



P A C I N G G U I D E

US Government

Unit 1

Foundations of Government

4 Weeks

- **OVERVIEW:**

This unit helps students to begin to understand the beginnings and foundations of the United States government.

- **Textbook Location**

Holt McDougal: American Government

Chapter 1, pages 4-28

Chapter 2, pages 30-64

Chapter 3, pages 66-92

Chapter 4, pages 94-118

- **Topic Overviews**

Chapter 1: Foundations of Government

- The purpose of government,
- Forms of government
- Democracy in the United States

Chapter 2: Origins of American Government

- The roots of American Democracy
- American Independence
- The Articles of Confederation
- The Ratification of the Bill of Rights

Chapter 3: The Constitution

- Blueprint for government
 - The Enduring Document
 - Applying the Constitution
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Chapter 4: Federalism

- Blueprint for government
- Dividing government power
- Conflict and change,
- Federalism today.

Unit 2

Legislative, Executive, and Judicial

4 Weeks

- **OVERVIEW:**

In this unit, students identify, describe and compare the function of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches.

- **Textbook Location**

Holt McDougal: American Government

Chapter 5, pages 120-158

Chapter 6, pages 160-188

Chapter 7, pages 190-216

Chapter 8, pages 218-244

- **Topic Overviews**

Chapter 5: Congress: The Legislative Branch

- Congress, the House of Representatives
- The Senate
- The legislative process

Chapter 6: The Presidency

- The President
- The power of the President

Chapter 7: The Executive Branch

- The federal bureaucracy
- Executive departments
- Financing the government

Chapter 8: The Federal Courts and Judicial Branch

- The federal court system
 - The lower federal courts
 - The Supreme Court.
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- **OVERVIEW:**

In this unit, students describe the political process and understand how politics can be used to promote and defend civil liberties and civil rights.

- **Textbook Location**

Holt McDougal: American Government

Chapter 9, pages 246-276

Chapter 10, pages 278-316

Chapter 11, pages 318-350 4

- **Topic Overviews**

Chapter 9: The Political Process

- Public opinion, Interest groups
- Political parties
- The electoral process

Chapter 10: Civil Liberties

- Protecting the constitution
- First Amendment freedoms
- Protecting individual liberties
- Crime and punishment

Chapter 11: Civil Rights

- Civil rights and discrimination
- Equality under law

- **OVERVIEW:**

In this unit, students examine and analyze the American government in action from elections to Supreme Court cases to foreign policy.

- **Textbook Location**

Holt McDougal: American Government

Chapter 12, pages 353-388

Chapter 13, pages 389-436

Chapter 14, pages 437-484

Chapter 15, pages 485-518

Chapter 16, pages 519-550

- **Topic Overviews**

Chapter 12: Understanding Elections

- Election campaigns
- Campaign funding
- Political actions

Chapter 13: Supreme Court Cases

- The First and Fourth Amendments
- Due process

Chapter 14: Foreign Policy

- Making foreign policy in a complex world
- Changes to foreign policy

Chapter 15: Comparative Political and Economic Systems

- Democratic vs. Authoritarian governments

Chapter 16: State and Local Government

- Differences between the state and local governments.
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