

**WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

PLANNED INSTRUCTION

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**Course Title:** Civics  
**Course Number:** 00104  
**Course Prerequisites:** none

**Course Description:** This class is designed to introduce the eighth grade students to the political processes of the United States. Civics will provide the students with the evolution of those processes and the basic organization of our government. The students will understand the roles of local, state, and federal government in citizens’ lives. A deeper knowledge of the Constitution as the foundation of the United States government and the Bill of Rights as our basic freedoms will be explored. There will also be exploration of topics such as the importance of laws, civil rights and our court system. This course introduces our students to the importance of being engaged in good citizenship through service projects and the political process. The course will end with an introduction to our economic system.

**Suggested Grade Level:** Grade 8  
**Length of Course:** Two Semesters  
**Units of Credit:** None

**PDE Certification and Staffing Policies and Guidelines (CSPG) Required Teacher Certifications:**

CSPG 59: Social Studies

To find the CSPG information, go to [CSPG](#)

**Certification verified by the WCSD Human Resources Department:**  Yes  No

**WCSD STUDENT DATA SYSTEM INFORMATION**

**Course Level:** Academic  
**Mark Types:** Check all that apply.  
 F – Final Average  MP – Marking Period  EXM – Final Exam

**GPA Type:**  GPAEL-GPA Elementary  GPAML-GPA for Middle Level  NHS-National Honor Society  
 UGPA-Non-Weighted Grade Point Average  GPA-Weighted Grade Point Average

**State Course Code:** 04161

To find the State Course Code, go to [State Course Code](#), download the Excel file for SCED, click on SCED 6.0 tab, and chose the correct code that corresponds with the course.

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**TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS**

**Board Approved Textbooks, Software, and Materials:**

**Title:** Civics  
**Publisher:** Houghton Mifflin Harcourt  
**ISBN #:** 978-0-54-491713-2  
**Copyright Date:** 2018  
**WCSD Board Approval Date:** 04/12/2021

**Supplemental Materials:** Choices Program; DBQ Project Materials

**Curriculum Document**

**WCSD Board Approval:**

**Date Finalized:** 5/14/2021  
**Date Approved:** 6/14/2021  
**Implementation Year:** 2020-2021

**SPECIAL EDUCATION, 504, and GIFTED REQUIREMENTS**

The teacher shall make appropriate modifications to instruction and assessment based on a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), Chapter 15 Section 504 Plan (504), and/or Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP).

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## PLANNED INSTRUCTION

**SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF CONTENT, CONCEPTS, AND SKILLS**

| <b>Performance Indicator</b>   | <b>PA Core Standard and/or Eligible Content</b> | <b>Month Taught and Assessed for Mastery</b> |
|--|---|--|
| Identify the purpose of government and the various types of government.  | 8.3.7.A   | August<br>September                          |
| Determine the diversity of Americans and what they value.  | 8.3.7 B   | August<br>September                          |
| Determine how a person becomes an American citizen.  | 8.3.7 C   | September                                    |
| Identify the duties and responsibilities of citizens.  | 8.3.7 D   | September                                    |
| Explain the ideas that influenced early colonial governments and how they developed.   | 8.3.7.A   | September                                    |
| Identify how discontent grew between the colonists and British government and how it led to the writing of the Declaration of Independence.                                    | 8. 3.7 B  | September                                    |
| Organize problems and solutions of the government structures that is provided by the Articles of Confederation.  | 8.1.7.A   | October                                      |
| Analyze diagrams and the elements of the Virginia Plan and the New Jersey Plan and how they combine to form the Great Compromise.  | 8.1.7.B   | October<br>October                           |
| Debate view points of the Federalists and Anti-Federalists.  | 8.2.7.A   | October                                      |
| Analyze a Venn Diagram or Federal and state powers.  | 8.2.7.B   | October                                      |
| Write a paragraph about the importance of one principle of government.   | 8.2.7.C   | October                                      |
| Explain which civil liberties are protected by the first amendment of the Bill of Rights.  | 8.1.7.A   | November                                     |
| Identify why there must be some limits on individual rights<br>Determine which civil liberties are protected by the Bill of Rights, particularly by the 2nd - 10th amendments. | 8.1.7B  | November                                     |

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|--|---|--|
| Explain how the Bill of Rights places limits on the power of government.   | 8.1.7.C   | November                                     |
| Identify the reasons why the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments are constructed.<br>Determine why the civil rights movement occurred and what impact it had on society and the law. | 8.2.7.A   | November                                     |
| Identify the lawmaking branch of the federal government and its processes.   | 8.1.7.A   | December<br>January                          |
| Explore the processes and structure of the executive branch.   | 8.1.7.B   | December<br>January                          |
| Delineate the process and structure of the judicial branch.  | 8.1.7.C   | December<br>January                          |
| Determine know what a political party is.  | 8.1.7.A   | February                                     |
| Identify the causes that caused the creation of the different political parties.   | 8.1.7.B   | March<br>February                            |
| Examine the importance of the political parties and their symbols.   | 8.2.7.A   | March<br>February                            |
| Analyze the reasons for voting.  | 8.2.7.B   | February<br>March                            |
| Make inferences about campaigns and media.   | 8.2.7.C   | February<br>March                            |
| Compare and evaluate the similarities and differences of the different state constitutions.  | 8.1.7A  | April  |
| Identify how governments can create order and provide security to their people.  | 8.1.7.B   | April  |
| Determine how to affect social and environmental change in their community and country.  | 8.1.7.C   | April  |

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|--|---|--|
| Compare and evaluate the similarities and differences of different state constitutions.  | 8.1.7.A   | May<br>June                                  |
| Explain how governments can create order and provide security to their people.   | 8.1.7.B   | May<br>June                                  |
| Analyze how to affect social and environmental change in their community and country.  | 8.1.7.C   | May<br>June                                  |
| Explain The Bill of Rights & American Civil Liberties.   | 8.1.7.A   | March  |
| Analyze the Civil Rights Movement.   | 8.1.7.B   | March  |
| Identify The Alien & Sedition Acts and Sedition Act of 1918.   | 8.2.7.A   | March  |
| Identify the role of the Director of the CIA, and Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, and the President dealing with foreign policy. | 8.2.7.B   | March  |
| Determine what makes up the history of important American foreign policies.  | 8.3.7.A   | March  |
| Compare and contrast Political culture and foreign governments.  | 8.3.7.B   | March  |

## **ASSESSMENTS**

**PSSA Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content:** The teacher must be knowledgeable of the PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content and incorporate them regularly into planned instruction.

**Formative Assessments:** The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to conduct in-process evaluations of student learning.

**Effective formative assessments for this course include:** Posters, tri folds, brochure, projects.

**Summative Assessments:** The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional task, lesson, and/or unit.

**Effective summative assessments for this course include:** tests, quizzes