

SS.7.C.3.1 – Compare different forms of government (direct democracy, representative democracy, socialism, communism, monarchy, oligarchy, autocracy).

Benchmark Clarifications:

- Students will identify different forms of government based on its political philosophy or organizational structure.
- Students will analyze scenarios describing various forms of government.
- Students will apply their understanding of the definitions of the various forms of government.

Additional Items: absolute monarchy, republic

Textbook: Chapter 2, Section 1 (p. 30-33)

absolute monarchy	a form of autocracy where a person becomes the sole leader of a country by being born into a family of rulers
Anarchy	the absence of any form of government
autocracy	a form of government where one person has unlimited power
communism	a form of government in which a single ruling party owns and controls all production and distribution of goods, and in which no private ownership is allowed
democracy	a system of government in which political power resides with the people
dictatorship	a form of autocracy where a military leader becomes the leader of a country often through violent means
direct democracy	a form of government in which the power to govern lies directly in the hands of the people rather than through elected representatives
form of government	the way a government is structured
monarchy	a form of government headed by a king or queen who inherits the position, rules for life, and holds power that can range anywhere between limited to absolute
oligarchy	a form of government in which a small group has total control and power
representative democracy	a system of government in which the people elect representatives to make policies and laws for them, also known as a republic
Republic	a system of government in which the people elect representatives to make policies and laws for them, also known as a representative democracy
Socialism	an economic system in which the government owns the primary means of production

Essential Questions:

1. What are forms of government?
2. How do they compare to each other?

SS.7.C.3.3 – Illustrate the structure and function (three branches of government established in Articles I, II, and III with corresponding powers) of government in the United States as established in the Constitution.

Benchmark Clarifications:

- Students will recognize the structure of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches.
- Students will compare the roles and responsibilities of the three branches of the federal government.
- Students will identify the general powers described in Articles I, II, and III of the U.S. Constitution.

Additional Items: approval of presidential appointments, armed forces, coin and print money, concurrent powers, declare war, delegated powers, elastic clause, enumerated powers, foreign relations, impeachment, implied powers, naturalization laws, necessary and proper, regulation of immigration, regulation of trade.

Textbook: Chapter 3, Section 2 (p. 99-102)

appellate jurisdiction	the power to hear appeals of cases which have been tried in lower courts
armed forces	the nation’s military (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, National Guard and Navy)
Article	a numbered chapter or section of a contract, treaty, or constitution
coining money	the power of the legislative branch to print money (coins and bills) for use
concurrent powers	powers shared by the national, state, and/or local government
declaration of war	the power of Congress to vote to go to war with another country
delegated powers	the powers specifically named and assigned to the federal government or prohibited to be exercised by the states under the U.S. Constitution, also known as enumerated powers
elastic clause	the power of Congress to pass all laws they deem necessary and proper for carrying out its enumerated powers (also known as implied powers)
enumerated powers	the powers specifically named and assigned to the federal government or prohibited to be exercised by the states under the U.S. Constitution, also known as delegated powers
executive branch	the branch of government that enforces the laws made by the legislative branch
foreign relations	the power of the executive branch to decide on the United States’ dealings with other countries in order to achieve national goals
immigration	the movement of people from one country to another country
impeach	to bring formal charges of wrongdoing against a public official (such as the U.S. President)
implied powers	powers not written in the U.S. Constitution but are necessary and proper in order for the federal government to carry out the expressed powers; Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 gives Congress the power to do what it deems “necessary and proper” to carry out the delegated powers
judicial branch	the branch of government that interprets the laws made by the legislative branch
legislative branch	the branch of government that creates laws
naturalization laws	laws made by Congress that people from other countries must follow in order to become legal citizens of the United States
necessary and proper	the power of Congress to make laws that they need to carry out their enumerated powers
original jurisdiction	the power of a court to be the first to hear a case on a specific topic; for the U.S. Supreme Court this involves cases involving conflicts between Congress and the president and in cases in which a state is a party
presidential appointments	the power of the U.S. President to choose members of his or her cabinet, ambassadors to other nations, and other officials in his or her administration

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regulate	to control, govern, or direct according to rule
trade	to buy and sell goods or services
U.S. Congress	the national legislative body of the U.S., consisting of the Senate, or upper house, and the House of Representatives, or lower house
U.S. House of Representatives	the lower house of the U.S. Congress
U.S. Senate	the upper house of the U.S. Congress
U.S. Supreme Court	the highest court of the United States; it sits at the top of the federal court system

Essential Question:

1. What is the structure and function of the United States government?

SS.7.C.3.8 – Analyze the structures, functions, and processes of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches.

Also Assessed:

SS.7.C.3.9 – Illustrate the lawmaking process at the local, state, and federal levels.

Benchmark Clarifications:

- Students will examine the processes of the legislative (e.g., how a bill becomes a law, appointment confirmation, committee selection), executive (e.g., executive order, veto, appointments), and judicial (e.g., judicial review, court order, writ of certiorari, summary judgment) branches of government.
- Students will compare local, state, and federal lawmakers (city/county commissioners/council members; state legislators [representatives and senators]; and U.S. congressmen/congresswomen [representatives and senators]).
- Students will distinguish among ordinances, statutes, and acts on the local, state, and federal levels.
- Students will compare and contrast the lawmaking process at the local, state, and federal levels.

Additional Items: cabinet, Chief Justice, committees (standing, special, conference), impeach, majority leader, majority vote, mayor, minority leader, pardon, President pro tempore of the Senate, presidential appointment, school boards, Speaker of the House, special interest groups.

Textbook: Chapter 3, Section 2 (p.93-97), Chapter 5 (p.136-152), Chapter 6 (160-173), Chapter 7 (p.180-192), Chapter 8, Section 2 (p.207-211), Chapter 8, Section 3 (p.213-216), Chapter 9, Section 1 (p.228-230), Chapter 9, Section 3 (p.234-237)

Act	legislation which has passed both houses of Congress in identical form, been signed into law by the president, or passed over his veto, therefore becoming law
appointment	job or duty that is given to a person
appointment confirmation	the process of the Senate approving the president’s choices for certain positions within the government
bicameral	having two chambers (e.g. the two houses of Congress, the Senate and the House of Representatives)
Bill	an idea being suggested to become a law
Cabinet	persons appointed by a head of state to head executive departments of government and act as official advisers
Chief Justice	the head justice, the Chief Justice is “first among equals”
city commissioner or council member	a member of the governing body of a city
committee selection	how representatives and senators are chosen for their assigned committees
conference committee	a temporary panel composed of House and Senate members, which is formed for the purpose of reconciling differences in legislation that has passed both chambers. Conference committees are usually convened to resolve differences on major and controversial legislation.
constituents	people public officials are elected to represent
county commissioner or council member	a member of the governing body of a county
court order	a formal statement from a court that orders someone to do or stop doing something
executive order	an order that comes from the U.S. President or a government agency and must be obeyed like a law
home rule	self-government by citizens at the local level
how a bill becomes a law	the process of how a proposed law (“bill”) moves through Congress and the president in order to become a law
Impeach	to bring formal charges of wrongdoing against a public official (such as the U.S. President)
judgment	a formal decision given by a court

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judicial review	the power of the U.S. courts to examine the laws or actions of the legislative and executive branches of the government and to determine whether such actions are consistent with the U.S. Constitution
jurisdiction	the right and power for courts to interpret and apply the law
Law	a rule established by government or other source of authority to regulate people’s conduct or activities
majority leader	a position where a Member of Congress is elected by the majority party to serve as the chief spokesperson for that party and to manage and schedule the business of either house
majority party	the political party with the most elected members
majority vote	the Senate may agree to any question by a majority of senators voting, if a quorum is present.
Mayor	the head of government for a city, town or other municipality
minority leader	a position where a member of Congress is elected by the minority party to serve as the chief spokesperson for the party and to support the majority party in managing and scheduling the business of either house
minority party	the political party second in number of elected members to the majority party
nominate	to suggest a person for a position or office
ordinance	a law enacted by a city or county affecting local affairs such as traffic, noise, and animal control
pardon	the formal act of forgiving someone or excusing a mistake
President pro tempore of the Senate	the person who presides over the Senate when the Vice President is not present
presidential appointment	the power of the president to nominate persons to fill positions in the federal government
school board	the group of persons elected to manage local public schools
Speaker of the House	an office identified in Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution; the leader of the U.S. House of Representatives, usually the highest ranking member of the majority party
special committee	a permanent committee established under the standing rules of both houses of Congress that focuses specific subject areas (e.g. Special Committee on Aging)
special interest groups	people who are concerned with some particular issue or part of the government and who try to influence legislators to act in their favor
standing committee	permanent committee that focuses on specific subject areas (e.g. Education and the Workforce Committee)
state legislator	a member of the Florida House of Representatives (state representative) or Florida Senate (state senator)
state representative	a member of a state legislature (i.e. the Florida House of Representatives)
state senator	a member of a state legislature (i.e. the Florida Senate)
Statute	a law enacted at the state level
summary judgment	a judgment decided by a trial court without that case going to trial; a summary judgment is an attempt to stop a case from going to trial
United States representative	a member of the U.S House of Representatives; representatives are elected in districts throughout each state
United States senator	a member of the U.S. Senate elected to represent an entire state, there are two senators per state
Veto	a decision by an executive authority such as a president or governor to reject a proposed law or statute
writ of certiorari	the procedure to see if the U.S. Supreme Court will hear a case; a writ of certiorari is issued when a higher level court agrees to hear an appeal of an inferior court’s decision

SS.7.C.3.11 – Diagram the levels, functions, and powers of courts at the state and federal levels.

Also Assessed:

SS.7.C.2.6 – Simulate the trial process and the role of juries in the administration of justice.

Benchmark Clarifications:

- Students will distinguish between the levels, functions, and powers of courts at the state and federal levels.
- Students will recognize that the powers and jurisdiction of the state and federal courts are derived from their respective constitutions.
- Students will compare appellate and trial processes.
- Students will examine the significance of the role of juries in the American legal system.

Additional Items: appeal, appellate court, circuit courts, county courts, District Court of Appeals, Florida Supreme Court, judge, judicial review, jurisdiction, justice, U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, U.S. District Courts, U.S. Supreme Court, trial court

Textbook: Chapter 7, Section 2 (p. 185-188), Chapter 8, Section 4 (p. 217-220)

Appeal	a request, made after a trial, asking a higher court to decide whether that trial was conducted properly
appellate court	any court that has the power to hear appeals from lower courts
Bailiff	court official who keeps order in the court, calls witnesses, is in charge of and makes sure no one tries to influence the jury
Case	a matter that goes before a judge or court of law
Chief Justice	the head justice, the Chief Justice is “first among equals”
circuit courts	a court for a defined region of a state (usually including several counties) that has specific divisions and hears cases within those divisions (e.g., family court, criminal court)
civil case	a case involving the rights of citizens
county courts	a court that hears both civil and criminal cases in one specific county
Court	a place where justice is administered
court clerk	court officer responsible for giving the oath to jurors and witnesses, is also responsible for court paperwork and physical evidence
court reporter	court officer who records, word for word, everything that is said as part of the trial
criminal case	a case involving someone who is accused of committing an illegal activity
cross-examination	the follow-up questioning of a witness by the side that did not call the witness to the stand
defendant	the person who answers the legal action of a plaintiff/prosecutor
direct examination	the first questioning of a witness by the side that called the witness to the stand
District Court of Appeals	an appellate court in the federal system
federalism	a system of government in which power is divided and shared between national, state, and local government
Florida Circuit Courts	the courts that have general jurisdiction over matters not covered by the county courts
Florida County Courts	the courts where most non-jury trials occur; they are referred to as “the people’s courts” because they handle minor disagreements between citizens and minor criminal offenses
Florida Supreme Court	the highest court in Florida
Judge	a public official authorized to decide questions brought before a court
judicial branch	the branch of government that interprets the laws made by the legislative branch

SS.7.C.3.14 – Differentiate between local, state, and federal obligations and services.

Benchmark Clarifications:

- Students will evaluate scenarios in order to determine which level of government provides specific services.
- Students will classify government services according to level of government in order to evaluate the role that each plays in their lives.
- Students will compare the obligations/powers of governments at each level.
- Students will compare the reserved, concurrent, expressed/ enumerated powers of government.

Additional Items: N/A

Textbook: Chapter 3, Section 1 (p.86-91), Chapter 8 (p.202-220), Chapter 9 (p.228-242), Chapter 14, Section 1 (p.338-342)

concurrent powers	powers shared by the national, state, and/or local government
expressed or enumerated powers	the powers specifically named and assigned to the federal government or prohibited to be exercised by the states under the U.S. Constitution, also known as delegated powers
federal government	the organization through which political authority is exercised at the national level, government of the United States
federalism	a system of government in which power is divided and shared between national, state, and local government
implied powers	powers not written in the U.S. Constitution but are necessary and proper in order for the federal government to carry out the expressed powers
inherent powers	powers not listed in the U.S. Constitution but are necessary for the federal government to function
local government	the governing body of a municipality or county
reserved powers	powers that are not granted to the federal government that belong to (are reserved to) the states and the people
state government	the organization through which political authority is exercised at the state level, government of a specific state
Tenth Amendment	the final amendment in the Bill of Rights, it states: "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people."

Essential Questions:

1. What are the differences between local, state, and federal obligations and services?
2. Why do we have these differences in our form of government?