



2024-2025

Rapid City  
Stevens High School

## US Government

### RCAS Policies/Procedures:

Students will be required to follow all RCAS policies and procedures. To view the RCAS High School Student Handbook, click [handbook](#).

### Course Description:

Students will study the Constitution, fundamentals of democracy, and U.S. government. The course will examine interactions of government institutions and the ways in which government institutions affect individuals and participation in the political process. Students will study public policy and how it relates to current events. This class emphasizes the rights, duties, and responsibilities of American citizenship.

**Textbook:** Shea, Daniel M. Magruder's American Government, Pearson, 2016.

### Required Resources:

Declaration of Independence  
United States Constitution  
Articles of Confederation  
South Dakota Constitution  
South Dakota Tribal Constitutions

**"Limited Choice" Resources:** (students will be asked to choose at least one title from this list)

NA

### Student Choice:

Will student be asked to choose additional reading material from the classroom or school library?

No

**Essential Questions:**

NA

**Essential Learning Intentions:**

- We are learning about citizenship in the United States.
- We are learning about the origins of the American democratic form of government.
- We are learning about compromise at the Constitutional Convention.
- We are learning about the US Constitution as a primary founding document.
- We are learning about how federalism divides power between local, state, Tribal and national governments.
- We are learning about political ideologies found on the political spectrum.
- We are learning about the expansion of voting rights.
- We are learning about the election process in the United States.
- We are learning about how the U.S. Constitution organizes the legislative branch.
- We are learning about how the U.S. Constitution organizes the executive branch.
- We are learning about how the Constitution organizes the judicial branch.
- We are learning about how civil liberties protect individual freedoms/liberties in the United States.
- We are learning about civil rights and equal protection of the U.S. Constitution.