American Government, 3rd Ed.

Lesson Plan Overview

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| Day(s) | | Topic | Page(s) | Support Materials | Bible Integration |
| **Chapter 1: The Only Sure Foundation** | | | | | |
| 1 | | The Necessity of Government | 3–5 | Activity 1: An Election Sermon by Abraham Williams, 1762 | The Nature of God and His World  The Trinity  The Fall  Human depravity  Government and the Millennium |
| 2 | | The Obligations of Government | 6–7 | Activity 2: A Lesson from Literature | Rewarding righteousness, punishing unrighteousness, and protecting rights |
| 3 | | The Obligations of the Governed | 7–10 | Activity 5: Do You Remember? | Christian duties  The Christian and patriotism |
| 4 | | Chapter 1 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 5 | | Chapter 1 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 2: Forms of Government** | | | | | |
| 6 | Types of Government | | 13–18 | Activity 1: Systems of Government | Monarchy  Dictatorship  Anarchy |
| 7 | American Government;A Brief History of Democracy | | 18–19;  19–25 | Separation of Powers/Activity 2: The Rise of Hellenic Tyranny |  |
| 8 | Characteristics of Democracy; Conditions for Democracy | | 25–30;  30–32 | Activity 4: Walter Williams: Democracy and Majority Rule/Activity 5: Chapter Review | Compromise  Individual worth  Caring for the poor  Moral responsibility |
| 9 | Chapter 2 Review | | | | Chapter Review |
| 10 | Chapter 2 Test | | | | |
| **Chapter 3: Christianity, the Church, and Government** | | | | | |
| 11 | | Christianity and Government in History; The Bible, the Church, and Pluralism | 35–37;  37–44 | Activity 1: The Edict of Milan/Activity 2: Jefferson and the “Wall of Separation” | Christianity and government in history  The Bible, the church, and pluralism  Church and state  Christian reasoning in the Public square  Addressing the Problem of Pluralism |
| 12 | | Chapter 3 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 13 | | Chapter 3 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 4: Constitutional Beginnings** | | | | | |
| 14 | | Confederation Crises | 49–58 | Activity 2: The Role of States in the Founding Era | Natural law  Deism |
| 15 | | Constitutional Convention | 59–64 | Activity 3: The Constitution and Limited Government | Compromise |
| 16 | | Ratification Controversy | 64–70 | Activity 4: Patrick Henry, Anti-Federalist |  |
| 17 | | Chapter 4 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 18 | | Chapter 4 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 5: The Constitutional Cornerstone** | | | | | |
| 19 | | Practical Characteristics | 73–78 | Activity 1: The Essential Question in Any Political Debate | Realistic view of human nature |
| 20 | | Foundational Principles | 78–84 | Activity 4: “The General Welfare” |  |
| 21–25 | | The United States Constitution | 85–108 | Activity 5: Chapter Review |  |
| 26 | | Chapter 5 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 27 | | Chapter 5 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 6: Federalism** | | | | | |
| 28 | | The Partitions of Power; Developments in Federalism | 111–14;  114–18 | Activity 1: The Meaning of Federalism; Activity 2: Federalism’s Development |  |
| 29 | | Financing Federalism; The Problems of Federalism | 118–20;  121–24 | Activity 3: Revenue Sharing; Activity 4: Chapter Review |  |
| 30 | | Chapter 6 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 31 | | Chapter 6 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 7: State and Local Government** | | | | | |
| 32 | | State Governments | 127–33 | Activity 1: When There Is No Government |  |
| 33 | | Local Governments | 133–38 | Activity 3: Leviathan: The Growth of Local Government and the Erosion of Liberty |  |
| 34 | | State and Local Political Organization; Interstate and Intergovernmental Relationships | 138–44;  144–48 | Voters’ Guide; Activity 4: Chapter Review |  |
| 35 | | Chapter 7 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 36 | | Chapter 7 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 8: The Structure of Congress** | | | | | |
| 37–38 | | Constitutional Framework | 153–63 | Activity 1: A Senate Page’s Perspective |  |
| 39 | | Legislative Workings | 163–70 | Activity 2: Your Representative’s and Senators’ Committee Assignments |  |
| 40 | | Chapter 8 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 41 | | Chapter 8 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 9: The Powers of Congress** | | | | | |
| 42 | | Enumerated Powers—Article 1, Section 8 | 173–82 | Activity 1: Destructive Dependence: Growing Reliance on Government | Scriptural teaching on immigrants and immigration |
| 43 | | Implied and Nonlegislative Powers | 182–85 | Congressional Investigation |  |
| 44 | | Denied Powers; Congressional Criticism | 185;  185–88 | C-SPAN; Activity 4: Chapter Review | Standard to evaluate leaders by  Leaders as reflections of the general state of society |
| 45 | | Chapter 9 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 46 | | Chapter 9 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 10: The Road to the White House** | | | | | |
| 47 | | Presidential Qualities; Nomination | 193–94;  194–203 | Activity 1: Presidential Qualifications and Qualities; Activity 2: A Brokered Convention: The Democratic National Convention, 1924 | Whom do we vote for?—Wisdom in voting |
| 48 | | Election | 203–8 | Activity 3: The Disputed Election of 1876 | Responsibility and a civil right |
| 49 | | Inauguration | 209–12 | Activity 5: Chapter Review |  |
| 50 | | Chapter 10 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 51 | | Chapter 10 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 11: America’s Highest Office** | | | | | |
| 52 | | Presidential Powers | 215–27 | Activity 2: The Proper Attitude Toward the Powers of the Presidency |  |
| 53 | | Executive Organization | 227–30 | Activity 3: John Nance Garner on the Vice Presidency |  |
| 54 | | Pitfalls and Greatness | 231–32 | True Greatness | Responsibilities of Christians in 1 Timothy 2:1–2  Qualification for true greatness in Matthew 20:26–27 |
| 55 | | Chapter 11 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 56 | | Chapter 11 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 12: The Federal Bureaucracy** | | | | | |
| 57 | | Bureaucratic Development | 235–39 | Activity 1: Bureaucracy Can’t Be Run Like a Business | Delegation and bureaucracy in Exodus 18 |
| 58 | | Bureaucratic Structure | 239–50 | Activity 2: The Cabinet | Need for regulation  Biblical purpose for government |
| 59 | | Bureaucratic Realities | 251–56 | Activity 3: Chapter Review | Obscure bureaucratic language and Solomon’s language in Proverbs |
| 60 | | Chapter 12 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 61 | | Chapter 12 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 13: Foreign Policy** | | | | | |
| 62 | | Foreign-Policy Goals; Changing Foreign Policy | 259–61;  262–65 | Activity 1: U.S. Foreign Policy Goal Achievement; Activity 2: Foreign Policy Development | Search for lasting peace |
| 63 | | Policymakers | 266–72 | Making Enemies |  |
| 64 | | Policy Methods; Challenges Abroad | 272–77;  278–82 | Intelligence and International Relations; Activity 3: Global Interventionism and the Erosion of Domestic Liberty | Military action—a purpose for government  Cause of wars  The biblical response to fear and uncertainty  Cultural relativity—the Bible as the only standard for judging culture |
| 65 | | Chapter 13 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 66 | | Chapter 13 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 14: The Judiciary** | | | | | |
| 67 | | Sources of American Law | 287–91 | Activity 1: The Principles of Blackstone’s *Commentaries* | The scriptural foundation of American law  Natural law, revealed law, and common law |
| 68 | | Structure of the Courts | 291–97 | Recent Decisions |  |
| 69 | | Selection of Judges; Constitutional and Legal Change | 298–301;  301–4 | Activity 3: Criteria for Supreme Court Justices; Activity 4: The Originalist Perspective |  |
| 70 | | Chapter 14 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 71 | | Chapter 14 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 15: Civil Rights and Responsibilities** | | | | | |
| 72 | | Civil Liberties | 307–12 | Activity 1: Separation of Church and State | Civil disobedience and the Bible |
| 73 | | Civil Rights; Civil Responsibilities | 312–19;  319–20 | Activity 2: Abuse of Power: How Government Misuses Eminent Domain; Activity 3: The Duties of Citizenship | What does the Bible say about capital punishment?  Calling evil good  Spiritual freedom from sin |
| 74 | | Chapter 15 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 75 | | Chapter 15 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 16: The Party System** | | | | | |
| 76 | | Parties and Their Function; The Two-Party System | 325–27;  327–36 | Activity 1: Party Functions; Activity 2: Voter Turnout in Presidential Elections |  |
| 77 | | Third Parties; Party Organization | 336–39;  339–43 | Activity 4: Third Parties in American Politics; Special Speaker: Precinct Officer, County or State Delegate, or Party Official |  |
| 78 | | Party Decline | 343–46 | Activity 5: Chapter Review |  |
| 79 | | Chapter 16 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 80 | | Chapter 16 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 17: Campaigns and Elections** | | | | | |
| 81 | | Candidate Nomination; The Campaign Trail | 349–52;  352–55 | Activity 1: Becoming a Candidate; Activity 2: The Role of New Media in Political Campaigning |  |
| 82 | | Elections and Voting | 356–60 | Activity 3: State Election Laws |  |
| 83 | | Campaign Finance | 361–66 | Activity 5: Chapter Review | 1 Timothy 2:1–2 and Christian responsibilities |
| 84 | | Chapter 17 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 85 | | Chapter 17 Test | | | |
| **Chapter 18: Public Policy and Politics** | | | | | |
| 86 | | Government and the Public; Public Policy | 369–70;  370–72 | Current Issues Bulletin Board; Activity 1: Today’s Opinions | Government’s God-given functions and boundaries |
| 87 | | Public Opinion; Interest Groups | 372–78;  378–83 | Activity 2: Opinions About Public Opinions; Activity 3: Lobby Letter | Origins of and influences on opinion  Public opinion and John 12:42–43  Christian participation in interest groups |
| 88 | | Mass Media; Conclusion | 383–92;  392 | Activity 4: Mass Media Cartoon; Activity 5: Public Policy Review | The Christian and propaganda |
| 89 | | Chapter 18 Review | | | Chapter Review |
| 90 | | Chapter 18 Test | | | |