**American Government**

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

**UNIT 1: Foundations of Government**

**CH.2.1: Our Political Beginnings**

**\***I will be able to…

* Identify the three concepts of government that influenced the American colonies.
* Explain the significance of three landmark English documents.
* Describe the three types of colonies that the English established in the American colonies.

**CH.2.2: The Coming of Independence**

**\***I will be able to…

* Explain how Britain’s colonial policies contributed to the growth self-government in the colonies.
* Identify the major steps that led to growing feelings of colonial unity.
* Compare the First and Second Continental Congresses.
* Analyze the ideas in the Declaration of Independence.
* Summarize the common features of the first State constitutions.

**CH.2.3: The Critical Period**

**\***I will be able to…

* Describe the structure of the government set up under the Articles of Confederation.
* Explain why the weaknesses of the Articles led to a critical period for the country.
* Describe how a growing need for a stronger national government led to plans for a Constitutional Convention.

**CH.2.4: Creating the Constitution**

* Identify the Framers of the Constitution & discuss how they organized the Philadelphia Convention.
* Compare & contrast the Virginia Plan & the New Jersey Plan.
* Summarize the convention’s major compromises & the effects of those decisions.
* Describe the delegates reactions to the Constitution.

**CH.2.5: Ratifying the Constitution**

* Identify the opposing sides in the fight for ratification & describe the major arguments for & against the proposed Constitution.
* Describe the inauguration of the new government of the United States of America.