

Civics in Real Life

Resources for Virtual Instruction



UCF

**Lou Frey
Institute**



**FLORIDA JOINT CENTER
FOR CITIZENSHIP**

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Where Can You Find Us?

- Websites: <http://floridacitizen.org/>,
<http://loufreyinstitute.org/>
- Content Site: civics360.org
- Blog: <https://floridacitizens.wordpress.com/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/floridacitizenship>
- Twitter: [@FL_Citizen](https://twitter.com/FL_Citizen)

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- Chris Spinale Christopher.Spinale@ucf.edu

Poll Question

How often do you discuss current events in your daily instruction?

- A. At least once a week
- B. At least once a month
- C. At least once a year
- D. I don't get to do current events



Using Our Resources Can Make a Difference

73.7%
P A S S I N G

Teachers used FJCC resources and had students use FJCC/Escambia online EOC review site.*

70.3%
P A S S I N G

Teachers used FJCC resources for at least 2/3 of instructional benchmarks.*

65.9%
P A S S I N G

Teachers used at least some FJCC resources.†

58.6%
P A S S I N G

Teachers did not use FJCC resources.†

**% OF
STUDENTS
SCORING
3 OR
HIGHER
ON SY
2014-2015
CIVICS EOC
ASSESSMENT**

* Use estimates based on responses of a subsample of 333 teachers.
† based on a sample of 2387 teachers (FJCC Users=766 Non-users=1621)



Resources to Support K-12 Civic Education

ELEMENTARY

- Civics in a Snap
- Reading Modules
- Reading Integration Correlation Guide

- Students Investigating Primary Sources
- Mock Election

MIDDLE

- Applied Civics Lesson Plans
- Civics360.org
- Civic Action Project

- Students Investigating Primary Sources
- Mock Election
- Civics in Real Life

HIGH

- Civics Connection

- Students Investigating Primary Sources
- Mock Election
- Civics in Real Life



Floridacitizen.org



 Florida Joint Center for Citizenship

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UPDATED WEEKLY!

Civics in Real Life

Civics is all around us. There is a lot to know about the government and how "We the People" interact with the government and each other. Let's help each other expand our civic literacy.

[View Resources](#)



Congressman Lou Frey: A Legacy

It is with tremendous sadness that we share with you the news that Congressman Lou Frey, Jr., whose name graces UCF's Lou Frey Institute that houses the Florida Joint Center for Citizenship, has passed away.



UCF

Let's Chat!

—
How do you approach current events in your classroom?



Ben Lewis 🌍
@MrHistory123

Following



A1: I firmly believe that it's my moral responsibility to deliver unbiased accounts of world events daily. Such a huge deal to me.
[#worldgeochat](#)

10:13 PM - 11 Sep 2018

1 Retweet 13 Likes



UCF

Teaching Current Events is Hard!

Only **46%** of **social studies teachers** think they would get strong support from their principal to teach about an election, **38%** believe their districts would strongly support them, and **28%** think parents would do the same.

What other obstacles exist to teaching current events effectively?

- Framing issues with younger students
- Making the content digestible
- Adequate background knowledge
- Connecting to classroom instruction/standards

CIVICS IN REAL LIFE

- **WEEKLY** resource, posted on FloridaCitizen.org and shared on social media
- **One Page** Downloadable PDF with Content, Activities and Links
- **Connects current events** to civic concepts and/or skills
- **Middle School reading level**, but useable grades 3-12
- State benchmarks and standards are aligned, **but not included**

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Concise resources to explore civics concepts connected to current events. Click, Download, and Go—*Updated weekly!*

January 14, 2021	Impeachment NEW!	What is the purpose of impeachment and how does it work?
January 13, 2021	Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr	How do acts of service honor the legacy of Dr. King?
January 8, 2021	The 25th Amendment	How is presidential power and succession addressed by the 25th Amendment?
January 7, 2021	Sedition	What is the line between peaceful protest and the threat of sedition?
January 4, 2021	Controlling the Chambers	How is control and leadership in Congress determined?
December 15, 2020	Inching Towards Inauguration	How does the Electoral College voting process work?
EXTRA!	Inauguration Webinar	Register now for a January 13th Webinar to learn about presidential inaugurations and why they matter!
December 9, 2020	Runoff Elections	What is a runoff election, and what role do they play in our system?
December 1, 2020	Presidential Transition	Why does the peaceful transition of presidential power matter, and how is it supposed to happen?
November 23, 2020	The Civil Service	What is the civil service, and how might it connect to the responsibilities of citizenship?
November 17, 2020	George Washington's Thanksgiving	How was Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation connected to the Founding Documents of the United States?

Maine Learning Results Connections

How does Civics in Real Life Align to Maine's Enduring Themes?

- **Freedom and Justice (Ex CRL: Voting Rights)**
- **Conflict and Compromise (Ex CRL: Civil Disobedience, The First Amendment)**
- **Technology and Innovation (Ex CRL: The Food and Drug Administration, US Postal Service)**
- **Unity and Diversity (Ex CRL: Tribal Sovereignty, National Day of Service and Remembrance)**
- **Continuity and Change Over Time (Ex CRL: Consent of the Governed, Political Party Platforms, Presidential Transition)**
- **Supply and Demand (Ex CRL: The Defense Production Act, Tariffs)**

Maine Learning Results Connections

How does Civics in Real Life Align to Maine's Standards (Upper Elementary)?

- Standard: Students draw on concepts from civics and government to understand political systems, power, authority, governance, civic ideals and practices, and the role of citizens in the community, Maine, the United States, and the world.

Performance Expectation (Upper Elementary):

- Students understand the basic ideals, purposes, principles, structures, and processes of democratic government in Maine and the United States by explaining that the structures and processes of government are described in documents, including the Constitution of the United States. (Ex CRL: Constitution Day, The Preamble in Action)
- Students understand the basic ideals, purposes, principles, structures, and processes of democratic government in Maine and the United States by explaining and giving examples of governmental structures including the legislative, executive, and judicial branches at national levels of government. (Ex CRL: Executive Orders, The CARES Act, Government Power)
- Students understand the basic rights, duties, responsibilities, and roles of citizens in a democratic republic by identifying and describing the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights as documents that establish government and protect the rights of the individual United States citizen. (Ex CRL: The First Amendment, Voting Rights)
- Students understand the basic rights, duties, responsibilities, and roles of citizens in a democratic republic by providing examples of how people influence government and work for the common good, including engaging in civil disobedience. (Ex CRL: The Common Good, Civil Disobedience)
- Students understand civic aspects of unity and diversity in the daily life of various cultures in the world, by identifying examples of unity and diversity in the United States that relate to how laws protect individuals or groups to support the common good. (Ex CRL: The Common Good, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day)



Maine Learning Results Connections

How does Civics in Real Life Align to Maine's Standards (6-12)?

- Civics & Government 1: Students understand the basic ideals, purposes, principles, structures, and processes of constitutional government in Maine and the United States as well as examples of other forms of government in the world (Ex CRL: Federalism, The CARES Act, Judicial Review)
- Civics & Government 2: Students understand constitutional and legal rights, civic duties and responsibilities, and roles of citizens in a constitutional democracy (Ex CRL: The First Amendment, Consent of the Governed, Natural Rights, Veterans Day, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day, George Washington's Thanksgiving)
- Civics & Government 3: Students understand political and civic aspects of cultural diversity (Ex CRL: Tribal Sovereignty, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day)

Sample Topic List So Far

- The Common Good
- The National Institutes of Health
- The Post Office
- Elections
- Sedition
- Impeachment
- The Preamble In Action
- The Defense Production Act
- The CARES Act
- Primary Sources
- Executive Orders
- Public Health and the Social Contract
- The 25th Amendment

Some updates may be more than once a week as events happen!





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Every four years, we have one of the most important [civic celebrations](#) we can imagine: Presidential Inauguration Day! Since 1937, under the [20th Amendment](#), this special day is almost always held on January 20th, a few months after the general election and a little more than a month following the vote of the [Electoral College](#). According to the 20th Amendment, the term of a president and vice-president ends at noon on the 20th of January, so the new president and vice-president are sworn in as close to possible to noon. This is to avoid any question about authority and power in the executive branch. But what is the significance of the inauguration?

Inauguration Day is a symbol of the American political system. It reflects the vote of the people, as a president is either sworn into office for the second time (or third or fourth if you are Franklin Delano Roosevelt, [but that can't happen anymore!](#)), or power is peacefully transferred to a new leader. One of the most important aspects of this symbolic event is the Inaugural Address.

The purpose of a president's first Inaugural Address is to lay out [their vision](#) of the United States of America. Most often, this address explains their goals for the country, and how they will seek to bring together the people of this nation after what may have been a contentious election. The newly elected president's goal most often is to provide Americans with an uplifting, unifying, and hopeful promise of what will happen in the next four years, and to share with other nations how the next four years will unfold.

Another important symbolic aspect of the presidential inauguration is that, historically, the previous president attends as a symbol of a transition of power between elected leaders, but this is not required; John Adams, John Quincy Adams, and Andrew Johnson all [chose](#) not to attend the inauguration of the men to whom they lost. Recently, President Trump [publicly stated](#) that he will not attend President-Elect Biden's inauguration.

During the modern Inauguration Day, the swearing in of the president in Washington, DC is often preceded or followed by a parade while the speech is attended by thousands of excited Americans. This event requires a great deal of planning on the part of the Architect of the Capitol, in collaboration with the elected president's team and local leaders. The big question now is how this will be different during the COVID-19 pandemic, when it would be unsafe to have massive group gatherings; it's important to note, though, that you do not need a large audience to actual swear in the president! No matter what, the new president will continue a tradition begun by the first president, George Washington, and seek to ensure the "preservation of the sacred fire of liberty" and this great experiment in republican government "entrusted to the hands of the American people."

"But every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principles. We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists."
--Thomas Jefferson, First Inaugural Address

"So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself--nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."
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To Think and To Do: Watch or listen to the Inaugural Address on January 20th. How does the newly inaugurated president lay out their vision for our government, and how does it reflect the goals and purposes of government as provided in the [Preamble to the Constitution](#)?

Learn MORE about Inauguration Day.

Free registration may be required.

- [Inaugurations and the White House](#), from The White House Historical Association
- [Inaugural Addresses \(Washington 1789-Trump 2017\)](#), from The American Presidency Project
- [America 101: What Happens on Inauguration Day?](#), from The History Channel



The new president, Richard Nixon, is greeted by the outgoing one, Lyndon Johnson, during the 1969 Inauguration.

Breaking Down a CRL





CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

**Natural Law &
Social Contract**



CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

Impeachment



CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

Voting Rights



CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

**The Electoral
College**



CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

Constitution Day



CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

**Consent of the
Governed**



CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

**Presidential
Debates**

CRL Title

focused on a
civics concept
and/or relate to
a current
event.



Inauguration Day

Civics is all around us. There are many ways to learn about the government and how "We the People" interact with the government and each other. Let's help each other expand our knowledge of civics and literacy.



Every four years, we have one of the most important [civic celebrations](#) we can imagine: Presidential Inauguration Day! Since 1937, under the [20th Amendment](#), this special day is almost always held on January 20th, a few months after the general election and a little more than a month following the vote of the [Electoral College](#). According to the 20th Amendment, the term of a president and vice-president ends at noon on the 20th of January, so the new president and vice-president are sworn in as close to possible to noon. This is to avoid any question about authority and power in the executive branch. But what is the significance of the inauguration?

Inauguration Day is a symbol of the American political system. It reflects the vote of the people, as a president is either sworn into office for the second time (a third or fourth if you are Franklin Delano Roosevelt, [see here for more](#)), or power is peacefully transferred to a new leader. One of the most important aspects of this symbolic event is the Inaugural Address.

The purpose of a president's first Inaugural Address is to lay out [their vision](#) of the United States of America. Most often, this address explains their goals for the country, and how they will seek to bring together the people of this nation after what may have been a contentious election. The newly elected president's goal most often is to provide Americans with an uplifting, uniting, and hopeful promise of what will happen in the next four years, and to share with other nations how the next four years will unfold.

Another important symbolic aspect of the presidential inauguration is that, historically, the previous president attends as a symbol of a transition of power between elected leaders, but this is not required; John Adams, John Quincy Adams, and Andrew Johnson all [chose](#) not to attend the inauguration of the men to whom they lost. Recently, President Trump [publicly stated](#) that he will not attend President-Elect Biden's inauguration.

During the modern Inauguration Day, the swearing in of the president in Washington, DC is often preceded or followed by a parade while the speech is attended by thousands of excited Americans. This event requires a great deal of planning on the part of the Architect of the Capitol, in collaboration with the elected president's team and local leaders. The big question now is how this will be different during the COVID-19 pandemic, when it would be unsafe to have massive group gatherings; it's important to note, though, that you do not need a large audience to actual swear in the president! No matter what, the new president will continue a tradition begun by the first president, George Washington, and seek to ensure the "preservation of the sacred fire of liberty" and this great experiment in republican government "entrusted to the hands of the American people."

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To Think and To Do: Watch or listen to the Inaugural Address on January 20th. How does the newly inaugurated president lay out their vision for our government, and how does it reflect the goals and purposes of government as provided in the [Preamble to the Constitution](#)?

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Opening Paragraph

connects the current event to a big idea, civics concept, or 'need to know'.





CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

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the significance of this event in the American political system. It reflects the vote of the people for the president for the second time (or third or fourth if you've been re-elected), or power is peacefully transferred. One of the most important aspects of this symbolic event is the

significance of the United States of America. Most often, the president's goal most often is to provide Americans with a vision of the future for the next four years, and to share with other nations how

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During the modern Inauguration ceremony, the president is followed by a parade while the speaker gives the inaugural address. The big question now is how this works with the massive group gatherings; it's important to ensure the president's safety! No matter what, the new president and seek to ensure the "preservation of the Union" entrusted to the hands of the American people.

To Think and To Do: Watch or listen to the inaugural address on January 20th. How does the president lay out their vision for the future? How does it reflect the goals and purposes provided in the [Preamble to the Constitution](#)?

Learn MORE about Inauguration Day

Free registration materials

- [Inaugurations and the White House Historical Association](#)
- [Inaugural Addresses](#) (Washington State American Presidency Project)
- [America 101: What Happens on Inauguration Day](#) (History Channel)



Graphics & Images

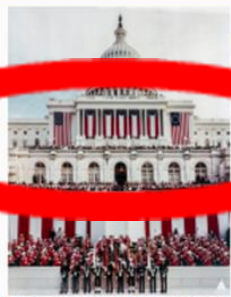
At least two images or graphics that relate to the content.



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Hyperlinks

Connections to relevant primary or secondary sources to expand understanding



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To Think and To Do

Asks students to
do something
with what they
learned!

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Learn More

Links to more information or extensions of what was addressed in the CRL.

Civics in Real Life

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The First Amendment

Learn MORE about the Bill of Rights and the five freedoms in the:

- [The Bill of Rights and Other Amendments](#), from Civics360
- [First Amendment FAQ](#), from Freedom Forum Institute
- [Do I have a Right?](#), from Civics



Why can people express themselves? How does the government become aware of people's feelings and desires during a time of crisis? It comes down to the First Amendment.

The First Amendment contains several rights with both a political and social impact. Politically, these rights protect people when they want to have a voice in government. Socially, people may organize to express that voice.

During the Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, individuals have exercised their First Amendment rights in different ways.

People have used their freedom of speech to express their government has handled the crisis. Individuals have also exercised the actions of their state's stay-at-home orders. The media news of the virus, provide updates to their audience.

The five freedoms in the First Amendment are:

- Freedom of speech allows individuals to express their opinion or government officials.
- Freedom of the press allows individuals to publish or print.
- Freedom of religious exercise, also known as the free religion freely or to choose not to practice a religion at all.
- Freedom of peaceful assembly means that people have without government interference. These groups may include their ideas or beliefs.
- Freedom of petition means that people have the right to the government to address issues. A petition may formally include the signatures of those who support the change.

To Do and To Think: How is the First Amendment? Describe specific examples of how you have seen your First Amendment rights during this time.

Learn MORE about the Bill of Rights and the five freedoms in the:

- [The Bill of Rights and Other Amendments](#), from Civics360
- [First Amendment FAQ](#), from Freedom Forum Institute
- [Do I have a Right?](#), from Civics

Civics in Real Life

Civics is all around us. There is a lot to know about the government and each other. Let's help each other expand our civic literacy.

A formal definition was crafted by Charles-Edward A. Winslow

"the science promoting physical health and efficiency of sanitation, the control of the organization of medical and nursing care, and the education of the public, and the development of the social community a standard of living adequate for the maintenance of health."

Winslow's definition is still relevant 100 years later, as public health focuses on safeguarding and improving the physical, mental, and social well-being of the community as a whole. To ensure this, the United States government has a Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control, and the National Institutes of Health, all of which help maintain the public health.

The concept of public health is an example of John Locke's theory of social contract in action. A social contract is created when an organized society agrees on the relationship between the government and the people. Locke said people form governments and agree to follow the laws and rules it sets because that government protects their right to life, liberty, and property.

To Do and To Think: How is the government abiding by its end of the social contract during this public health crisis?

As a reflective exercise, keep a journal or diary that documents the ways in which you, your family, your friends, and your community are participating in the social contract to help the nation fight COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus.

Learn MORE about the concepts of the social contract and public health. Free registration may be required.

- [The Enlightenment and Its Influence](#), from Civics360
- [Public Health Priorities](#), from the Department of Health and Human Services
- [The Enlightenment: Social Contract](#), from The Oxford Observer

The CARES Act

Civics is all around us. There is a lot to know about the government and how "We the People" interact with the government and each other. Let's help each other expand our civic literacy.

The United States Congress passed, and the president signed into law, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or the CARES Act, in response to the COVID-19/Novel coronavirus outbreak and its impact on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

Congress has the power to pass this sort of emergency spending and funding bill, under Article I of the United States Constitution. This has happened during times of potential or active military conflict, natural disaster, or economic hardship. Emergency spending and funding bills passed by Congress are intended to help the economy and provide support for states, individuals and businesses that have been impacted by the economic downturn. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) provides an estimated \$2 trillion stimulus package to help mitigate the harmful effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the United States.

Learn MORE about the CARES Act. Free registration may be required.

Congress and the CARES Act, from U.S. House Committee on Administration and Information. Credit: Audrey Cohen/NPR

On the graphic provided, what concepts and questions do you have about the CARES Act?

Loose Ends

On the graphic provided, what concepts and questions do you have about the CARES Act?

Inching Toward Inauguration

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Estimated \$43.7 Billion

\$339.8 Billion

\$377 Billion

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Controlling the Chambers

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Nowhere in the U.S. Constitution can you find a reference to political parties even though political parties play a critical role in how Congress functions.

After each election, the party that has more seats in the House or in the Senate is known as the majority party. The party that has fewer seats in the House or Senate is known as the minority party. Based on the 2020 election, when Congress convenes on January 3, 2021 the majority party in the House will continue to be the Democratic Party.

Currently, the Senate is 50-48, with Republicans in the majority. But, after the Georgia runoff elections on January 5th, the two Senate seats the majority may increase for Republicans - or Democrats may become the majority party. Remember that the President of the Senate is the Vice President. After Inauguration Day on January 20th, the Vice President will be a Democrat, Kamala Harris, and she would be the tie-breaker for any votes.

Under Article 1, Sections 2 and 3, each chamber in gives the power to select its own leadership. Further, Article 1, Section 5, Clause 2 of the U.S. Constitution allows each chamber to decide its own operating rules. Therefore, the party with more members has the legislative advantage over the party that does not. The majority party in either the House of Representatives or the Senate decides who serves as the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the majority leadership, and as chairpersons of the standing and select committees.

Consider that: the majority party controls all the chairs of the standing and select committees, and has a majority share of seats on each of these committees. Taken as a whole, the majority party determines the flow of legislation through the standing and select committees, which bills get debated on each chamber floor, and in the Senate. If confirmation hearings for nominees will happen. In the end, since the majority party chooses congressional leadership, it is their legislative agenda that gets priority as bills move through the chambers.

Learn MORE about Congressional Leadership. Free registration may be required.

Loose Ends

On the graphic provided, what concepts and questions do you have about the CARES Act?

Public Health

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In words of Founding Father John Adams, "Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity and happiness of the people."

Learn MORE about the Bill of Rights and the five freedoms in the:

- [The Bill of Rights and Other Amendments](#), from Civics360
- [First Amendment FAQ](#), from Freedom Forum Institute
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Loose Ends

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Common Good

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The "common good" is the beliefs or actions that benefit the community as a whole rather than individual interests. The "common good" is also known as the "public good". In our government system, it's both the government and the citizens that are responsible for protecting our rights and promoting the common good to benefit the community.

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Loose Ends

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Civics in Real Life

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Learn MORE about the U.S. Census and civic responsibility. Free registration may be required.

- Citizen Obligations and Responsibilities, from Civics360
- [Census 2020 Toolkit](#), from IllinoisCivics.org
- [How to Complete the Census](#), from the United States Census Bureau
- [Fast Facts from the Census Through History](#), from the United States Census Bureau

It's about fair representation.

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Constitution Day

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Civics in Real Life

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Elections are perhaps the most visible aspect of the American democratic system. Every two years, we head to the polls to vote for our representatives at various levels of government, and every four years we choose the next president of the United States.

One important thing to remember about elections is that they are an example of federalism in action; power over elections is shared between the state and federal governments.

The regulation of elections - deciding who can vote, where people vote, how people vote, and how many places there will be to vote - has generally been a power of the states or local governments under the 10th Amendment. One of the most important powers of the states on elections has to do with how we vote. How we vote is not uniform throughout the country. Some states use paper ballots, while others use electronic voting systems. A number of states allow early voting. This allows voters to cast their vote before Election Day. Some states allow vote-by-mail ballots for a variety of reasons, while others restrict when you can use a vote-by-mail ballot and

others do not allow vote-by-mail ballots at all. Studies have found around mail-in ballots is very rare and voting is primarily done at a polling station. The federal government officially established Election Tuesday after the first Monday in November, though it dates for state and local elections. Through the amendment U.S. Constitution, the federal government has expanded Black males, women, and young adults. While amendments to the Constitution have expanded the right to vote to still remain some control over 17-year-olds only in a general election, while in local elections. No state, vote except for one group in some states, people can't get to get back at let ex-felons get their right going through an process. This remains an ongoing, as

To Think and To Do: Research your state's election status. How do they compare? What do you notice about between the states?

Learn MORE about elections. Free registration may be required.

- Election Administration at State & Local Levels, from Voting and Election Laws, from USA.gov
- Elections, from Civics

Elections

Civics in Real Life

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Once the dust has settled from the nation's presidential caucuses and primaries, the focus of attention shifts to the major parties' nominating conventions. It is at these conventions where the major party candidates will officially become the Democratic and Republican nominees for president of the United States.

During the primary and caucus season (January-June), voters cast their ballot for pledged delegates to officially support a presidential candidate at the nominating convention. The candidate who receives at least 50% of the vote from their party's delegates earns their party's nomination. In addition to pledged delegates, each major party also has automatic delegates, more commonly known in the Democratic Party as "super delegates." It used to be that automatic delegates did not pledge their support until the convention, but since 2012, the Republican Party has made its automatic delegates to vote for the presidential candidate who wins their state's primary or caucus. Since 2016, the Democratic Party no longer allows the automatic delegates to vote unless the convention is contested.

A contested convention occurs when a candidate does not receive a majority of the pledged delegates during the primaries and caucuses. This means that after the first round of voting for a longer pledged to a specific candidate, support however they want as the elected through one or more rounds of voting are rare. The last contested convention was in 1860, when Abraham Lincoln Governor Adlai Stevenson.

Today, the presidential nominating process is a complex one. It involves a series of events, including primaries, caucuses, and national party conventions. The process is designed to ensure that the candidate who receives the most support from voters is the one who becomes the party's nominee. The process is also designed to ensure that the candidate who receives the most support from voters is the one who becomes the party's nominee.

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Civics in Real Life

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Today's two main parties, the Democrats and the Republicans, have different views on how the government should run. The Democrats believe in a more active government, while the Republicans believe in a more limited government. The Democrats believe in a more active government, while the Republicans believe in a more limited government. The Democrats believe in a more active government, while the Republicans believe in a more limited government.

The table below provides a comparison of the views of the two major political parties across several issues. It is important to remember that individual members of a political party may not necessarily support all aspects of their party's platform.

ISSUES	DEMOCRATIC PARTY	REPUBLICAN PARTY
Economic Ideas	Higher federal and state minimum wage; progressive taxation; the wealthy are taxed more than lower earners	Wages should be set by the free market and not the government; taxation for everyone should be as minimal as possible
The Military Budget	Supports a strong military and is more likely to increase military budget (generally)	Supports a strong military and higher military budget (generally)
Government Regulation	Regulations are intended to help the citizen and the consumer and protect communities, and the environment	There are too many regulations, and regulations impact job growth and the expansion of the economy
Healthcare Policy	Supports some form of government-run universal healthcare and protection for pre-existing conditions; generally supports preserving the Affordable Care Act	Supports a market-based approach to healthcare, including protection for pre-existing conditions; generally opposes the Affordable Care Act
Immigration	Generally supports a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants	Generally supports the deportation of all undocumented immigrants

Whatever your position on the issues, it is important to understand where the major political parties stand so that you have some sense of who and what you will be voting for when candidates run for local, state, or national office.

To Think and To Do: Complete the quiz from the non-partisan election education resource "Side Wins". How do your own positions on issues compare to those of the two main political parties or the "Side Wins"? Is there anything that surprised you about your results?

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- Political Parties, from Civics360
- Political Parties, from USA.gov
- U.S. Political Parties & Organizations, from The Democracy Commission, AASCU
- GOP.com, Republican Party Homepage

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Impeachment

What happens when a public official, who may be appointed or elected, is accused of engaging in conduct that might be considered to be a high crime and misdemeanor? The U.S. Constitution provides the means to do so: impeachment and conviction. Alexander Hamilton himself, in *Federalist No. 65*, described the importance of impeachment and when it should happen.

One of the most common misconceptions about the impeachment process is that it automatically removes an official from office. However, that is not the case. Impeachment merely brings charges, so for an impeached official to be removed, they must first be convicted. As its most basic, the process is twofold: the Judiciary Committee in the U.S. House of Representatives must first impeach an official, and then the U.S. Senate must convict them for the full House to vote. These articles provide the members of the House the opportunity to bring the accusations against the official, and they vote either for or against them. If there is a majority vote in favor of the articles, the official is impeached.

To Think and To Do: Research your state's election status. How do they compare? What do you notice about between the states?

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In some states there is a pre-registration option for 16 or 17 year-olds so that once they turn 18, they are eligible to vote. For example, Florida allows 16-year-olds to pre-register, while Maine requires people to be at least 17 to pre-register.

There are some other differences among states as well. For example, some states require voters to be permanent residents living in the state in which they are registering to vote, while others prohibit voter registration if someone has declared mentally incompetent or if they have been convicted of a felony. North Dakota is the only state that does not require voter registration. Interestingly, there are some local communities in the United States that allow non-citizens or citizens

though, that these individuals rarely apply to local elections. When preparing to register to vote, it is important to know your requirements and to meet their registration deadlines. Registration deadlines vary from state-to-state, so knowing how far in advance you need to register will prevent missing the opportunity to cast your vote.

an effort to increase the number of registered voters in the U.S., Congress passed and President Clinton signed into law, the National Voter Registration Act of 1993. This act is known as "Motor Voter" law because it requires the states to offer voter registration opportunities to people who are renewing their driver's license at their local DMV offices, or to people who are going to the U.S. Post Office. Because of these additional requirements, more people are registered to vote.

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CIVICS IN REAL LIFE

Inauguration Day

Civics is all around us. There is a lot to know about the government and how "We the People" interact with the government and each other. Let's help each other expand our civic literacy.



Every four years, we have one of the most important [civic celebrations](#) we can imagine: Presidential Inauguration Day! Since 1937, under the [20th Amendment](#), this special day is almost always held on January 20th, a few months after the general election and a little more than a month following the vote of the [Electoral College](#). According to the 20th Amendment, the term of a president and vice-president ends at noon on the 20th of January, so the new president and vice-president are sworn in as close to possible to noon. This is to avoid any question about authority and power in the executive branch. But what is the significance of the inauguration?

Inauguration Day is a symbol of the American political system. It reflects the vote of the people, as a president is either sworn into office for the second time (or third or fourth if you are Franklin Delano Roosevelt, [but that can't happen anymore!](#)), or power is peacefully transferred to a new leader. One of the most important aspects of this symbolic event is the Inaugural Address.

The purpose of a president's first Inaugural Address is to lay out [their vision](#) of the United States of America. Most often, this address explains their goals for the country, and how they will seek to bring together the people of this nation after what may have been a contentious election. The newly elected president's goal most often is to provide Americans with an uplifting, uniting, and hopeful promise of what will happen in the next four years, and to share with other nations how the next four years will unfold.

Another important symbolic aspect of the presidential inauguration is that, historically, the previous president attends as a symbol of a transition of power between elected leaders, but this is not required; John Adams, John Quincy Adams, and Andrew Johnson all [chose](#) not to attend the inauguration of the men to whom they lost. Recently, President Trump [publicly stated](#) that he will not attend President-Elect Biden's inauguration.

During the modern Inauguration Day, the swearing in of the president in Washington, DC is often preceded or followed by a parade while the speech is attended by thousands of excited Americans. This event requires a great deal of planning on the part of the Architect of the Capitol, in collaboration with the elected president's team and local leaders. The big question now is how this will be different during the COVID-19 pandemic, when it would be unsafe to have massive group gatherings; it's important to note, though, that you do not need a large audience to actual swear in the president! No matter what, the new president will continue a tradition begun by the first president, George Washington, and seek to ensure the "preservation of the sacred fire of liberty" and this great experiment in republican government "entrusted to the hands of the American people."

"But every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principles. We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists."
--Thomas Jefferson, [First Inaugural Address](#)
"So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself--nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."
--Franklin Delano Roosevelt, [First Inaugural Address](#)

To Think and To Do: Watch or listen to the Inaugural Address on January 20th. How does the newly inaugurated president lay out their vision for our government, and how does it reflect the goals and purposes of government as provided in the [Preamble to the Constitution](#)?

Learn MORE about Inauguration Day.
Free registration may be required.

- [Inaugurations and the White House](#), from The White House Historical Association
- [Inaugural Addresses \(Washington 1789-Trump 2017\)](#), from The American Presidency Project
- [America 101: What Happens on Inauguration Day?](#), from The History Channel



The new president, Richard Nixon, is greeted by the outgoing one, Lyndon Johnson, during the 1969 Inauguration.



Lou Frey Institute

Let's Chat!

How might you use
Civics in Real Life
for virtual or face to
face instruction?



Connecting to current instruction aligned with state standards



My favorite one yet!

Love · Reply · 18w



I'll be using this one when we talk about the need for citizens to engage with their gov't leaders.

Like · Reply · 18w



Thank you! This hit perfectly for my article of the week after the did the ICivics assignment on International organizations.

Love · Reply · 19w · Edited



Application to Real Life



These are awesome and highly appreciated! Since there is no EOC I'm going to use them to wrap up after we finish our final unit so they can see how everything we learned applies outside the classroom.

Love · Reply · 22w



↳  Steve Masyada replied · 1 Reply



Anyone saw today's press briefing? This really addresses that deficiency...

Like · Reply · 22w





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Another important symbolic aspect of the presidential inauguration is that, historically, the previous president attends as a symbol of a transition of power between elected leaders, but this is not required; John Adams, John Quincy Adams, and Andrew Johnson all [chose](#) not to attend the inauguration of the men to whom they lost. Recently, President Trump [publicly stated](#) that he will not attend President-Elect Biden's inauguration.

During the modern Inauguration Day, the swearing in of the president in Washington, DC is often preceded or followed by a parade while the speech is attended by thousands of excited Americans. This event requires a great deal of planning on the part of the Architect of the Capitol, in collaboration with the elected president's team and local leaders. The big question now is how this will be different during the COVID-19 pandemic, when it would be unsafe to have massive group gatherings; it's important to note, though, that you do not need a large audience to actual swear in the president! No matter what, the new president will continue a tradition begun by the first president, George Washington, and seek to ensure the "preservation of the sacred fire of liberty" and this great experiment in republican government "entrusted to the hands of the American people."

"But every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle. We have called by different names brethren of the same principles. We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists."
--Thomas Jefferson, First Inaugural Address

"So, first of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself--nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."
--Franklin Delano Roosevelt, First Inaugural Address

To Think and To Do: Watch or listen to the Inaugural Address on January 20th. How does the newly inaugurated president lay out their vision for our government, and how does it reflect the goals and purposes of government as provided in the [Preamble to the Constitution](#)?

Learn MORE about Inauguration Day.

Free registration may be required.

- [Inaugurations and the White House](#), from The White House Historical Association
- [Inaugural Addresses \(Washington 1789-Trump 2017\)](#), from The American Presidency Project
- [America 101: What Happens on Inauguration Day?](#), from The History Channel



The new president, Richard Nixon, is greeted by the outgoing one, Lyndon Johnson, during the 1969 Inauguration.

Maine Civics Themes and Concepts

- Unity and Diversity
- Continuity and Change over Time
- Democratic and Constitutional Principles of Government
- American Political System
- Primary Sources



Poll Question

- What are the most difficult civics topics for you to teach?
 - Election 2020
 - Local Issues
 - Federalism
 - Domestic and Foreign Policy
 - Other





Civics

360

A Comprehensive Guide to Middle School Civics
Available Anytime, Anywhere

civics360.org



Welcome to Civics360:

A Comprehensive Guide to Middle School Civics...

Create a
Log In

Explore the Civics Topic Areas!

Civics Topic Areas



Citizen You!

Review information on:

- SS.7.C.2.1** Defining Citizenship
- SS.7.C.2.2, 2.3, & 2.14** Citizen Obligations and Responsibilities
- SS.7.C.1.9** Rule of Law



Engaged Citizens

Review information on:

- SS.7.C.2.10** Influencing the Government
- SS.7.C.2.11** Bias, Symbolism and Propaganda
- SS.7.C.2.12** Public Policy Problem Solving
- SS.7.C.2.13** Examining Multiple Perspectives



Running for Office!

Review information on:

- SS.7.C.2.8** Political Parties
- SS.7.C.2.9 & 2.7** Evaluating Candidates



The Founding: From Colonies to United States



Federal Government

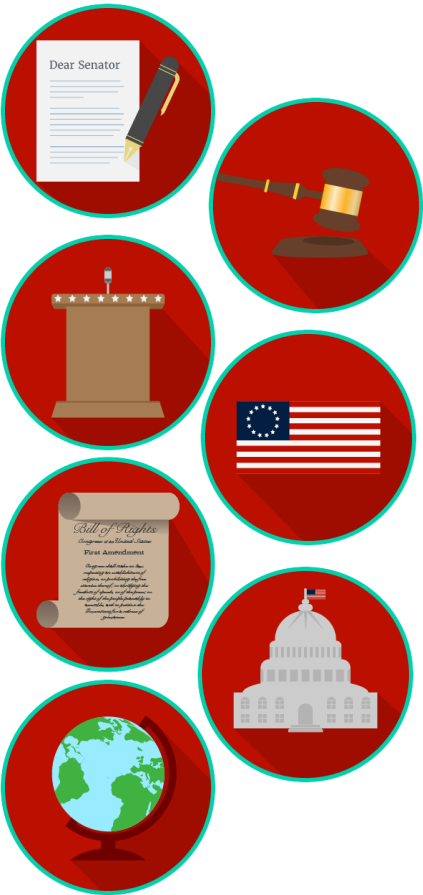


Florida State and Local Government



The Topic Areas

What is in each Topic Area?



- ★ Citizen You: Citizenship – naturalization process, 14th Amendment
- ★ Engaged Citizens: media literacy, advocacy, multiple perspectives, public policy
- ★ Running for Office: political parties, elections, qualifications
- ★ From the Colonies to the United States: The Founding – founding documents
- ★ Federal Government – three branches, Articles I, II & III
- ★ State & Local Government
- ★ My Rights & Liberties – Bill of Rights, limits to rights
- ★ The Legal System – levels of courts, landmark cases
- ★ The U.S. and the World – forms and systems of government, foreign and domestic policy



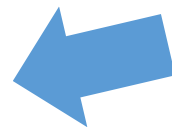
The Founding: From Colonies to United States



The Founding: From Colonies to United States

Review information on:

- SS.7.C.1.1** The Enlightenment and Its Influence
- SS.7.C.1.2** Influential Documents
- SS.7.C.1.3** The Road to Independence
- SS.7.C.1.4** Declaration of Independence
- SS.7.C.1.5** Articles of Confederation



Topic Area



Subtopic Modules

In Each Module You Will Find

- ✓ Videos
 - ✓ Video Viewing Guides
- ✓ Readings
 - ✓ Reading Guides
- ✓ Support & Enrichment Activities
- ✓ Assessment
- ✓ Additional Resources

In Each Module You Will Find

SS.7.C.2.9 & 2.7

Evaluating Candidates

Let's Learn About Evaluating Candidates

SS.7.C.2.9: Evaluate candidates for political office by analyzing their qualifications, experience, issue-based platforms, debates, and political ads.

SS.7.C.2.7: Conduct a mock election to demonstrate the voting process and its impact on a school, community, or local level.

Evaluating Candidates Content Guide



Downloadable
Module Guide

The module guide is a downloadable packet that includes all guides. Click the button for the word version.

[Click here for the Typable PDF version of the guide.](#)



UCF

Video

Video One: Evaluating Candidates for Federal Office

Download the video viewing guide to get more out of viewing the video.

[WORD VERSION](#)

[TYPABLE PDF](#)

[SCRIPT](#)



2.9_ Evaluating Candidates for Federal Office



The Florida Joint Center for Citizenship Presents



Let's Take a Look at a Video...

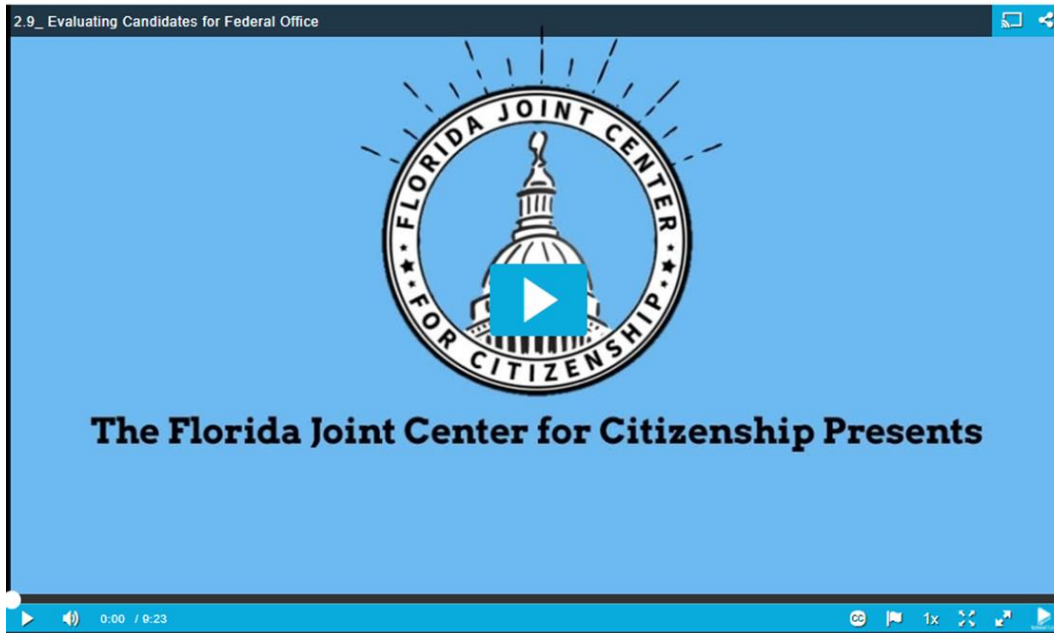
Video One: Evaluating Candidates for Federal Office

Download the video viewing guide to get more out of viewing the video.

[WORD VERSION](#)

[TYPABLE PDF](#)

[SCRIPT](#)



Video Viewing Guides



Running for Office: *SS.7.C.2.9/C.2.7*
Evaluating Candidates
VIDEO VIEWING GUIDE #1

Name: _____

Date: _____



Evaluating Candidates for Federal Office Video #1

Question	List Specific Evidence from the Video	Complete Sentence
1. What is a 'candidate'?		
2. Where will you find an outline of the requirements for federal office?		

3. Complete the chart as you view the video

Position	Age	Citizenship	Residency	Term Limits
President				
Vice-President				
U.S. Senator				

SS.7.C.2.9
Evaluate candidates for political office by analyzing their qualifications, experience, issue-based platforms, debates and political ads.
Also Assesses
SS.7.C.2.7 - Conduct a mock election to demonstrate the voting process and its impact on a school, community or local level.

SS.7.C.2.9 Benchmark Clarification 1: Students will identify the constitutional requirements to run for federal political office.

According to the U.S. Constitution, people running for national office must meet certain qualifications. Examples of federal political offices are President, Vice President, Congressman/woman, and Senator. The qualifications are unique to each office and are listed in the chart below.

Federal Elected Office	Description of Qualifications
President Vice President (The qualifications to be vice president are not included in the U.S. Constitution. However, the vice president becomes president if the president resigns from office or dies. This means that the vice president must be qualified to be president in order to run for vice president).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> At least 35 years old Has lived in the U.S. for 14 years Is a natural born citizen, which means born on U.S. soil (law of soil) or to a U.S. citizen parent (law of blood) May not serve more than two 4-year terms. The vice president may become president because the president dies, resigns, or is removed from office. The vice president, upon becoming president, may be president for no more than 10 years. (This means that the vice president completes the president's unfinished term and can run for president in the next two presidential elections).
A member of the U.S. House of Representatives (U.S. Representative)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25 years old 7 years as a U.S. citizen Members of the U.S. House of Representatives do not have to live in the district that they represent, but they must live in the state in which their district is located. No term limits; they can serve an unlimited number of 2-year terms
A member of the U.S. Senate (U.S. Senator)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 30 years old 9 years as a U.S. citizen Members of the U.S. Senate must live in the state that they represent. No term limits; they can serve an unlimited number of 6-year terms

law of blood - a person's citizenship at birth is the same as that of his or her biological mother or father
law of soil - a person's citizenship at birth is determined by the country where he or she was born
president - the head of the executive branch

SS.7.C.2.9
Evaluar los candidatos a un cargo político, analizando sus aptitudes, experiencia, plataforma, debates y anuncios políticos.
También Evalúa
SS.7.C.2.7 - Realizar un simulacro para demostrar el proceso de votación y su impacto en una escuela, comunidad o nivel local.

Indicador de Aclaración 1 del SS.7.C.2.9: Los estudiantes identificarán los requisitos constitucionales para postularse a un cargo político federal.

Según la Constitución de EE.UU., las personas que se postulan para cargos nacionales deben cumplir con ciertos requisitos. Los ejemplos de cargos políticos federales son Presidente, Vicepresidente, Congreso y Senador. Las calificaciones son únicas para cada oficina y se enumeran en la siguiente tabla.

Cargo Federal a Elegir	Descripción de las Aptitudes
Presidente Vicepresidente (Las aptitudes para ser vicepresidente no están incluidas en la Constitución de los Estados Unidos. Sin embargo, el vicepresidente se convierte en presidente si el presidente dimite de su cargo o muere. Esto significa que el vicepresidente debe estar calificado para ser presidente).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tener al menos 35 años de edad Haber vivido en los EE.UU. durante 14 años Ser un ciudadano nacido natural, lo que significa nacer en EE.UU. (derecho de suelo) o tener un padre ciudadano de los EE.UU. (derecho de sangre) No podrá estar en el cargo por más de dos periodos de 4 años. El vicepresidente puede ser presidente si el presidente muere, renuncia o se le quita su cargo. El vicepresidente al convertirse en presidente, puede ser presidente por más de 10 años. (Esto significa que el vicepresidente completa el periodo del presidente y puede postularse para presidente en las próximas dos elecciones presidenciales).
Miembro de la Cámara de Representantes de EE.UU. (Representante de EE.UU.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tener 25 años de edad Tener 7 años como un ciudadano de EE.UU. Los miembros de la Cámara de Representantes EE.UU. no tienen que vivir en el distrito que representan, pero deben residir en el estado en que se encuentra su distrito. No hay límites de mandatos; pueden servir por un número ilimitado de periodos de 2 años
Un miembro del Senado de EE.UU. (Senador de EE.UU.)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tener 30 años de edad Tener 9 años como un ciudadano de EE.UU. Los miembros del Senado de EE.UU. deben vivir en el estado que representan. No hay límites de mandatos; pueden servir por un número ilimitado de periodos de 6 años

Cámara de Representantes de EE.UU. - la cámara baja del Congreso de EE.UU.
derecho de sangre - la ciudadanía de una persona al nacer es la misma que la de su madre o padre biológico
derecho de suelo - la ciudadanía de una persona al nacer está determinada por el país en el que nació

SS.7.C.2.9
Analyse candidates for political office by analyzing their qualifications, experience, issue-based platforms, debates and political ads.
Also Assesses
SS.7.C.2.7 - Fè yon eleksyon san valè pou demontre pwosesis votè a ak enpak li sou yon lekòl, kominite oswa nivo lokal la.

SS.7.C.2.9 Klarifikasyon sou Nasyon Fondamantal 1: Elèv yo ap identifye kondisyon yo pou al nan eleksyon pou pòs politik federal.

Daprè Konstitisyon Etazini an, moun ki al nan eleksyon pou pòs biwo nasyonal dwe genyen sèten kalifikasyon. Men kèk egzanp sou biwo politik federal se Prezidan an, Vis Prezidan an, Depite, ak Senatè. Kalifikasyon yo inik nan chak biwo e yo nan lis nan tablo ki anba a.

Moun ki Eli nan Pòs Federal	Deskripsyon Kalifikasyon yo
Prezidan Vis Prezidan (kalifikasyon pou vis prezidan an pa enkli nan Konstitisyon Etazini an. Sepandan, vis pwezidan an devni prezidan si prezidan an emisyone oswa mouri. Sa vle di ke vis pwezidan an dwe kalifye pou l rezidan pou l kapab al nan eleksyon ou vis prezidan).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Gen omwen 35 an Te abite nan peyi Etazini pou 14 an Li se yon sitwayen natirèl ki fèt nan peyi a, ki vle di li fèt sou tè Etazini (Dwa nan tè a) oswa nan yon paran sitwayen Ameriken (Dwa nan san) Pa ka sèvi pou plis pase de tè 4 an. Vis prezidan an ka vin prezidan si prezidan an mouri, demisyone, oswa yo retire l nan biwo. Vis prezidan an, li l devni prezidan, li ka vin prezidan pa plis pase 10 an. (Sa vle di ke vis pwezidan an ap konplete rè 5 tan prezidan an e li ka al nan eleksyon pou prezidan nan de pwochen eleksyon prezidansyèl kap vini yo).
on manm nan Chanm Reprezantan peyi Etazini (Representant Etazini)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25 an 7 an kòm yon sitwayen Ameriken Manm nan Chanm Reprezantan Etazini an, pa oblije ap viv nan distri ke yo reprezante a, men yo dwe ap viv nan eta kote distri yo a sitye. Pa gen limit pou kantite manda; yo ka sèvi yon kantite tan ki san limit nan tè 2 an
on manm nan Chanm Sena peyi Etazini (Senatè Etazini)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 30 an 9 an kòm yon sitwayen Ameriken Manm Sena Etazini yo dwe ap viv nan eta ke yo reprezante a. Pa gen limit pou kantite manda; yo ka sèvi yon kantite tan san limit nan tè 6 an

Chanm Depite peyi Etazini - Chanm ki pi ba nan Kongrè Etazini an

Dwa nan san - yon moun ke sitwayènte li l te fèt se menm bagay la kòm moun ke manman oswa papa byolojik li

Dwa nan tè - yon moun ke sitwayènte li l te fèt detèmine nan peyi kote li pran nesans la

Readings

- Multiple languages
- 7th grade reading level
- Includes vocabulary
- Emphasizes most important concepts in the content





Running for Office: SS.7.C.2.9/C.2.7 Name: _____

Evaluating Candidates

READING GUIDE #1

Date: _____

Reading: Constitutional Requirements for Federal Office

Benchmark Clarification 1: Students will identify the constitutional requirements to run for federal office.

Reading Task	Response
What ideas are presented in the reading?	
What is the central idea of the reading?	
Select two words or phrases that support the central idea.	
How might this reading connect to your own experience or something you have seen, read, or learned before?	
List the constitutional requirements to run for federal office. Do you think there should be other requirements? Why or why not?	The constitutional requirements to run for office are:
	I do/do not think (choose one) there should be other requirements because:

Reading Guides



UCF

How can we use the Readings and Video in Conjunction with the CRL?

- Use CRL as intro to broader content covered in readings and videos
 - Does not require event to be current, but still illustrates connection to civic life
- Have students make the connections between the content they learned in the readings and videos with the CRL you choose to use
- Vocabulary connections

Assessment and Additional Resources

Practice Quiz on Evaluating Candidates

BEGIN THE QUIZ



Helpful Resources

[Vocabulary Practice Worksheet Word Version](#)

[Vocabulary Practice Worksheet Typable PDF](#)

[Quizlet Civics Vocabulary Games](#)

[Election Time in Tutorial Town - Interactive Lesson](#)

[Evaluate the Candidates - Interactive Lesson](#)

[Original Escambia Practice Items \(Teacher Access Only\)](#)



Some modules also include

Showing What You Know

A reading and matching activity to understand how the Constitution addressed the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.

This will open in your browser as a PDF form. Right click to save to your desktop.

 **Activity!** 

Some modules also include



Support and Enrichment Texts and Activities



These resources include readings and activities to provide deeper understanding, extend support, or address gaps in learning.

These will open in your browser as a PDF form or Word document. Right click to save to your desktop. Contact Dr. Steve Masyada at stephen.masyada@ucf.edu for answer keys.

Activities



The Articles of Confederation: Let's Match Up What We Learned!



Jefferson, Madison, and the Articles: Let's Play With Primary Sources!

Support Readings

What Were the Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation?

[Weaknesses of the Articles, With Graphics](#)

How Does Shays' Rebellion Show the Weakness of Government Under the Articles?

[Shays' Rebellion](#)

Support and Enrichment

Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation & Shays' Rebellion



- I can understand the importance of Shays' Rebellion.
- I can explain how the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation led to the writing of the U.S. Constitution

With the Articles of Confederation having so many weaknesses, it was almost guaranteed that the United States would have a big problem on its hands.

Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation
Congress could not raise money.
Congress could not regulate trade.
Congress could not enforce laws.
There was no central leadership.
There was no central court system.
All 13 states had to agree to make changes.

After the American Revolution, the new United States was still struggling due to the fact that the government under the Articles of Confederation could not raise money or regulate trade.

In Massachusetts, the state governor who served in the Revolution that they had to pay property taxes. Then, Massachusetts decided that since farmers had not paid their taxes during the Revolutionary War, their property would be taken away.

Imagine being told you did not have to do something and then being told that you had to do it or you will be punished?

The action by the Massachusetts government of taking away property was seen as being unfair and led to an event called Shays' Rebellion. 2,000 farmers revolted against the Massachusetts government by rioting and protesting to prevent the government from taking their farmland.



Articles of Confederation → U.S. Constitution Match Up Activity

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS

<p>Benchmark SS.7.C.1.5: Identify how the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation led to the writing of the Constitution.</p>
<p>Activity Students will use images and words chunks provided on cards to make connections about how the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation were fixed within the writing of the United States Constitution.</p>
<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Matching cards – one set per student or pairs of students. Cards will need to be cut out before the start of class. * Graphic Organizer
<p>Instructions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pass out the graphic organizer, one per student. 2. Place students into pairs or have them work individually. 3. Explain to students that their task is to take their cards and place each one in the correct spot on their graphic organizer. Is the card an example of a weakness of the Articles of Confederation or a quote or image related to the U.S. Constitution that shows how to fix the weakness? Once they have placed their cards, be sure to check their answers. Then, have students create their own related image and write an explanation of how their image relates to either the weakness in the Articles of Confederation or the 'fix' in the U.S. Constitution.

Two Important Additional Resources



The Practice Assessment

Review information on:

* Take The Practice Assessment



The High School US Government Classroom

Review information on:

Civic Literacy and High School US Government

The Principles of American Democracy

The United States Constitution

Founding Documents

Landmark Supreme Court Cases



CIVICS360: THE LEGAL SYSTEM

Media
Member

CIVICS360: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

11 Media
1 Member

CIVICS360: THE FOUNDING: FROM COLONIES TO THE UNITED STATES

10 Media | 1 Member

CIVICS360: THE US AND THE WORLD

9 Media | 1 Member

Gov
Cl

CIVICS360: MY RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES

8 Media | 1 Member

Dear Senator

CIVICS360: ENGAGED CITIZENS

6 Media | 1 Member

Schooltube

en Obligations and Responsibilities

Putting It All Together

- How can we use Civics360 in conjunction with Civics in Real Life to help our students succeed?

Let's Learn About Being An Engaged Citizen:

As citizens have to obey laws, pay taxes, defend the nation

the responsibilities of citizens at the local, state, or federal

: Conduct a service project to further the public good.

CIVICS IN
REAL LIFE

The First Amendment

is all around us. There is a lot to know about the government and how "We the People" with the government and each other. Let's help each other expand our civic literacy.

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.



The Guardian

Why can people express themselves? How does the government become aware of people's feelings and desires during a time of crisis? It comes down to the First Amendment.

The First Amendment contains several rights with both a political and social impact. Politically, these rights protect people when they want to have a voice in government. Socially, people may organize to express that voice.

During the Novel Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, individuals exercised their First Amendment rights in different ways.

People have used their freedom of speech to express their thoughts, feelings, and ideas about how





During an election, **candidates** who are running for public office often create political advertisements and commercials to appeal to voters. Voters should consider several things when deciding which candidate to vote for.

A voter may want to consider a candidate's previous experience. People who are elected to public office may have served in some other elected or appointed position, or they may have a special background that would help them do their job. For example, many elected Congressmen/Congresswomen and Senators actively participate in their communities, have been a lawyer or a judge, are college graduates, and may have served in local government before running for state or federal office.

A voter may want to consider a **candidate's platform** – the set of ideas and beliefs that a candidate has on certain issues. These ideas might include education, religion, health care, government spending, taxes, and foreign policy.

A voter may want to watch a political debate before the election. Presidential and vice-presidential candidate debates are always shown on national television.

A voter may want to consider political advertisements in magazines and newspapers, and on television, radio, and websites. Candidates use these advertisements to appeal to voters and to say why they are the best choice. Sometimes candidates use negative advertisements to make their opponents look bad.

American Presidency Project

- [America 101: What Happens on Inauguration Day?](#), from The History Channel

The new president, Richard Nixon, is greeted by the outgoing one, Lyndon Johnson, during the 1969 Inauguration.



Lou Frey



UCF



Questions?





The Florida Joint Center for Citizenship at the Lou Frey Institute

Presents:

The Civics Classroom

Online Professional Development Course Series for Civics Teachers

This course provides civics educators with online, self-paced, professional learning. Learn how to create a strong, engaged classroom that encourages students to grow as participants in civic life!



The Florida Joint Center for Citizenship at the Lou Frey Institute

Presents:

The High School U.S. History Classroom

The Civil War & Reconstruction Era

This course provides high school U.S. history educators with online, self-paced, professional learning focused on the major ideas of the cause, course, and consequences of the Civil War and Reconstruction Era.



The Florida Joint Center for Citizenship at the Lou Frey Institute

Presents:

The Government Classroom

Online Professional Development Course Series for Government Teachers

This course provides high school U.S. government educators with online, self-paced, professional learning. Learn how to create a strong, engaged classroom that encourages students to grow as participants in civic life!

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Thank you!

