Course Title - Constitutional Law

Implement start year - 2018-2019

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Unit #4, topic - Discrimination and Individual Rights

Transfer Goal -

Students will be able to independently use their learning to analyze and evaluate past and present cases of discrimination and how individual rights issues arise in current events and legal issues in everyday life.

Stage 1 – Desired Results

Established Goals

2014 NJCCC Standard(s), Strand(s)/CPI#

(http://www.state.nj.us/education/cccs/2014/ss/)

6.1.12.A.2.a

Assess the importance of the intellectual origins of the Foundational Documents (i.e., Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights) and assess their importance on the spread of democracy around the world.

6.1.12.A.13.b

Analyze the effectiveness of national legislation, policies, and Supreme Court decisions (i.e., the Civil Rights Act, the Voting Rights Act, the Equal Rights Amendment, Title VII, Title IX, Affirmative Action, *Brown v. Board of Education*, and *Roe v. Wade*) in promoting civil liberties and equal opportunities.

6.1.12.A.14.b

Analyze how the Supreme Court has interpreted the Constitution to define the rights of the individual, and evaluate the impact on public policies.

Progress Indicators for Reading Informational Text (http://www.state.ni.us/education/cccs/2016/ela/g1112.pdf)

21st Century Themes

(www.21stcenturyskills.org)

- X Global Awareness
- X Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- X Civic Literacy
- Health Literacy
- _Environmental Literacy

21st Century Skills

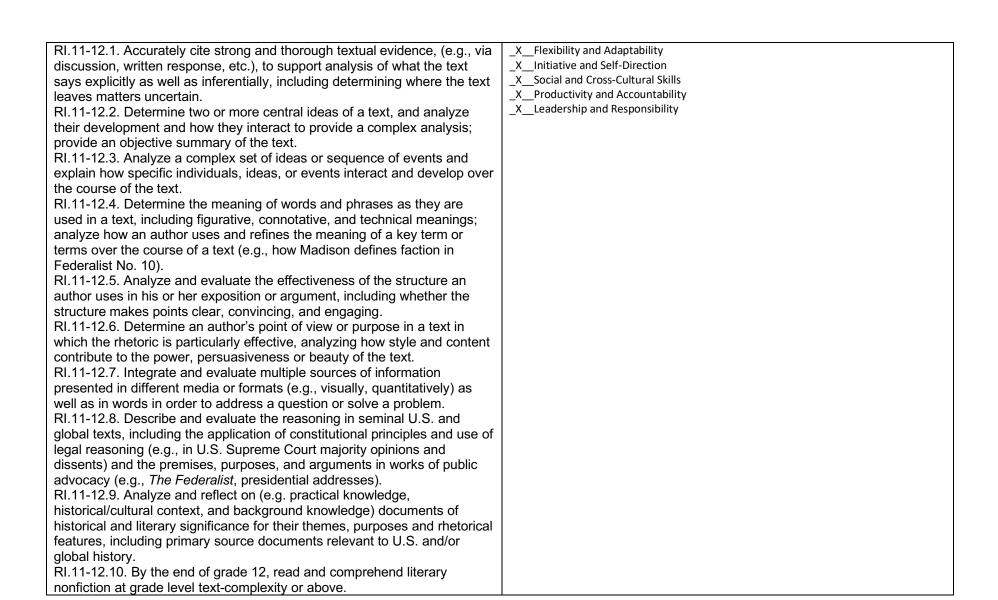
Learning and Innovation Skills:

- X Creativity and Innovation
- _X__Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- X Communication and Collaboration

Information, Media and Technology Skills:

- X Information Literacy
- X Media Literacy
- X ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy

Life and Career Skills:



Enduring Understandings:

Students will understand that . . .

EU 1

The Constitution provides all U.S. citizens with equal protection of the laws.

EU 2

Courts have interpreted equal protection differently over time.

EU3

There are discrepancies about individual rights provided in the Constitution.

Knowledge:

Students will know . . .

EU 1

- The rights provided under the Fourteenth Amendment.
- The history behind the Fourteenth Amendment.
- Examples of limitations to the Fourteenth Amendment.

EU 2

- Famous court cases involving the Fourteenth Amendment.
- The degrees of subjectivity in applying the Fourteenth Amendment.
- The changing applications of the Fourteenth Amendment over time.

EU3

- The rights provided under the Second Amendment.
- The controversy over the right to privacy.
- Past and present issues regarding voting rights.

Essential Questions:

EU 1

- Have all groups always received equal protection under the law?
- What are the limitations to having everyone equally protected under the law?

EU 2

- How has interpretation of the laws in regards to equal protection evolved over time?
- How are any groups of people today not being afforded equal protection under the law?
- How could two different people's equal protection rights conflict with each other?

EU 3

- What are the limitations to the right of privacy?
- Why are there discrepancies over the Second Amendment?
- How could there be discrepancies over the right to vote?

Skills:

Students will be able to . . .

EU 1, EU 2, EU 3

- Read and analyze primary and secondary source documents.
- Recognize and interpret different points of view.
- Draw inferences from the Constitution and Supreme Court rulings.
- Evaluate the pros and cons of different sides of an argument.
- Detect bias in an argument.
- Understand how judicial rulings can be reflections of a specific time period.
- Debate the meaning of the Second Amendment.
- Debate the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment.
- Debate the meaning of amendments relevant to the right to vote.
- Discuss current issues and controversies regarding discrimination and individual rights.
- Compare and contrast how cultural values shape views of individual rights.
- Justify arguments about the possible limitations of relevant amendments.

Stage 2 – Assessment Evidence

Other Recommended Evidence: Tests, Quizzes, Prompts, Self-assessment, Observations, Dialogues, etc.

- tests
- projects/presentations
- quizzes
- group work
- worksheets
- discussion/debate
- essays

Stage 3 – Learning Plan

Suggested Learning Activities to Include Differentiated Instruction and Interdisciplinary Connections: Consider the WHERETO elements. Each learning activity listed must be accompanied by a learning goal of A= Acquiring basic knowledge and skills, M= Making meaning and/or a T= Transfer.

- Complete relevant text and supplemental reading assignments on discrimination and individual rights (A).
- Create a presentation on a minority group that did not receive equal protection under the law (A).
- Create a visual presentation on the amendments related to privacy rights, voting rights, gun rights (A, M).
- Research and discuss the historical reason for the inclusion of the Fourteenth Amendment (A, M).
- Write a persuasive argument for or against the inclusion of the Second Amendment in the Bill of Rights (M).
- Write an essay evaluating the changing definition of Equal Protection from the 1700s to current day (M).
- Debate a current case being argued in front of the Supreme Court (M).
- Analyze and write case analyses for Brown v. Board of Education, Plessy v. Ferguson, Baker v. Carr, District of Columbia v. Heller, Roe v. Wade, Sweatt v. Painter, U.S. Steel v. Weber, Obergefell v. Hodges, Regents of the University of California v. Bakke, etc. (A, M).
- View relevant episodes of *Law and Order* and discuss the judiciary's role (M).
- View Loving and discuss the Loving v. Virginia case (A, M).
- View Philadelphia and discuss discrimination of minority groups (A, M).
- Debate proposed gun control laws and determine their constitutionality (T).
- Research and debate past and present controversies over voting age, voting rights, and the electoral process, and propose solutions to problems (T).