

<b>Grade Level:</b>	<b>High School</b>
<b>Class Title:</b>	<b>Current World Problems</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Social Studies</b>
<b>Class Description:</b>	<p>This class meets the graduation requirement for the State of Washington and Kennewick School District and meets at least one GLE and/or EALR. This course is a year long course. Students who successfully complete the course have the potential to earn .5 credit.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">This class will count as a graduation requirement for Kennewick School District.</p> <p>In high school, students use the conceptual understandings they have developed in civics, economics, geography, and history to explore pressing issues in our world today. The recommended context for this exploration, therefore, focuses on civics/government. By applying their learning from previous years to current topics, students situate governmental actions in their historical, geographic, political, economic, and cultural contexts. The cognitive demand of the GLEs is primarily evaluation in an effort to leave these graduating students ready to become the next decision makers and leaders of their communities, the nation, and the world.</p> <p>The purpose of this course is to help you gain a better understanding of the reasons for government and its place in your life. We will focus on the role of government in history, organization and operation of local, state, and national government. You will study the U.S. Constitution with particular emphasis on the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. The course is intended to enable students to become active citizens in the democratic process.</p> <p>They will also do independent research and complete at least one written research project that is attached to a State CBA.</p> <p>Students will be expected to read, comprehend and analyze literary and informational reading material at grade level using approved textbook and other adopted books.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">This is a semester-long class.</p>
<b>Learning Materials:</b>	APEX is a complete curriculum, other than a computer a student does not need any additional materials.
<b>Learning Goals/ Performance Objectives:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Investigate the purpose of government.</b></li> <li><b>2. Understand the significance and impact of the Constitution on your everyday life.</b></li> <li><b>3. Investigate the structure and function of federal, state and local government.</b></li> <li><b>4. Understand the protections and privileges of individuals and groups in the U.S.</b></li> <li><b>5. Understand the different power among the national, state, and</b></li> </ol>

**local governments in the United States federal system and show that I know the different responsibilities of each level of government.**  
**6. Understand the responsibilities of citizens in the United States.**  
**7. Understand basic economic principles and how the influence everyday life.**  
**8. Understand the relationship between the United States and the international systems of government.**  
**9. Compare different political systems with that of the United States; (e.g., dictatorship, democracy, theocracy, monarchy, and totalitarianism).**

The content is based on standards from the National Council for History Education (1997), the National Center for History in the Schools (1996), and the National Council for Social Studies (1994) and is aligned to state standards.

Upon the completion of this course with a passing grade, student will earn a .5 credit.

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**Learning Activities:**

Student will complete Study, Discussion, Activity and a Quiz for each section in a unit and then will complete a unit exam. Activities are based on a student earning a min. of 70% or better in each activity.

**Progress Criteria/ Methods of Evaluation:**

On each month's progress reports, student will report completion and mastery of learning activities designed to reach specific goals within the course description.

In addition, students will keep portfolios of their written work, quizzes, and tests to show their consultants and/or HQ teachers.

Every month progress will be determined by the HQ teacher of this course based on the question: "Will the student master his performance objectives by the end of the course?" The HQ teacher will take into consideration ALL factors (including student life situation, effort, attitude, etc.) when making this professional judgment.

Each month, the student will be expected to master approximately 10% of the yearly goals for this class (or 20% of semester goals), with all of the goals being met by the end of the year (or semester.) The mastery of any one goal may be an on-going process and some goals may overlap or be difficult to measure.

Evaluation of progress toward the mastery of the goals will be based on monthly completion (or progress toward completion) of the learning activities that are designed to provide the means to achieving the goals of the learning plan. With that said, monthly progress can still be marked satisfactory based on the professional judgment of the teacher that the student will complete the goals of the course.

