

**Praxis® Government/Political Science (5931)  
Curriculum Crosswalk**

Required Course Numbers														
Test Content Categories														
<b>I. United States Constitution (22%)</b>														
<b>A. Knows the major political theorists and their contributions to the foundations of the United States government (e.g., Plato, Locke, Rousseau)</b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the contributions made by major political theorists (e.g., Plato, Locke, Rousseau) to the development of the United States government.														
<b>B. Knows the context of United States constitutional development (e.g., Magna Carta, Declaration of Independence, Federalist Papers)</b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the development of the Declaration of Independence.														
2. Demonstrates knowledge of historical events leading to the development of the United States Constitution.														
3. Demonstrates knowledge of the actions and writings of the framers of the United States Constitution.														

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4. Demonstrates knowledge of the major document that shaped the political context in which the United States Constitution was written.															
<b>C. Knows the evolution of the United States government from the Articles of Confederation to ratification of the United States Constitution</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the shortcomings and problems with the Articles of Confederation.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of historical events before and after the writing of the Articles of Confederation.															
3. Demonstrates knowledge of the major issues and compromises during the writing of the Constitution.															
4. Demonstrates knowledge of the major differences between the Federalists and the Anti-federalists in the ratification process.															
<b>C. Knows the evolution of the United States government from the Articles of Confederation to ratification of the United States Constitution</b>															

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Required Course Numbers														
Test Content Categories														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the shortcomings and problems with the Articles of Confederation.														
2. Demonstrates knowledge of historical events before and after the writing of the Articles of Confederation.														
3. Demonstrates knowledge of the major issues and compromises during the writing of the Constitution.														
4. Demonstrates knowledge of the major differences between the Federalists and the Anti-federalists in the ratification process.														
<b>D. Knows the evolution from the Articles of Confederation to ratification of the United States Constitution.</b>														
E. Understands the rights protected by the Bill of Rights														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the origins of the Bill of Rights.														
3. Demonstrates understanding of how the Bill of Rights protects individual citizens.														
<b>F. Understands the process of amending the United States Constitution</b>														

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1. Demonstrates knowledge of the amendment process to the United States Constitution.															
2. Demonstrates understanding of the impact of formal constitutional changes.															
3. Demonstrates understanding of the impact of informal constitutional changes (e.g., congressional legislation, judicial interpretation, executive actions).															
<b>G. Understands the process of amending the United States Constitution.</b>															
<b>H. Understands the enumerated powers of the United States Constitution.</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the enumerated, reserved, concurrent and implied powers of the United States government under the Constitution.															
<b>I. Understands the reserved powers of the United States Constitution.</b>															
<b>J. Understands the concurrent powers of the United States Constitution.</b>															

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<b>K. Understands the implied powers of the United States Constitution.</b>														
<b>II. United States Government: Federal, State and Local Institutions (28%)</b>														
<b>A. Understands federalism and the relationship between national, state, and local governments</b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the difference between federal, unitary, and confederal forms of government.														
2. Demonstrates understanding of the evolving relationship among national, state, and local governments.														
<b>B. Understands the structure and functions of the executive branch, including presidential qualifications and roles</b>														
1. Demonstrates understanding of the structure of the executive branch, including the constitutional powers of the president.														
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the functions of the executive branch, including the Executive Office of the President and cabinet-level departments and agencies.														

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3. Demonstrates knowledge of the constitutional qualifications to become president.															
4. Demonstrates understanding of the roles of the president.															
5. Demonstrates knowledge of the constitutional roles of the vice president.															
6. Demonstrates knowledge of the process of presidential succession.															
<b>C. Understands the structure and functions of bureaucracy in the United States</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of how the federal bureaucracy is structured and organized.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the appointment and confirmation processes.															
<b>D. Knows the structure of the legislative branch, including leadership and committees</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the structure of Congress.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the constitutional qualifications to be a member of Congress.															
3. Demonstrates knowledge of the constitutional powers and role of Congress.															

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4. Demonstrates knowledge of the congressional committees and how they operate.															
5. Demonstrates knowledge of the roles of each chamber's leadership.															
<b>E. Understands the process by which a bill becomes a federal law</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the process by which a bill becomes a federal law.															
2. Demonstrates understanding of how different versions of a bill are reconciled in committee.															
3. Demonstrates understanding of the presidential role in the legislative process.															
<b>F. Understands the major structural and functional differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the major structural differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives.															
2. Demonstrates understanding of the major functional differences between the Senate and the House of Representatives.															
<b>G. Understands separation of powers and the application of checks and balances by the three branches</b>															

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1. Demonstrates understanding of separation of powers by the three branches of government.															
2. Demonstrates understanding of the application of checks and balances by the three branches of government.															
3. Demonstrates understanding of the impeachment process.															
<b>H. Understands the structure and functions of the judicial branch</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the structure of the judicial branch.															
2. Demonstrates understanding of the role and constitutional powers of the judicial branch.															
3. Demonstrates knowledge of how federal judges are appointed.															
<b>I. Knows the difference between trial courts and appellate courts in the federal and state court systems</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the role of trial and appellate courts in the federal and state court systems. Understands the role and jurisdiction of the United States Supreme Court															



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2. Demonstrates understanding of the role of the United States Supreme Court.															
3. Demonstrates understanding of the constitutional powers of the Supreme Court.															
4. Demonstrates knowledge of the jurisdiction of the United States Supreme Court.															
<b>J. Understands the role and jurisdiction of the United States Supreme Court.</b>															
<b>K. Understands the principle of judicial review as stated in <i>Marbury v. Madison</i></b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of <i>Marbury v. Madison</i> in developing the principle of judicial review.															
2. Demonstrates understanding of the application of judicial review.															
<b>L. Knows the structures and functions of state and local government (e.g., responsibility for education; public safety and health; interstate relations)</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the structure of state and local government.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the function of state and local government.															

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3. Demonstrates understanding of the relationship between state and local government.														
<b>M. Knows the fiscal relationships between federal, state, and local institutions (e.g., grants-in-aid, federal mandates)</b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the fiscal relationships between federal, state, and local governments.														
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the significance of fiscal relationships between federal, state, and local governments (e.g., grants-in-aid, federal mandates).														
<b>N. Understands the impact of <i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i></b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the Supreme Court case <i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> .														
2. Demonstrates understanding of the impact of <i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i> .														
<b>III. Civil Rights and Civil Liberties: Landmark Court Decisions (16%)</b>														
<b>A. Understands the difference between civil rights and civil liberties</b>														
1. Demonstrates understanding of the difference between civil rights and civil liberties.														

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Test Content Categories															
2. Compare and contrast civil rights and civil liberties.															
<b>B. Understands the impact of the Fourteenth Amendment on the development of civil rights and civil liberties</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution.															
2. Demonstrates understanding of the impact of the Fourteenth Amendment on the development of civil rights and civil liberties.															
<b>C. Understands the history of and contemporary debates on civil liberties in the United States (e.g., free speech, right to privacy, rights of the accused)</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the history of civil liberties in the United States (e.g., free speech, right to privacy, rights of the accused).															
2. Demonstrates understanding of contemporary debates on civil liberties in the United States.															
<b>D. Understands the history and contemporary debates surrounding civil rights in the United States (e.g., race, gender)</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the history of civil rights in the United States (e.g., race, gender)															

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2. Demonstrates understanding of contemporary debates surrounding civil rights in the United States.														
<b>E. Understands separation of church and state, as well as court decisions and controversies surrounding religion</b>														
1. Demonstrates understanding of the concept of separation of church and state.														
2. Demonstrates knowledge of court decisions involving separation of church and state.														
3. Demonstrates knowledge of the controversies surrounding religion and politics (e.g., establishment clause, free exercise clause).														
<b>F. Knows significant civil rights laws (e.g., Civil Rights Act of 1964, Voting Rights Act of 1965, Fair Housing Act of 1968)</b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of recent significant civil rights laws in the United States beginning in 1964.														
<b>G. Knows significant Supreme Court decisions regarding civil rights such as <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i> and <i>Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka</i></b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of significant Supreme Court decisions regarding civil rights														

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Test Content Categories														
(e.g., Plessy v. Ferguson, Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka).														
<b>H. Knows the concept of selective incorporation of the Bill of Rights by the Supreme Court</b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the concept of selective incorporation of the Bill of Rights by the Supreme Court.														
<b>I. Knows the landmark decisions regarding civil liberties, including <i>Roe v. Wade</i> and <i>Miranda v. Arizona</i></b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of landmark Supreme Court decisions regarding civil liberties (e.g., <i>Roe v. Wade</i> , <i>Tinker v. Des Moines</i> ).														
<b>J. Knows other landmark Supreme Court decisions, such as <i>Tinker v. Des Moines</i>, <i>Mapp v. Ohio</i>, <i>Gideon v. Wainright</i>, and <i>Baker v. Carr</i></b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of landmark Supreme Court decisions regarding procedural due process (e.g., <i>Mapp v. Ohio</i> , <i>Gideon v. Wainright</i> , <i>Miranda v. Arizona</i> ).														
2. Demonstrates knowledge of landmark Supreme Court decisions regarding political representation (e.g., <i>Baker v. Carr</i> , <i>Bush v. Gore</i> ).														

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Test Content Categories															
<b>IV. United States Politics (20%)</b>															
<b>A. Knows the structures and functions of political parties</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the structures of political parties.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the functions of political parties.															
<b>B. Understands the historical development of the two-party system</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the historical development of the two-party system in the United States.															
<b>C. Understands the role of third or minor parties (e.g., sources of new ideas, spoilers in elections)</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the role of third or minor parties in the United States.															
<b>D. Understands the impact of election laws on third or minor parties (e.g., single-member districts, winner-take-all elections)</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the impact of election laws on third or minor parties in the United States (e.g., single-member districts, winner-take-all elections).															

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<b>E. Knows the nomination process by which parties select presidential candidates (e.g., primaries, caucuses, advantages/disadvantages)</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the nomination process by which parties select presidential candidates.															
2. Compare and contrast primaries and caucuses as means by which parties select presidential candidates.															
<b>F. Knows the role of campaigns in national elections in the United States</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of how campaigns affect national elections in the United States (e.g., issues, name recognition, funding).															
<b>G. Knows the structure and functions of the Electoral College and how it affects presidential campaigning</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the structure and function of the Electoral College.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of how the Electoral College affects presidential campaigning.															
<b>H. Knows the advantages of incumbency in reelection campaigns</b>															

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Test Content Categories															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the role of incumbency in elections.															
<b>I. Knows the core beliefs held by the two major parties (e.g., on social and economic issues)</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the core beliefs held by the two major parties (e.g., on social and economic issues).															
<b>J. Knows the differences between political parties and interest groups</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the differences between political parties and interest groups.															
<b>K. Knows the characteristics and functions of interest groups and the effects of those characteristics and functions on the political process</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the characteristics and functions of interest groups.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of how interest groups affect the political process.															
3. Understands the historical development and expansion of voter eligibility in the United States and its impact on the political process															



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4. Demonstrates understanding of the historical development of voter eligibility in the United States.														
5. Demonstrates understanding of the impact of voter expansion on the political process.														
<b>L. Understands the historical development and expansion of voter eligibility in the United States and its impact on the political process.</b>														
<b>M. Understands the differences between conventional (e.g., political blogging, voting, running for political office) and unconventional (e.g., boycotts, marches, protests) forms of citizens' political participation</b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of conventional forms of political participation (e.g., political blogging, voting, running for political office).														
2. Demonstrates knowledge of unconventional forms of political participation (e.g., boycotts, marches, protests).														
<b>N. Knows how the major agents of political socialization (e.g., family, school, media) affect citizens' ideological development</b>														
1. Demonstrates knowledge of how the major agents of political socialization (e.g., family,														

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school, media) affect citizens' ideological development.															
<b>O. Understands the role and impact of the media on United States politics</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of the role and impact of the media on United States politics (e.g., framing issues, influencing candidates' images, exposing scandals).															
<b>P. Understands United States political culture and shared values (e.g., equality, liberty, representative democracy)</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of United States political culture and shared values (e.g., equality, liberty, representative democracy).															
<b>Q. Knows the basic characteristics of conservative and liberal ideologies in the United States</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the basic characteristics of conservative and liberal ideologies in the United States.															
<b>R. Knows how public opinion in the United States affects the political process</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of how public opinion in the United States affects the political process.															

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2. Demonstrates knowledge of how public opinion polling can influence public perceptions (e.g., horse-race polls, exit polls).															
<b>S. Understands the citizenship process and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in the United States</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the ways to become a citizen of the United States (e.g., natural born, naturalized).															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship in the United States (e.g., voting, jury duty, paying taxes).															
<b>T. Understands the differences between domestic policy and foreign policy as well as the process of policy making</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the differences between domestic and foreign policy.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the key actors in the policy-making process in the United States. Comparative Politics and International Relations															
<b>V. Comparative Politics and International Relations (14%)</b>															
<b>A. Knows the different political systems (e.g., direct/representative democracy,</b>															

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<b>democratic/authoritarian, parliamentary/presidential)</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the structure of differing political systems (e.g., direct/representative democracy, democratic/authoritarian, parliamentary/presidential).															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the operation of different forms of government in the modern world (e.g., democratic, non-democratic).															
<b>B. Knows the characteristics of economic systems (e.g., capitalism, socialism, communism)</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the characteristics of economic systems (e.g., market, mixed, command).															
<b>C. Knows the relationship between political development and economic development</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of how and why governments intervene in economies.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of how economic conditions impact public policy and politics.															
<b>D. Knows the relationship between national governments and supranational governments (e.g., United Nations, European Union)</b>															

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1. Demonstrates knowledge of supranational organizations (e.g., United Nations, European Union).															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the relationship between national governments and supranational organizations.															
<b>E. Understands how domestic politics and constitutional principles affect international relations</b>															
1. Demonstrates understanding of how domestic politics and constitutional principles affect international relations.															
<b>F. Knows the effects of globalization on international relations and state development</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the concept of globalization.															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of the effects of globalization on a country's economy and politics (e.g., domestic, international).															
<b>G. Understands the basic concepts of nationalism, imperialism, colonialism, and militarism</b>															
1. Demonstrates knowledge of the concepts of nationalism, imperialism, colonialism, and militarism. Conventional (e.g., political blogging,															

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voting, running for political office) and unconventional (e.g., boycotts, marches, protests) forms of citizens' political participation															
2. Demonstrates knowledge of conventional forms of political participation (e.g., political blogging, voting, running for political office).															
3. Demonstrates knowledge of unconventional forms of political participation (e.g., boycotts, marches, protests).															