

Course **9th Grade Philosophy (Civics)**

	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Textbook	<i>Magruder's American Government</i>			
Essential Questions	What makes a good law? What is the purpose of government?	What is Rule of Law? What should the role of government be in relation to the individual in society?	Is voting a right or a privilege?	From where do political and social change derive?
Themes	Founding Influences of the US System of Government	Historical and Modern Law in the United States	Voting and the Electoral Process	Social Problems / Contemporary American Politics
Topics	“States of nature” The Birth of Democracy Roman Republic Forms of Government Constitutional Convention Conflicts and Compromises The Federalist and Anti-Federalist Debates	Popular Sovereignty Federalism The Constitution, The Bill of Rights Social Movements Checks and Balances Separation of Power	Voting Elections Political Parties Federal vs. State	Poverty Racism Power in American Society Crime American Legal System Civil Rights
Other Texts	Locke’s Second Treatise on Government <i>Declaration of Independence</i> <i>Constitution and Bill of Rights</i>	The Constitution The Bill of Rights	The Constitution <i>When the Emperor Was Divine</i> by Julie Otsuka	Case Analysis: - <i>Roe vs. Wade</i> - <i>Tinker Case</i> - <i>Koramatsu</i> - <i>Brown vs. BOE</i> - <i>Sheff vs. O’Neil</i> <i>When the Emperor Was Divine</i> by Julie Otsuka <i>Monster</i> the novel
Coached Projects			Current Election Project	<i>Monster</i> Mock Trial Coached Project
Seminars	<i>Unwind</i> Seminar Locke’s 2 nd Treatise of Government Franklin’s Closing Speech at Constitutional Convention	James Madison: On Checks and Balances Patrick Henry: From The Federalist Papers	Current Election Seminar Text	TBA