

Political Parties and Influencing Elections

Unit 4B

Unit Guide

Political Parties & Public Opinion (Ch. 9, 10.3, & 11)

Political Parties & Influencing Elections	Vocabulary		<p>CE.C&G.2: Analyze government systems within the United States in terms of their structure, functions, and relationships.</p> <p>CE.C&G.2.8: Analyze America's two-party system in terms of the political and economic views that led to its emergence and the role that political parties play in American politics.</p> <p>CE.C&G.3: Analyze the legal system within the United States in terms of development, execution, and protection of citizenship rights at all levels of government.</p> <p>CE.C&G.3.6: Explain ways laws have been influenced by political parties, constituents, interest groups, lobbyists, the media and public opinion.</p> <p>CE.C&G.5: Analyze how political and legal systems within and outside of the United States provide a means to balance competing interests and resolve conflicts.</p> <p>CE.C&G.5.1: Analyze the election process at national, state, and local levels in terms of checks and balances provided by qualifications and procedures for voting</p>
	Essential Standards		
	Essential Understandings	<p>Students will understand that...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A nation's political systems are often comprised of adversarial groups which must find ways to resolve conflict and balance competing interests. 2. Third parties rarely gain elected office in the United States but their perspective can influence policies, laws, and public opinion. 3. Building constituencies among all stakeholders are a critical component of influencing laws and policies. 4. Government may be influenced by groups and individuals in ways that may or may not be in the best interest of the nation as a whole. 	
	Language Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will explain the similarities and differences of one, two, and multi party systems of government by creating a diagram individually. 2. Students will explain the role of propaganda, interest groups, and political parties play in the election process by creating a chart individually. 3. Students will explain the election process by creating a timeline individually. 	
Essential Questions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do local governments meet the needs of their citizens? 2. How did the United States develop a two-party system? 3. How do political parties, interest groups, lobbyists, and the media both help and hinder the legislative process? 4. Why are citizenship rights, responsibilities, duties, and levels of participation different in different nations and types of government? 5. How does our two-party system contribute to stability over time? 6. How can a 3rd party candidate impact an election? 7. How much impact does the media play in influencing voters? 8. What role should public opinion play in the development of laws? 9. What should happen when an individual's interests conflict with the overall interests of a nation or state? 		