

Wallenpaupack Area School District

COURSE: Senior History (World Cultures II, Civics and Government)

GRADE LEVEL: 12th Grade

LENGTH OF COURSE: One Semester

TEXT: American Civics

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Social Studies in grade 12 covers the constitutional rights of students joining a political party. Government agencies created to aid Americans. Why laws are made, how we are taxed and how taxes are used. The course will encourage young Americans to fulfill their civic responsibilities.

CURRICULUM WRITING TEAM:

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DATE OF REVISION:

2004

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.1.12.C

Topics:	Skills:
Definition of Civics	Identify that civics is the study of what it means to be a citizen Evaluate what makes a competent citizen Understand what a democracy is Identify why civics is important Understand what politics means Understand why there is a need for government
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Reading the text Research definitions Group work Lecture	Quiz Evaluate presentations Participation

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.2.12.B

Topics:	Skills:
Define rights and responsibilities of citizenship	Discuss citizens participation in government and civic life Identify qualities of a good citizen Identify the duties that each citizen has Identify that each citizen has rights Compare and contrast duties vs. responsibilities Identify consequences for poor citizenship
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Evaluate current events Create collage demonstrating responsible citizenship Compare/contrast American citizenship to that of another 1 st world country Service learning – write a pamphlet on how to be a responsible citizen Attend local meeting Journal writing	Essays Presentations Participation Pamphlet quality Journal

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.2.12.E

Topics:	Skills:
Political spectrum	Identify what it means to be liberal, moderate, or conservative Identify major issues of the political parties and their views Identify/evaluate students own views (conservative, moderate, liberal) Understand the opposing side of various issues
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Presentation of views by lecture Debate issues Read current events Research political party platforms Local speaker to discuss political parties Journal writing	Participation Reports Presentations Journal

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.1.12.E

Topics:	Skills:
Constitution/American system	Identify the goals of the US Constitution Identify the powers designated by the Constitution Understand the flexibility of the Constitution as a living document Understand historical aspects of writing the Constitution
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Reading Lecture Study guide Research history of framers Diagram the powers and functions of each branch Journal writing	Essays Reports Test Participation Journal

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.3.12.A

Topics:	Skills:
Local vs. State vs. Federal Government	Identify which levels have which powers Understand why there is this division and layering of government Identify/compare similarities and differences of levels of government
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Venn diagram powers and how they overlap Lecture Reading Research in groups Current events Speakers	Participation Worksheet evaluation Presentations Test

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.3.12.G

Topics:	Skills:
Citizen and the Government	Discuss how an individual can become part of government whether it be as an official or as a participant (citizen) Identify the rights of individuals Evaluate why government curtails rights Evaluate the Bill of Rights
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Research ways to get involved in government Lecture Reading Research rights Group work Journal writing Compare/contrast individual rights of US citizen vs. another 1 st world countries citizens Attend local meetings	Test Presentation Journal Project Participation

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.2.12.E

Topics:	Skills:
Avenues to institute change	Identify ways to change or remove parts of documents, government officials or existing laws Identify ways to create new laws
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Current events Create mock posters to advocate change in government Presentation Debate Journal writing	Presentation Journal Participation Poster

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

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Unit:

PA Standards: 5.3.12.E

Topics:	Skills:
Campaigns/Elections	Identify elements of the election process Understand the role of political parties Understand how campaigns are financed and the laws that restrict contributions Identify who contributes and why (what is the motivation)
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Lecture Reading Research major contributors to campaigns Evaluate the election of 2000 Group project: creating a better system	Test Presentation Essay Participation

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.3.12.E

Topics:	Skills:
Political parties	Identify the major political parties and their platforms Explain why the US continues to have political parties Identify the role of the political party Evaluate whether student wants to be in a political party
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Research Group projects Current events Study guides Speakers Journal writing	Quiz Presentation Participation Journal

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

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Unit:

PA Standards: 5.3.12.H

Topics:	Skills:
Interest groups	Identify the role and impact of interest groups Identify and discuss the interest groups that exist and why they are necessary
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Read Research Current events Group projects Journal writing	Presentation Participation Journal

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.2.12.F

Topics:	Skills:
Civil Rights	Discuss historical background of various groups which have lacked civil rights Identify why civil rights are vital to a society Define equal protection and how it applies to each individual Analyze the Bill of Rights Identify the level of government which most impacts civil rights
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Lecture Group projects Current events Read text/Constitution Case studies	Participation Presentation Quiz Projects

Wallenpaupack Area School District

Course: Civics and Government

Grade Level: 12th Grade

Unit:

PA Standards: 5.1.12.B

Topics:	Skills:
United States legal system	Identify how the law promotes the common good Analyze the purpose and functions of law Explain the effectiveness and ineffectiveness of juries Identify the court structure of local vs. state vs. federal system Understand how court decisions can continue to effect citizen's lives
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Mock trial Journal writing Research Posters	Participation Quiz Project Evaluate posters

Wallenpaupack Area School District

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Unit:

PA Standards: 5.3.12.F

Topics:	Skills:
Voting	Discuss where and how to find factual information on candidates Identify how to register and where to vote Discuss why voting is important Discuss the role of political parties Discuss the influence of the media
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Research Register those that are 18 to vote Group project Analyze campaign ads Review election 2000 Journal writing	Participation Project Journal Evaluate reviews of the election

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PA Standards: 5.3.12.J

Topics:	Skills:
Role of the media	Evaluate the role of the media in political life in the US Explain how the role of the media is involved in setting public agenda Identify how influenced students and citizens are by the media
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Research Group project Journal writing Current events	Participation Project Journal Quiz

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Unit:

PA Standards: 5.3.12.I

Topics:	Skills:
Taxes	Evaluate/identify how and why the government raises money to pay for its operations and services Compare US taxes and services to other 1 st world countries
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Research Read Develop informative pamphlet on taxes	Participation Quiz Pamphlet

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PA Standards: 5.2.12.B

Topics:	Skills:
Services provided by Government	Identify all services provided by the federal, state and local government Evaluate if the government should be responsible for providing those services
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Research Read Group projects Debate	Participation Projects Self evaluation

Wallenpaupack Area School District

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Unit:

PA Standards: 5.2.12.A

Topics:	Skills:
Student and school	Identify the school as a form of local government Discuss how schools are financed Evaluate the differences of public vs. private education
Activities:	Performance Assessments:
Speakers Debate school tax Debate private vs. public education Journal writing Essay writing	Essay Participation Journal

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