Middle School Civics delivers instruction, practice, and review designed to build middle school students' understanding of the political and governmental systems of the United States and the roles played by citizens. By honing their ability to analyze civic life, political practices, and government structures, students build the depth of knowledge and higher-order thinking skills required to demonstrate their mastery when put to the test.

The two-semester course is arranged in themed units, each with three to five lessons. In each unit, activities make complex ideas about civics accessible through focused content, guided analysis, multi-modal representations, and personalized feedback. Each lesson includes a variety of activities such as direct instruction, application of skills, performance tasks, and formative and summative assessments. as they progress through standards-aligned content and demonstrate their learning through computer- and teacher-scored assignments.

Middle School Civics is built to state standards and informed by the College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards.

Length: Two Semesters

### Unit 1: Skills for Social Studies

- Examining Context and Bias in Political Communications
- Reading Historical Evidence
- Thinking Geographically
- Geography and the Environment
- Wrap-Up: Skills for Social Studies

### Unit 2: Creating the U.S. Government

- Types of Government
- Founding Ideas and the Declaration of Independence
- Drafting and Ratifying the U.S. Constitution
- Wrap-Up: Creating the U.S. Government

### Unit 3: The U.S. Constitution

- Analyzing the U.S. Constitution
- Amendments to the U.S. Constitution
- Principles of the U.S. Constitution
- Federalism
- Wrap-Up: The U.S. Constitution

### Unit 4: Citizen Connections

- Principles of Citizenship
- Political Views and Political Parties
- Interest Groups and the Media
- Elections


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- Wrap-Up: Citizen Connections

### Unit 5: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

- Civil Liberties
- Civil Rights
- Movements for Civil Rights
- Wrap-Up: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

### Unit 6: Semester Wrap-Up

### Unit 7: Advanced Skills for Social Studies

- Thinking Chronologically
- Working with Data
- Understanding Causation and Argumentation in History
- Wrap-Up: Advanced Skills for Social Studies

### Unit 8: Institutions of Government

- The Legislative Branch
- The Executive Branch
- The Judicial Branch
- State and Local Governments
- Wrap-Up: Institutions of Government

### Unit 9: Legislative and Judicial Processes

- The Legislative Process
- The U.S. Court System
- Wrap-Up: Legislative and Judicial Processes

### Unit 10: Public Policy

- U.S. Domestic Policy
- The U.S. Economy
- U.S. Foreign Policy
- Wrap-Up: Public Policy

### Unit 11: Economics and Financial Literacy

- Examining Basic Economic Concepts
- The Economy's Impact on Citizens
- Basic Financial Literacy
- Wrap-Up: Economics and Financial Literacy

### Unit 12: Semester Wrap-Up


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