

West Linn–Wilsonville School District
Social Studies Department – Course Statement

<u>Course Title: Citizen and Society: Government</u>	
Length of Course:	Semester
Number of Credits:	1
Grade Level:	11
Prerequisites:	Modern US History (or AP US History)
CIM Work Samples	
Offered in Course:	Persuasive writing/speaking work sample
Date of Description/Revision: June 2005	
Course Overview	
Students explore current issues through a political and philosophical lens. An ethical, constitutional framework will be employed to examine the role of citizens in a variety of local and global settings.	
Essential Questions	Concepts providing focus for student learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What ethical standards do we agree upon as Americans? • How can we balance the needs of the individual with the needs of society? • In what ways do each of us make a difference every day? • What is my responsibility as a member of society? • What are my rights? When and how should I allow those rights to be limited? • What are society’s responsibilities to our citizens? • How can powerful entities be guided for the good of society? • How and why are governments formed? 	
Proficiency Statements	
<p>Upon completion of course, students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify fallacious arguments. • Persuasively defend a point of view, both written and oral. • Evaluate constitutional precedents and practices. • Understand the role of major stakeholders in American society. • Be cognizant of their responsibilities and rights as a citizen. • Understand major historical underpinnings of current political events. • Analyze the role of government in the maintenance of society. 	

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General Course Topics/Units & Timeframes	
A. Political Philosophies B. Constitution C. Bill of Rights D. Supreme Court Cases E. Citizen Activism F. Political Parties	
Resources	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Text: <i>Magruder’s American Government</i>, William McClenaghan, Prentice-Hall, 2005• Supplemental Texts: History Alive! Programs, Teacher’s Curriculum Institute <i>US History to 1900</i> <i>Twentieth Century United States History</i>	