




# American Government



## Announcements

## How to Take This Course

Complete all the quizzes and the assignment in each unit. Once the previous unit's assignment is graded, and all the quizzes are complete, you will have access to the unit test. We recommend you complete the unit's assignment before you attempt the unit test. Allow 2-3 days for an assignment to be graded. Read the full course instructions to understand [how this course works](#) and is graded.

-  [How This Course Works](#)
-  [Instructions for the Course](#)
-  [Ask The Teacher](#)

Meet your teacher for this course and ask a question.

## Unit 1. Foundations of American Government

In this Unit students will learn:

- A knowledge base that will enable them to fully understand what government is and how it works.
- About several types of governments that are found throughout the world including democracy, monarchy and totalitarian governments.
- About the various documents that influenced the United States in forming and framing a government based on basic civil liberties and a written constitution.
- About the Articles of Confederation.
- The meaning of the Preamble and the Bill of Rights.

### 1.1 Introduction to Government

 1.1 Quiz 








### 1.2 Origins of American Government

 1.2 Quiz 

### 1.3 The Articles of Confederation

 1.3 Quiz 










### 1.4 The Constitution

 1.4 The Constitution	 1.4 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 1.5 Federalism	 1.5 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 1.6 The Federalist Papers	 1.6 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Unit 1 Assignment: United States Constitution		<input type="checkbox"/>

## Unit 2. The Legislative Branch

In this Unit students will learn:












- About the Legislative Branch of government.
- About Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution which outlines the duties and responsibilities of Congress.
- The various powers that Congress has been given, whether granted or implied powers.
- How Congress works in forming laws and other important functions including financing the government.

 2.1 The U.S. Congress	 2.1 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 2.2 The Powers of Congress	 2.2 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 2.3 Congress in Action	 2.3 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 2.4 Financing Government	 2.4 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Unit 2 Assignment: Congress		<input type="checkbox"/>

## Unit 3. The Executive Branch

In this Unit students will learn:


- The role of U.S. President and the Executive Branch.
- About Article II of the U.S. Constitution, which outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Branch.
- The election process including a look at the Electoral College and the formal powers that the president is granted by the U.S. Constitution.

 3.1 The Presidency	 3.1 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 3.2 Formal Powers of the President	 3.2 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 3.3 The Presidency in Action	 3.3 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 3.4 The Bureaucracy	 3.4 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 3.5 Foreign Policy and National Defense	 3.5 Quiz	<input type="checkbox"/>
 Unit 3 Assignment: Powers of the President		<input type="checkbox"/>


## Unit 4. The Judicial Branch

In this Unit students will learn:

- The role of the Judicial Branch.
- About Article III of the U.S. Constitution, which outlines the role and responsibilities of the Federal Court System.
- The role of the Supreme Court as the highest court of the nation, along with its role of interpreting the U.S. Constitution as it pertains to laws.
- About landmark court decisions including *Mayberry v. Madison*, *McCulloch v. Maryland*, *Gibbons v. Ogden* and *Dred Scott v. Sanford*.

 4.1 The Federal Court System

 4.1 Quiz

 4.2 Constitutional Interpretation and The Supreme Court

 4.2 Quiz

 4.3 Landmark Supreme Court Cases


 4.3 Quiz

 Unit 4 Assignment: The Supreme Court


## Unit 5. Political Behavior: Government By The People

In this Unit students will learn:

- About political behavior and the role of citizens in government.
- How political parties came into existence and their role in government.
- The rights of citizens in voting and how the electoral process works.
- The role of mass media and public opinion, which will include a look at media campaigns, debate and polling.

 5.1 The Evolution of America's Major Political Parties

 5.1 Quiz

 5.2 Voters and Voter Behavior

 5.2 Quiz


 5.3 The Electoral Process

 5.3 Quiz

 5.4 Mass Media and Public Opinion

 5.4 Quiz

 5.5 Interest Groups

 5.5 Quiz

 Unit 5 Assignment: A Two Party System

## Unit 6. Participating in State and Local Government

In this Unit students will learn:

- About the workings of state and local governments, how they are formed and their roles within each individual state.
- The role of the governor as leader of each individual state and will compare the powers vested in the governor as those also vested in the president.
- What powers have been given to states by the U.S. Constitution and how states handles laws and regulations within state constitutions alongside federal laws and regulations.
- The state court system.

 6.1 State and Local Government

 6.1 Quiz

 6.2 The Role of State Governor

 6.2 Quiz

 6.3 The Court System

6.3 The Court System

6.3 Quiz

6.4 Local Governments and Citizen Participation

6.4 Quiz

Unit 6 Assignment: State vs. Federal Government

## Unit 7. Comparative Political Systems

In this Unit students will learn:

- About comparative government as a way to better understand the American Government system.
- How each country forms their governments, the roles of the executive, legislative and judicial branches and their national constitutions.

7.1 Introduction to Comparative Government

7.1 Quiz

7.2 Great Britain's Political System

7.2 Quiz

7.3 French Political System

7.3 Quiz

7.4 Japanese Political System

7.4 Quiz

7.5 Russian Political System

7.5 Quiz

Unit 7 Assignment: Research Paper

## The Final Exam

Once you have completed all of the unit tests **and** all of your assignments have been graded, the final exam will become visible.

**Warning:** You have only ONE attempt at the final. You must score 60% or higher in the final to receive credit for the course!

Are you ready to take the final? We highly recommend you take the [practice final](#) first and if you are weak in any area, review the relevant course material again. You have unlimited attempts at the [practice final](#); it will help you to prepare.

Good Luck!!

Practice Final

## Course Completion

The "Certificate" and "Transcript Request" links below are not active, they cannot be accessed until you have achieved at least 60% on both the final and for the course total. Upon satisfying these two requirements, the links will become active and you can use them.

Before you go, we would appreciate your opinion on the course, please take 1 minute to complete the feedback form. We hope you enjoyed this course!

Course Feedback

Thank you for taking this course! Let us know what you think about it.

Request a Course Completion Record

If you need SVHS to send proof of your course completion directly to your school, complete this form.

**Restricted** Not available unless:

- You achieve a required score in **Course total**
- You achieve a required score in **Final Exam**