 25: How does the Bill of Rights protect people from illegal search, seizure, arrest, and interrogation?	Unit 5, Lesson 26: How does the Bill of Rights protect rights to fair trial and just punishment?					
3.1 The Bill of Rights	LO 3.1.B Describe the rights protected in the Bill of Rights.	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?	Unit 5, Lesson 25: How does the Bill of Rights protect people from illegal search, seizure, arrest, and interrogation?	Unit 5, Lesson 26: How does the Bill of Rights protect rights to fair trial and just punishment?					
3.2 First Amendment: Freedom of Religion	LO 3.2.A Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the First Amendment reflects a commitment to religious liberty.	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?							
3.3 First Amendment: Freedom of Speech	LO 3.3.A Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the First Amendment reflects a commitment to free speech.	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?							



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3.4 First Amendment: Freedom of the Press	LO 3.4.A Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the First Amendment reflects a commitment to individual liberty.	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?	Unit 6, Lesson 36: What does returning to fundamental principles mean?						
3.5 Second Amendment: Right to Bear Arms	LO 3.5.A Explain the extent to which the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Second Amendment reflects a commitment to individual liberty.	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?							
3.6 Amendments: Balancing Individual Freedom with Public Order and Safety	LO 3.6.A Explain how the Supreme Court has attempted to balance claims of individual freedom with laws and enforcement procedures that promote public order and safety.	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?	Unit 6, Lesson 36: What does returning to fundamental principles mean?						
3.7 Selective Incorporation	LO 3.7.A Explain the implications of the doctrine of selective incorporation.	Unit 6, Lesson 35: How do compromises made at the Constitutional Convention impact the United States today?							



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3.8 Amendments: Due Process and the Rights of the Accused	LO 3.8.A Explain the extent to which the government is limited by procedural due process from infringing upon individual rights.	Unit 5, Lesson 25: How does the Bill of Rights protect people from illegal search, seizure, arrest, and interrogation?							
3.9 Amendments: Due Process and the Right to Privacy	LO 3.9.A Explain the extent to which the government is limited by substantive due process from infringing upon individual rights.	Unit 5, Lesson 25: How does the Bill of Rights protect people from illegal search, seizure, arrest, and interrogation?							
3.10 Social Movements and Equal Protection	LO 3.10.A Explain how constitutional provisions have supported and motivated social movements.	Unit 4, Lesson 22: How did the Reconstruction amendments change American federalism?	Unit 4, Lesson 23: How does the Constitution recognize the sovereignty of Indigenous nations?	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?	Unit 5, Lesson 27: How have the people's right to vote and to have representation evolved?	Unit 5, Lesson 28: How do civic organizations give the people a voice in government?	Unit 6, Lesson 35: How do compromises made at the Constitutional Convention impact the United States today?		
3.11 Government Responses to Social Movements	LO 3.11.A Explain how the government has responded to social movements.	Unit 4, Lesson 22: How did the Reconstruction amendments change American federalism?	Unit 4, Lesson 23: How does the Constitution recognize the sovereignty of Indigenous nations?	Unit 5, Lesson 24: What is the Bill of Rights?	Unit 5, Lesson 27: How have the people's right to vote and to have representation evolved?	Unit 6, Lesson 35: How do compromises made at the Constitutional Convention impact the United States today?			



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3.12 Balancing Minority and Majority Rights	LO 3.12.A Explain how the Court has at times allowed the restriction of the civil rights of minority groups and at other times has protected those rights	Unit 4, Lesson 21: How much power do state governments have under the Constitution?	Unit 4, Lesson 22: How did the Reconstruction amendments change American federalism?	Unit 6, Lesson 36: What does returning to fundamental principles mean?						
4.1 American Attitudes About Government and Politics	LO 4.1.A Explain the relationship between core values of U.S. citizens and attitudes about the role of government.	Unit 1, Lesson 1: How do we study the Constitution?	Unit 1, Lesson 2: What major ideas influenced the American Perspective about civic life and government?	Unit 5, Lesson 29: How does the Constitution reflect the will of the people?	Unit 6, Lesson 35: How do compromises made at the Constitutional Convention impact the United States today?	Unit 6, Lesson 36: What does returning to fundamental principles mean?				
4.2 Political Socialization	LO 4.2.A Explain how cultural factors influence political socialization.	Unit 5, Lesson 28: How do civic organizations give the people a voice in government?	Unit 6, Lesson 31: What does civic engagement look like in America's constitutional democracy?	Unit 6, Lesson 32: What challenges do media pose for civic engagement?	Unit 6, Lesson 36: What does returning to fundamental principles mean?					
4.7 Ideologies of Political Parties	LO 4.7.A Explain how ideologies of the two major parties shape policy debates.	Unit 5, Lesson 27: How have the people's right to vote and to have representation evolved?	Unit 5, Lesson 28: How do civic organizations give the people a voice in government?							



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4.8 Ideology and Policymaking	LO 4.8.A Explain how U.S. political culture (e.g., democratic ideals, principles, and core values) influences the formation, goals, and implementation of public policy over time.	Unit 1, Lesson 1: How do we study the Constitution?	Unit 1, Lesson 2: What major ideas influenced the American Perspective about civic life and government?	Unit 3, Lesson 17: How does the Constitution balance power among the branches of government?	Unit 3, Lesson 18: In what ways has the Constitution been interpreted or amended to shape American institutions?	Unit 6, Lesson 35: How do compromises made at the Constitutional Convention impact the United States today?	Unit 6, Lesson 36: What does returning to fundamental principles mean?		
4.10 Ideology and Social Policy	LO 4.10.B Explain how different ideologies affect policy on social issues.	Unit 5, Lesson 28: How do civic organizations give the people a voice in government?	Unit 5, Lesson 29: How does the Constitution reflect the will of the people?	Unit 6, Lesson 31: What does civic engagement look like in America's constitutional democracy?	Unit 6, Lesson 36: What does returning to fundamental principles mean?				
5.1 Voting Rights and Models of Voting Behavior	LO 5.1.A Describe the voting rights protections in the Constitution and in legislation.	Unit 5, Lesson 27: How have the people's right to vote and to have representation evolved?							
5.2 Voter Turnout	LO 5.2.A Explain the roles that individual choice and state laws play in voter turnout in elections.	Unit 5, Lesson 27: How have the people's right to vote and to have representation evolved?							
5.3 Political Parties	LO 5.3.A Describe linkage institutions.	Unit 5, Lesson 28: How do civic organizations give the people a voice in government?							



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5.6 Interest Groups Influencing Policymaking	LO 5.6.A Explain the benefits and potential problems of interest group influence on elections and policymaking.	Unit 5, Lesson 28: How do civic organizations give the people a voice in government?							
5.8 Electing a President	LO 5.8.B Explain how the Electoral College affects U. S. presidential elections.	Unit 2, Lesson 9: How did the Constitutional Convention shape the powers of the executive and judicial branches?	Unit 6, Lesson 35: How do compromises made at the Constitutional Convention impact the United States today?						
5.12 The Media	LO 5.12.A Explain the media's role as a linkage institution.	Unit 5, Lesson 28: How do civic organizations give the people a voice in government?	Unit 6, Lesson 32: What challenges do media pose for civic engagement?						
5.13 Changing Media	LO 5.13.A Explain how increasingly diverse choices of media and communication outlets influence political institutions and behavior.	Unit 5, Lesson 28: How do civic organizations give the people a voice in government?	Unit 6, Lesson 32: What challenges do media pose for civic engagement?						