



Government CP Syllabus

Course Code: 333000CH

Subject: Social Studies

Required Prerequisites: None

Suggested Prerequisites: Successful completion of a high school US History and Constitution course

Recommended Grade Levels: 12th

Duration: Semester

Course Availability: A listing of when this course is offered in the current school year can be found on the [VirtualSC Current Course Offerings page \(opens in a new window\)](#).

Class Times: This course has scheduled instructional meetings. Information on scheduled meetings for each course is communicated by the teacher. Recordings of these meetings will be available for students unable to attend. Students should expect to spend 7-9 hours a week working on this course independently, in addition to any live meetings, and are expected to meet the deadlines posted in the course pacing guide.

Textbook: [American Government \(opens in a new window\)](#). *US History.org*, 2017. Accessed 8 Nov. 2016. [\[CC BY 4.0 \(opens in a new window\)\]](#)

Required Course Materials: None

Outside Websites: A list of links to websites and online textbooks used in this course can be found here: [VSC Course Links Document Folder \(opens in a new window\)](#). Students will need to be able to access all of these links to access all course materials.

Final Exam: Students in this course take a VirtualSC final exam. Details on scheduling and taking final exams can be found on the [Final Exam Information page \(opens in a new window\)](#) of the VirtualSC website.

Course Description

This course incorporates the structure, organization and function of the American political system. Topics studied include the foundations of U.S. government and the three major branches of government and the Constitution. Students will study the details of the political system at the national state and local levels. Comparisons will be made between American government and other political systems, and students will apply higher order thinking skills as they consider content throughout the course.

The curriculum used in this course is guided by the [South Carolina Social Studies Academic Standard \(opens in a new window\)](#).

Scope and Sequence

- Orientation & Introduction
- Unit 01 - The Nature of Government
- Unit 02 - Foundations of American Government
- Unit 03 - Federalism
- Unit 04 - American Political Attitudes and Participation
- Unit 05 - How Do Citizens Connect with Their Government?
- Unit 06 - Congress: The People's Branch?
- Unit 07 - The Presidency: The Leadership Branch?
- Unit 08 - The Bureaucracy: The Real Government
- Unit 09 - The Judicial Branch
- Unit 10 - Civil Liberties and Civil Rights
- Unit 11 - Policy Making: Political Interactions
- Unit 12 - State and Local Governments

Students will be sent a full list of assignments and their due dates at the beginning of the course.

Current pacing guides for this course can be found on the [Current Course Offerings page](#) (opens in a new window) on the VirtualSC website.

Course Grades

The final grade in this course results from the following:

- Coursework: 80%
- Final Exam: 20%

Each unit in this course counts 8.33% towards your coursework grade.

VirtualSC Details

Information on VirtualSC student guidelines, policies and technology requirements can be found in the [VirtualSC Student Support Portal \(opens in a new window\)](#).