

Social Issues

Unit 6 – Political Organization of Space & Cultural Patterns and Processes

Grade 9

Time for Completion: 12 class period

State Standard: The student uses a working knowledge and understanding of governmental systems of Kansas and the United States and other nations with an emphasis on the United States Constitution, the necessity for the rule of law, the civic values of the American people, and the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of becoming active participants in our representative democracy.

Indicator(A) compares various governmental systems with that of the United States *government* in terms of *sovereignty*, structure, function, decision-making processes, *citizenship* roles, and political culture and ideology (e.g., systems: *constitutional monarchy, parliamentary, democracy, dictatorship, totalitarianism*; ideology: *fascism, socialism, communism*).

(K) discusses the structure of international relations both regional and world-wide (e.g., *trade, economic and defense alliances, regional security*).

(A) examines the purpose and functions of multi-national organizations (e.g., United Nations, NATO, International Red Cross).

Explains the changing roles of the United States Government in the international *community* (e.g., treaties, NATO, UN, exploitative, altruistic, benign).

(A) examines a position concerning the use of various tools in carrying out United States foreign policy (e.g., trade sanctions, extension of the “most favored nation” status, military interventions).

(A) examines the issues of social justice and human *rights* as expressed in the *United Nations Declaration of Human Rights*.

(K) gives examples of how cultural cooperation and conflict are involved in shaping the *distribution* of and connections between cultural, political, and economic spaces on Earth (e.g., cultural: Hindu vs. Muslims in India; political: International Court of Justice and Hong Kong; economic: World Trade Organization).

Purpose of Unit:

Tested on State Assessment	From previous units
Academic Skills	Independent Research Academic Writing
Academic Language	
Overlying Concept/Idea	

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Required Concepts/Vocabulary:	State Suggested Activities
<p>Political Organization of Space</p> <p>A. Territorial dimensions of politics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The concept of territoriality2. The nature and meaning of boundaries3. Influences of boundaries on identity, interaction, and exchange <p>B. Evolution of the contemporary political pattern</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The nation-state concept2. Colonialism and imperialism3. Federal and unitary states <p>C. Challenges to inherited political-territorial arrangements</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Changing nature of sovereignty2. Fragmentation, unification, alliance3. Spatial relationships between political patterns and patterns of ethnicity, economy, and environment4. Electoral geography, including gerrymandering <p>CULTURAL PATTERNS AND PROCESSES</p> <p>A. Concepts of culture</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Traits2. Diffusion3. Acculturation4. Cultural regions <p>B. Cultural differences</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Language2. Religion3. Ethnicity4. Gender5. Popular and folk culture <p>C. Environmental impact of cultural attitudes and practices</p> <p>D. Cultural landscapes and cultural identity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Values and preferences2. Symbolic landscapes and sense of place	

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District Resources	Performance Assessment To be determined by 2011-2012 social issues teacher...will be a culminating project using about 5 days of class
Accommodations: ESL/SPED	Enrichment
Internet Sources: For Information http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/02/g912/urban.html .	For Assignments:

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State Assessment Examples

(*American History*) The main purpose of the United Nations is to

- A) ensure that world peace is maintained.
- B) guarantee the environment is protected.
- C) try criminals accused of breaking international laws.
- D) encourage the lowering of trade barriers between countries

State Suggested Vocab:

Common good - for the benefit or interest of a politically organized society as a whole.

Eminent domain - (1) the right of a sovereign state to appropriate all or part of any property for necessary public use, making reasonable compensation. (2) The right in international law for one nation to appropriate the territory or property of another for self protection.

Government - institutions and procedures through which a territory and its people are ruled.

Rights - those individual liberties granted to all persons through the U. S. Constitution.

Rule of law - principle that every member of a society, even a ruler, must follow the law.

Democracy - form of government in which political control is exercised by all the people, either directly or through their elected representative.

Dictatorship - a government system controlled by one ruler who has absolute power and usually controlled by force.

Fascism - a system of government characterized by strong nationalist, racist, and military policies, ruled by a dictator, with a centralized control of the basic means of production.

Government - institutions and procedures through which a territory and its people are ruled.

Imperialism - the policy of increasing a nation's authority by acquiring or controlling other nations.

Parliamentary - a system of government in which the chief executive is the leader whose party holds the most seats in the legislature after an election or whose party forms a major part of the ruling coalition.

Rights - those individual liberties granted to all persons through the U. S. Constitution.

Socialism - a political and economic system in which government controls resources and industries.

Sovereignty - ultimate, supreme power in a state; in the United States, sovereignty rests with the people.

Totalitarianism - a form of government in which the political authority exercises absolute and centralized control over all aspects of life

Trade - the exchange of goods or services for other goods and services or money.

United Nations Declaration of Human Rights - an organization of independent states formed in 1945 to promote international peace and security