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Title 22: EDUCATION
CHAPTER 4

APPENDIX C

Academic Standards for Civics and Government

and

Economics

and

Geography

and

History

Proposed Academic Standards for Civics and Government



Pennsylvania Department of Education

Proposed Academic Standards For Civics and Government

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Proposed Academic Standards For Civics and Government

XIV. INTRODUCTION

This document includes Proposed Academic Standards for Civics and Government that describe what students should know and be able to do in four areas:

- ◇ 5.1. Principles and Documents of Government
- ◇ 5.2. Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship
- ◇ 5.3. How Government Works
- ◇ 5.4. How International Relationships Function

The Proposed Civics and Government Academic Standards describe what students should know and be able to do at four grade levels (third, sixth, ninth and twelfth). Throughout the standard statements, concepts found in lower grades must be developed more fully throughout higher grade levels.

The Pennsylvania Constitution of 1790 was the basis for the Free Public School Act of 1834 that is the underpinning of today's system of schools operating throughout the Commonwealth. These schools were created to educate children to be useful citizens, loyal to the principles upon which our Republic was founded, and aware of their duties as citizens to maintain those ideals.

The Proposed Academic Standards for Civics and Government are based on the Public School Code of 1949 which directs "... teaching and presentation of the principles and ideals of the American republican representative form of government as portrayed and experienced by the acts and policies of the framers of the Declaration of Independence and framers of the Constitution of the United States and Bill of Rights. . .". The intent of the Code is that such instruction "shall have for its purpose also instilling into every boy and girl who comes out of public, private and parochial schools their solemn duty and obligation to exercise intelligently their voting privilege and to understand the advantages of the American republican form of government as compared with various other forms of governments".

A glossary is included to assist the reader in clarifying terminology contained in the standards.

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5.1. Principles and Documents of Government			
5.1.3. GRADE 3	5.1.6. GRADE 6	5.1.9. GRADE 9	5.1.12. GRADE 12
<i>Pennsylvania’s public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to . . .</i>			
<p>A. Describe what government is.</p> <p>B. Explain the purposes of rules and laws and why they are important in the classroom, school, community, state and nation.</p> <p>C. Define the principles and ideals shaping government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice • Truth • Diversity of people and ideas • Patriotism • Common good • Liberty • Rule of law • Leadership • Citizenship <p>D. Identify the document which created Pennsylvania.</p>	<p>A. Explain the purpose of government.</p> <p>B. Explain the importance of the rule of law for the protection of individual rights and the common good in the community, state, nation and world.</p> <p>C. Describe the principles and ideals shaping government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality • Majority rule/Minority rights • Popular sovereignty • Privacy • Checks and balances • Separation of powers <p>D. Explain the basic principles and ideals within documents of Pennsylvania government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter of 1681 • Charter of Privileges • Pennsylvania Constitution • Pennsylvania Declaration of Rights 	<p>A. Identify and explain the major arguments advanced for the necessity of government.</p> <p>B. Describe historical examples of the importance of the rule of law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sources • Purposes • Functions <p>C. Analyze the principles and ideals that shape government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitutional government • Liberal democracy • Classical republicanism • Federalism <p>D. Interpret significant changes in the basic documents shaping the government of Pennsylvania.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Great Law of 1682 • Constitution of 1776 • Constitution of 1790 • Constitution of 1838 • Constitution of 1874 • Constitution of 1968 	<p>A. Evaluate the major arguments advanced for the necessity of government.</p> <p>B. Analyze the sources, purposes and functions of law.</p> <p>C. Evaluate the importance of the principles and ideals of civic life.</p> <p>D. Analyze the principles and ideals that shape the government of Pennsylvania and apply them to the government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Charter of 1681 • Charter of Privileges • PA Constitution, its revisions and Amendments

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<p>E. Identify documents of United States government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declaration of Independence • Constitution of the United States • Bill of Rights <p>F. Explain the meaning of a preamble.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution of the United States • Pennsylvania Constitution <p>G. Describe the purpose of the United States Flag, The Pledge of Allegiance and The National Anthem.</p> <p>H. Identify framers of documents of governments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennsylvania • United States <p>I. Explain why government is necessary in the classroom, school, community, state and nation and the basic purposes of government in Pennsylvania and the United States.</p>	<p>E. Explain the basic principles and ideals within documents of United States government.</p> <p>F. Explain the meaning of the Preamble to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and compare it to the Preamble of the Constitution of the United States.</p> <p>G. Describe the proper use, display and respect for the United States Flag and explain the significance of patriotic activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reciting The Pledge of Alliance • Standing for The National Anthem <p>H. Describe the roles played by the framers of the basic documents of governments of Pennsylvania and the United States.</p> <p>I. Describe and compare the making of rules by direct democracy and by representative democracy.</p>	<p>E. Analyze the basic documents shaping the government of the United States.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magna Carta • English Bill of Rights • Mayflower Compact • Articles of Confederation • Declaration of Independence • Federalist papers • Anti-federalist writings • United States Constitution <p>F. Contrast the individual rights created by the Pennsylvania Constitution and those created by the Constitution of the United States.</p> <p>G. Describe the procedures for proper uses, display and respect for the United States Flag as per the National Flag Code.</p> <p>H. Explain and interpret the roles of framers of basic documents of government from a national and Pennsylvania perspective.</p> <p>I. Explain the essential characteristics of limited and unlimited governments and explain the advantages and disadvantages of systems of government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confederal • Federal • Unitary 	<p>E. Evaluate the principles and ideals that shape the United States and compare them to documents of government.</p> <p>F. Analyze and assess the rights of the people as listed in the Pennsylvania Constitution and the Constitution of the United States.</p> <p>G. Analyze and interpret the role of the United States Flag in civil disobedience and in patriotic activities.</p> <p>H. Analyze the competing positions held by the framers of the basic documents of government of Pennsylvania and United States.</p> <p>I. Analyze historical examples of the importance of the rule of law explaining the sources, purposes and functions of law.</p>
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<p>J. Explain the importance of respect for the property and the opinions of others.</p> <p>K. Identify symbols and political holidays.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennsylvania (e.g., Charter Day, Liberty Bell, Keystone State) • United States (e.g., Presidents' Day, Statue of Liberty, White House) <p>L. Identify ways courts resolve conflicts involving principles and ideals of government.</p> <p>M. Identify portions of famous speeches and writings that reflect the basic principles and ideals of government (e.g., "I have a dream," Reverend Martin Luther King; "One small step for mankind," Neil Armstrong).</p>	<p>J. Describe how the government protects individual rights and promotes the common good.</p> <p>K. Describe the purpose of symbols and holidays.</p> <p>L. Explain the role of courts in resolving conflicts involving the principles and ideals of government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • State • Federal <p>M. Explain the basic principles and ideals found in famous speeches and writings (e.g., "Governments, like clocks, go from the motion people give them," William Penn; "A date that will live in infamy," Franklin D. Roosevelt).</p>	<p>J. Explain how law protects individual rights and the common good.</p> <p>K. Explain why symbols and holidays were created and the ideals they commemorate.</p> <p>L. Interpret Pennsylvania and United States court decisions that have impacted the principles and ideals of government.</p> <p>M. Interpret the impact of famous speeches and writings on civic life (e.g., <i>The Gospel of Wealth</i>, <i>Declaration of Sentiments</i>).</p>	<p>J. Analyze how the law promotes the common good and protects individual rights.</p> <p>K. Analyze the roles of symbols and holidays in society.</p> <p>L. Analyze Pennsylvania and United States court decisions that have affected principles and ideals of government in civic life.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil rights • Commerce • Judicial review • Federal supremacy <p>M. Evaluate and analyze the importance of significant political speeches and writings in civic life (e.g., <i>Diary of Anne Frank</i>, <i>Silent Spring</i>).</p>
<p>Basic concepts found in lower grades for standard statements and their descriptors must be developed more fully throughout higher grade levels.</p>			

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5.2. Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship			
5.2.3. GRADE 3	5.2.6. GRADE 6	5.2.9. GRADE 9	5.2.12. GRADE 12
<i>Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to . . .</i>			
<p>A. Identify examples of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal rights • Political rights • Economic rights • Personal responsibilities • Civic responsibilities <p>B. Identify personal rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>C. Identify sources of conflict and disagreement and different ways conflicts can be resolved.</p> <p>D. Identify the importance of political leadership and public service in the school, community, state and nation.</p> <p>E. Describe ways citizens can influence the decisions and actions of government.</p>	<p>A. Compare rights and responsibilities of citizenship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political rights • Economic rights • Personal responsibilities of the individual and to society • Civic responsibilities of the individual and to society • Traits of character of individuals and to constitutional democracy <p>B. Explain the relationship between rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>C. Explain ways citizens resolve conflicts in society and government.</p> <p>D. Describe the importance of political leadership and public service.</p> <p>E. Identify examples of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.</p>	<p>A. Contrast the essential rights and responsibilities of citizens in systems of government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autocracy • Democracy • Oligarchy <p>B. Analyze citizens' rights and responsibilities in local, state and national government.</p> <p>C. Analyze skills used to resolve conflicts in society and government.</p> <p>D. Analyze political leadership and public service in a constitutional democracy.</p> <p>E. Explain the importance of political process to competent and responsible participation in civic life.</p>	<p>A. Evaluate an individual's civic rights, responsibilities and duties in various governments.</p> <p>B. Evaluate citizen's participation in government and civic life.</p> <p>C. Interpret the causes of conflict in society and analyze techniques to resolve those conflicts.</p> <p>D. Evaluate political leadership and public service in a constitutional democracy.</p> <p>E. Analyze how participation in civic and political life leads to the attainment of individual and public goals.</p>

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<p>F. Explain the benefits of following rules and laws and the consequences of violating them.</p> <p>G. Identify ways to participate in government and civic life.</p>	<p>F. Describe the impact of the consequences of violating rules and laws in a civil society.</p> <p>G. Explain the importance of participating in government and civic life.</p>	<p>F. Analyze the consequences of violating laws of Pennsylvania compared to those of the United States.</p> <p>G. Analyze political and civic participation in government and society.</p>	<p>F. Evaluate how individual rights may conflict with or support the common good.</p> <p>G. Evaluate what makes a competent and responsible citizen.</p>
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Basic concepts found in lower grades for standard statements and their descriptors must be developed more fully throughout higher grade levels.

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5.3. How Government Works			
5.3.3. GRADE 3	5.3.6. GRADE 6	5.3.9. GRADE 9	5.3.12. GRADE 12
<i>Pennsylvania’s public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to . . .</i>			
<p>A. Identify the elected representative bodies responsible for making local, Pennsylvania and United States laws.</p> <p>B. Identify the role of the three branches of government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive • Legislative • Judicial <p>C. Identify reasons for rules and laws in the school and community.</p> <p>D. Identify services performed by the local, state and national governments.</p> <p>E. Identify positions of authority at school and in local, state and national governments.</p>	<p>A. Compare the structure, organization and operation of local, state and national governments.</p> <p>B. Describe the responsibilities and powers of the three branches of government.</p> <p>C. Explain how government actions affect citizens' daily lives.</p> <p>D. Describe how local, state and national governments implement their services.</p> <p>E. Identify major leaders of local, state and national governments, their primary duties and their political party affiliation.</p>	<p>A. Explain the structure, organization and operation of the local, state and national governments including domestic and national policy-making.</p> <p>B. Compare the responsibilities and powers of the three branches within the national government.</p> <p>C. Explain how a bill becomes a law on a federal, state, and local level.</p> <p>D. Explain how independent government agencies create, amend and enforce regulatory policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local (e.g., Zoning Board) • State (e.g., Pennsylvania Utilities Commission) • National (e.g., Federal Communications Commission) <p>E. Explain how citizens participate in choosing their leaders through political parties, campaigns and elections.</p>	<p>A. Analyze and evaluate the structure, organization and operation of the local, state and national governments including domestic and national policy-making.</p> <p>B. Analyze the responsibilities and powers of the national government.</p> <p>C. Evaluate the process of how a bill becomes the law on a federal, state, and local level.</p> <p>D. Evaluate how independent government agencies create, amend and enforce regulations.</p> <p>E. Evaluate the roles of political parties in election campaigns.</p>

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<p>F. Explain what an election is.</p>	<p>F. Describe the voting process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pennsylvania • United States 	<p>F. Explain the election process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voter registration • Primary Elections • Caucuses • National Conventions • General Elections • Electoral College 	<p>F. Evaluate the elements of the election process.</p>
<p>G. Explain why being treated fairly is important.</p>	<p>G. Describe how the government protects individual rights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presumption of Innocence • Right to Counsel • Trial by Jury • Bill of Rights 	<p>G. Explain how the government protects individual rights.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal protection • Habeas Corpus • Right Against Self Incrimination • Double Jeopardy • Right of Appeal • Due Process 	<p>G. Evaluate how the government protects or curtails individual rights and analyze the impact of supporting or opposing those rights.</p>
<p>H. Identify individual interests and explain ways to influence others.</p>	<p>H. Identify individual interests and how they impact government.</p>	<p>H. Analyze how interest groups provide opportunities for citizens to participate in the political process.</p>	<p>H. Evaluate the impact of interest groups on the political process.</p>
<p>I. Explain why taxes are necessary and identify who pays them.</p>	<p>I. Describe why and how government raises money to pay for its operations and services.</p>	<p>I. Analyze how and why government raises money to pay for its operation and services.</p>	<p>I. Evaluate how and why government raises money to pay for its operations and services.</p>
<p>J. Identify the role of the media in society.</p>	<p>J. Describe the influence of media in reporting issues.</p>	<p>J. Analyze the importance of freedom of the press.</p>	<p>J. Evaluate the role of media in political life in the United States and explain the role of the media in setting the public agenda.</p>
<p>K. Identify different ways people govern themselves.</p>	<p>K. Describe forms of government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited • Unlimited 	<p>K. Identify and explain systems of government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autocracy • Democracy • Oligarchy 	<p>K. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various systems of government.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autocracy • Democracy • Oligarchy
<p>Basic concepts found in lower grades for standard statements and their descriptors must be developed more fully throughout higher grade levels.</p>			

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5.4. How International Relationships Function			
5.4.3. GRADE 3	5.4.6. GRADE 6	5.4.9. GRADE 9	5.4.12. GRADE 12
<i>Pennsylvania's public schools shall teach, challenge and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to . . .</i>			
<p>A. Identify how customs and traditions influence governments.</p> <p>B. Recognize that the world is divided into various political units.</p> <p>C. Identify ways in which countries interact with the United States.</p> <p>D. Identify treaties and other agreements between or among nations.</p> <p>E. Identify how nations work together to solve problems.</p>	<p>A. Explain the concept of nation-states.</p> <p>B. Describe how nation-states coexist in the world community.</p> <p>C. Describe the governments of the countries bordering the United States and their relationships with the United States.</p> <p>D. Describe the processes that resulted in a treaty or agreement between the United States and another nation state.</p> <p>E. Explain how nations work together on common environmental problems, natural disasters and trade.</p>	<p>A. Explain how the United States is affected by policies of nation-states, governmental and non-governmental organizations.</p> <p>B. Explain the role of the United States in world affairs.</p> <p>C. Explain the effects United States political ideas have had on other nations.</p> <p>D. Contrast how the three branches of federal government function in foreign policy.</p> <p>E. Explain the development and the role of the United Nations and other international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental.</p>	<p>A. Analyze the impact of international economic, technological and cultural developments on the government of the United States.</p> <p>B. Analyze the United States' interaction with other nations and governmental groups in world events.</p> <p>C. Compare how past and present United States' policy interests have changed over time and analyze the impact on future international relationships.</p> <p>D. Explain how foreign policy is developed and implemented.</p> <p>E. Compare the purposes and functions of international organizations. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governmental (e.g., NATO, World Court, OAS) • Non-governmental (e.g., International Red Cross, Amnesty International, World Council of Churches) </p>

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XV. GLOSSARY

Amendment (Constitutional):	Changes in, or additions to, a constitution. Proposed by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress or by a convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the state legislatures. Ratified by approval of three-fourths of the state.
Articles of Confederation:	First framework of government of the United States, 1781. Created a weak national government, replaced in 1789 by the Constitution of the United States.
Authority:	Right to control or direct the actions of others, legitimized by law, morality, custom or consent.
Autocracy:	A government in which one person possesses unlimited power.
Bill of Rights:	First Ten Amendments to the Constitution. Ratified in 1791, these amendments limit government power and protect basic rights and liberties of individuals.
Checks and balances:	Constitutional mechanisms that authorize each branch of government to share powers with the other branches and thereby check their activities. For example, the president may veto legislation passed by Congress, the Senate must confirm major executive appointments and the courts may declare acts of Congress unconstitutional.
Citizen:	Member of a political society who therefore owes allegiance to and is entitled to protection by and from the government.
Citizenship:	Status of being a member of a state; one who owes allegiance to the government and is entitled to protection by and from the government.
Civic responsibilities:	Obligation of citizens to take part in the governance of the school, community, tribe, state or nation.

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Civil Law:	Body of law, distinguishable from criminal law, which governs private rights of individuals.
Civil liberties:	Areas of personal freedom with which governments are constrained from interfering. Usually spelled out in a bill of rights or constitution that guarantee the protection of persons, expression and property from the arbitrary influence of government officials.
Civil rights:	Protections and privileges given to all United States citizens by the Constitution and Bill of Rights.
Civil society:	The spheres of voluntary individual, social and economic relationships and organizations that although limited by law are not part of governmental institutions.
Classical republicanism:	Refers to government that seeks the public or common good rather than the good of a particular group or class of society.
Common law:	Judge made law that originated in England from decisions shaped according to prevailing custom. Decisions were reapplied to similar situations and thus became common to the nation.
Common or public good:	Benefit or interest of a politically organized society as a whole.
Compromise:	An agreement to settle differences; mutual concessions.
Concurrent powers:	Authority that may be exercised by both the federal government and the state governments (e.g., levying taxes, borrowing money, spending for the general welfare).
Confederal:	Relating to a league of independent states.
Confederation:	A loose union of individual states connected by a weak or non-existent central government.
Consent of the governed:	Agreement by the people to set up and live under a government. According to the natural rights philosophy, all legitimate governments must rest on the consent of the governed.

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Constitutionalism:	Idea that the powers of government should be distributed according to a written or unwritten constitution and that those powers should be effectively restrained by the constitution's provisions.
Delegated powers:	Powers granted to the national government under the Constitution as enumerated in Articles I, II and III.
Democracy:	Form of government in which political control is exercised by the people, either directly or through their elected representatives.
Diplomacy:	The art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations.
Diplomat:	One employed or skilled in conducting negotiations between nations.
Diversity:	State of being different; variety.
Documents of government:	Papers necessary for the organization and powers of government.
Due Process of Law:	Right of every citizen to be protected against arbitrary action by government.
Enumerated powers:	Powers that are specifically granted to Congress by Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.
Equality:	The condition of possessing substantially the same rights, privileges and immunities, and being substantially responsible for the same duties as other members of society.
Federal Supremacy Clause:	Article VI of the Constitution provides that the Constitution and all federal laws and treaties shall be the "Supreme Law of the Land." Therefore, all federal laws take precedence over state and local laws.
Federal system (or Federalism):	Form of political organization in which governmental power is divided between a central government and territorial subdivisions (e.g., in the United States - the national, state and local governments).

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Federalism:	The distribution of power in a government between a central authority and states and the distribution of power among states with most powers retained by central government.
Foreign Policy:	Actions of the federal government directed to matters beyond United States' borders, especially relations with other countries.
Government:	Institutions and procedures through which a territory and its people are ruled.
Habeas Corpus:	Court order demanding that the individual in custody be brought into court and shown the cause for detention. Habeas corpus is guaranteed by the Constitution and can be suspended only in the case of rebellion or invasion.
Individual responsibility:	Fulfilling the moral and legal obligations of membership in society.
Individual rights:	Just claims due a person by law, morality or tradition as opposed to those due to groups.
Interest group:	Organized body of individuals who share same goals and try to influence public policy to meet those goals.
International organizations:	Groups formed by nation-states to achieve common political, social or economic goals.
Judicial power:	Authority to manage conflicts about the interpretation and application of the law.
Judicial Review:	Doctrine that permits the federal courts to declare unconstitutional, and thus null and void, acts of the Congress, the executive branch and the states. The precedent for judicial review was established in the 1803 case of <i>Marbury v. Madison</i> .
Justice:	That which may be obtained through fair distribution of benefits and burdens, fair correction of wrongs and injuries, or use of fair procedures in gathering information and making decisions.
Leadership:	State or condition of one who guides or governs.

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Liberal Democracy:	Government that recognizes that the individual has rights that exist independently of government and which ought to be protected by and against government.
Liberty:	Freedom from restraint under conditions essential to the equal enjoyment of the same right by others.
Majority rule:	Decision by more than half of those participating in the decision-making process.
Minority rights:	Opportunities that a member is entitled to have, or to receive from others within the limits of the law, even though he/she may not be part of the controlling group.
Nation-State:	Divisions of the world in which each state claims sovereignty over defined territory and jurisdiction over everyone within it. These states interact using diplomacy, formal agreements and sanctions that may be peaceful or may involve the use of force.
NATO:	North Atlantic Treaty Organization, an international transatlantic partnership consisting of various European states, the United States and Canada, which was designed through cooperation, consultation and collective defense to maintain peace and promote stability throughout Europe.
Non-governmental organization:	A group in a free society that is not a part of any government institution and does not derive its power from government.
OAS:	Organization of American States, an international governmental organization formed by the states of North and South America for security and the protection of mutual interests.
Oligarchy:	A government in which a small group exercises control. These systems are usually based on wealth, military power or social position.
Patriotism	A feeling of pride in and respect for one's country.

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Political efficacy:	Belief that one can be effective and have an impact on public affairs.
Political party:	Any group, however loosely organized, that seeks to elect government officials under a given label.
Political rights:	Entitlement to participate in the political process.
Popular sovereignty:	The concept that ultimate political authority rests with the people to create, alter or abolish governments.
Presumption of innocence:	The legal concept that a criminal defendant is not guilty until the prosecution proves every element of the crime, beyond a reasonable doubt.
Privacy:	The right to be left alone; the right of an individual to withhold one's self and one's property from public scrutiny if one so chooses.
Public service:	Action of benefit to local, state or national communities through appointed or elected office.
Representative Democracy:	Form of government in which power is held by the voters and is exercised indirectly through elected representatives who make decisions.
Republic:	Form of government in which political control is exercised through elected representatives.
Republican government:	System of government in which power is held by the voters and is exercised by elected representatives responsible for promoting the common welfare.
Right against self-incrimination:	Individual right found in the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution that prevents an individual from being forced to testify against himself or herself.
Right of appeal:	The right to seek review by a superior court of an injustice done or error committed by an inferior court, whose judgment or decision the court above is called upon to correct or reverse.

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Right to counsel:	Individual right found in the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution that requires criminal defendants to have access to legal representation.
Rule of Law:	Principle that every member of a society, even a ruler, must follow the law.
Separation of powers:	Distribution among the branches of government to ensure that the same person or group will not make the law, enforce the law and interpret the law.
State:	A commonwealth; a nation; a civil power.
Treaty:	Formal agreement between or among sovereign nations to create or restrict rights and responsibilities. In the United States all treaties must be approved by a two-thirds vote in the Senate.
Trial by jury:	Individual right found in the Sixth and Seventh Amendment of the Constitution that guarantees a person an impartial jury.
Truth:	Agreement of thought and reality that can eventually be verified.
Unitary government:	An authoritative system in which all regulatory power is vested in a central government from which regional and local governments derive their powers (e.g., Great Britain and France as well as the American states within their spheres of authority).