

Course Name:		Government	
Credits:		0.5	
Prerequisites:		None	
Description:		This portion of the course provides the student an opportunity to acquire detailed knowledge of the democratic form of government practiced in the United States. The overall objective of this course is to prepare students for their place in society, by helping them learn how our government works, how it can be changed and what rights and freedoms our Constitution guarantees us. It will also provide students with a broad overview of modern forms of government, present in today's global community. Finally, it will allow students to investigate and possibly participate in service learning opportunities for hands on experience of their civic responsibilities.	
Academic Standards:		National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies	
Units:	Unit Length:	Unit Standards:	Unit Outcomes:
Roots & Forms of Government	12 days	HS.TCC.2-3-5 HS.IGI.1-5-6 HS.GC.3 HS.PAG.1-7 HS.CIP.2 HS.STS.2	Students will understand the similarities and differences between different forms of government and how these various forms impact the way countries interact with each other. Students will also develop an understanding of how the US Government developed and continues to shape the US today.
Legislative Branch	12 days	HS.PDC.8 HS.PAG.1 .4 HS.CIP.7 .10 HS.IGI.6 HS.STS.2	Students will understand how Congress is organized and who represents their interests in Congress. They will understand how laws are made and what powers are given to Congress in the Constitution.
Executive Branch	12 days	HS.PAG.1 .4 .6 .7 HS.TCC.1 .2 HS.PDC.4 .8 HS.IGI.6 .7 HS.STS.2 .5 HS.GC.7 .8	Students will understand how the President is elected and how the bureaucracy ensures laws are enforced. Students will evaluate the effectiveness of a chosen President and assess how they impacted society.
Judicial Branch	15 days	HS.IGI.4 .5 .6 HS.PAG.1 .2 HS.TCC.2 HS.STS.2	Students will understand the ways the court system interprets laws to protect human liberties. Students will evaluate how the court system interprets laws. Students will formulate whether they agree or disagree with major historical decisions made by the Supreme Court.
Bill of Rights & Amendments	20 days	HS.CIP.6 HS.PAG.1 .2 .3 .6 HS.TCC.4 HS.C.7 HS.IGI.4 .5 .6 .7 HS.STS.2	Students will understand how the Bill of Rights and other amendments protect their individual liberties. Students will analyze how individual liberties have been developed and evolved throughout history. Students will apply their understanding of individual liberties to current events and evaluate the outcomes of past events. Students will propose suggestions to improve or strengthen individual liberties protected within the constitutional amendments.
Political Parties, Elections & Public Opinion	18 days	HS.CIP.1 .5 .8 .9 HS.TCC.1 HS.IGI.5 .6 HS.STS.2 HS.PAG.1	Students will gain an understanding of the role and common ideologies of political parties in the US. Students will formulate their own opinions about controversial issues and work to persuade others to support their ideas. Students will demonstrate how public opinion is shaped by the media. Students will evaluate the election process and determine if it should be changed. Students will learn what is required to vote in Wisconsin and analyze current voting trends in society.