

Shenandoah Community School District Modern Problems

Eleventh and Twelfth Grades

12.5 Political Science/Civic Literacy

12.5.1 (SCSD) Understand the rights and responsibilities of each citizen and demonstrate the value of lifelong civic action (D, M)

- Understand rights, roles, and status of the individual in relation to the general Welfare (D, M)
- Understand that constitutional democracy requires the participation of an attentive, knowledgeable, competent citizenry (D, M)
- Understand (personal, political, and economic) rights are secured by
 - Constitutional government (D,M)
 - The rule of the law (D,M)
 - Checks and balances (D,M)
 - An independent judiciary (D,M)
 - Vigilant citizenry (D,M)
- Understand ways citizens participate in the political process at levels (D,M)
 - Local (D,M)
 - State (D,M)
 - National (D,M)
- Understand the importance of becoming knowledgeable about public affairs (D,M)
- Understand the roles of political parties, campaigns, and elections in American Politics (D, M)
- Understand the importance of voluntarism as a characteristic of American society (D, M)

12.5.2 (SCSD) Understand how the government established by the Constitution embodies the enduring values and principles of democracy and republicanism (D, M)

- Understand the central ideas of American constitutional government and how this form of government has shaped the character of American society (D, M)
- Understand the role of government in major areas of:
 - Domestic policy (D,M)
 - Foreign policy (ID,M)

12.5.3 (SCSD) Understand the purpose and function of each of the three branches of government established by the US Constitution (D, M)

- Understand the purpose of government and how its powers are:
 - Acquired (D,M)
 - Used (D,M)
 - Justified (D,M)
- Understand the necessity of politics and government (D,M)
- Understand the purposes, organization, and functions of:
 - Legislative branch (D,M)
 - Executive branch (D,M)
 - Judicial branch (D,M)
 - The independent regulatory agencies (D,M)

12.5.4 (SCSD) Understand the differences among the complex levels of local, state, and national government and their inherent, expressed and implied powers (D, M)

- Understand the design and features of the Constitution, using a system of checks and balances, to prevent the abuse of power by aggregating power at different levels (D,M)

- National (D,M)
 - State (D,M)
 - Local (D,M)
 - Understand provisions of the Constitution and principles of the constitutional system help to insure a government that will not exceed its limits (D,M)
 - Understand the limits the United States Constitution places on the powers of:
 - The states (D,M)
 - The national government over the state government (D,M)
 - Understand the policies of state and local governments provide citizens with ways To:
 - Monitor and influence the actions of members of government (D,M)
 - Hold member of government responsible for their actions (D,M)
- 12.5.5 (SCSD) Understand strategies for effective political action that impacts local, state, and national governance (D, M)**
- Understand participation in civic and political life can help citizens attain individual and public goals (D, M)
 - Understand the role of diversity in American life, in an increasingly diverse society, and the importance of :
 - Shared values (D,M)
 - Political beliefs (D,M)
 - Civic beliefs (D,M)
- 12.5.6 (SCSD) Understand how laws and public policy are established at the local, state, and national levels of government (D, M)**
- Understand the purpose and functions of law (D,M)
 - Understand the processes by which public policy is formed and carried out concerning issues:
 - Local (D,M)
 - State (D,M)
 - National (D,M)
 - Understand issues concerning the relationship between state and local governments and the national government (D, M)
- 12.5.7 (SCSD) Understand how various political systems throughout the world define the rights and responsibilities of the individual (D, M)**
- Understand different political systems in the world
 - Ideologies (D,M)
 - Structure (D,M)
 - Institutions (D,M)
 - Processes (D,M)
 - Political cultures (D,M)
 - Understand the essential characteristics of governments (D,M)
 - Limited (D,M)
 - Unlimited (D,M)
- 12.5.8 (SCSD) Understand the role of the United States in current world affairs (D, M)**
- Understand conditions, actions and motivations that contribute to conflict and cooperation within and among nations (D, M)
 - Understand the significance of foreign policies and events in the United States" relations with the world (D, M)
 - Understand the idea of national interest and how it is used as a criterion for shaping American foreign policy (D, M)
 - Understand the effects that significant world political developments have on the United States (D, M)
 - Understand the influence that American ideas about rights have had abroad and how other peoples' ideas about rights have influenced Americans ((D, M)

