# **Social Studies**

### Brunswick School Department It's the Law Individual Rights and Liberties

Essential Understandings	<ul> <li>Individual rights and liberties are based on constitutional law and federal civil rights laws.</li> </ul>
Essential Questions	<ul> <li>What is the Constitution?</li> <li>What are the amendments to the Constitution?</li> <li>What freedoms are protected in these documents?</li> <li>What is discrimination?</li> </ul>
Essential Knowledge	<ul> <li>The U.S. Constitution is the framework of our government and is the supreme law of the land.</li> <li>The Constitution has been able to change over time by the addition of amendments.</li> <li>Freedom of speech and expression are an important part of the first amendment in the Bill of Rights.</li> <li>Freedom of the press is an important part of the first amendment in the Bill of Rights.</li> <li>Freedom of religion is an important part of the first amendment in the Bill of Rights.</li> <li>Due process of law is an important amendment included in the Bill of Rights.</li> <li>The right to privacy is protected within the amendment to the Constitution.</li> <li>Certain types of discrimination are illegal.</li> <li>These rights have been defined by important Supreme Court cases.</li> </ul>
Vocabulary	<ul> <li>Terms:         <ul> <li>picketing, censorship, discrimination, defamation, obscenity, amendment, quota, severance</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Essential Skills	<ul> <li>Define important vocabulary.</li> <li>Identify the importance of the Constitution.</li> <li>Identify the importance of the amendments to the Constitution.</li> <li>Explain the various parts of the first amendment.</li> </ul>
Related Maine Learning Results	Social Studies  A. Applications of Social Studies Processes, Knowledge, and Skills  A1.Researching and Developing Positions on Current Social  Studies Issues  Students research, develop, present, and defend positions on current social studies issues by developing and modifying research questions, and locating, selecting, evaluating, and synthesizing information from multiple and varied sources.  g. Develop a clear well-supported position.

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	B. Civics and Government
	B1.Knowledge, Concepts, Themes, and Patterns of
	Civics/Government
	Students understand the ideals, purposes, principles,
	structures, and processes of constitutional government in the
	United States and in the American political system, as well as
	examples of other forms of government and political systems in
	the world.
	<ul> <li>a. Explain that the study of government includes structures,</li> </ul>
	functions, institutions, and forms of government to citizens in
	the United States and in other regions of the world.
	b. Evaluate current issues by applying democratic ideals and
	constitutional principles of government in the United States,
	including checks and balances, federalism, and consent of
	the governed as put forth in founding documents.
	c. Explain how and why democratic institutions and
	interpretations of democratic ideals and constitutional
Related	principles change over time.
Maine Learning	d. Describe the purpose, structures, and processes of the
Results	American political system.
	B2.Rights, Duties, Responsibilities, and Citizen Participation in
	Government
	Students understand the constitutional and legal rights, the civic
	duties and responsibilities, and roles of citizens in a
	constitutional democracy and the role of citizens living under other forms of government in the world.
	a. Explain the relationship between constitutional and legal
	rights, and civic duties and responsibilities in a constitutional
	democracy.
	b. Evaluate the relationship between the government and the
	individual as evident in the United States Constitution, the
	Bill of Rights, and landmark court cases.
	c. Analyze the constitutional principles and the roles of the
	citizen and the government in major laws or cases.
	d. Compare the rights, duties, and responsibilities of United
	States citizens with those of citizens from other nations.
	e. Evaluate how people influence government and work for the
	common good including voting, writing to legislators,
	performing community service, and engaging in civil
	disobedience.
Sample	Supreme Court case studies
Lessons	Constitution scavenger hunt
And	Amendment activity
Activities	Opinion essay

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Sample Classroom Assessment Methods	<ul> <li>Quizzes over each section: Freedom of Speech Quiz</li> <li>Cumulative Unit Exam: Individual Rights and Liberties</li> <li>Discussion, Lecture, Video, Reading, Group Projects</li> </ul>
Sample Resources	<ul> <li>Publications:         <ul> <li>Street Law: A Course in Practical Law - Glencoe</li> </ul> </li> <li>Videos:         <ul> <li>Just The Facts - The United States Bill of Rights and Constitutional Amendments</li> <li>The First Amendment Project (2004)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>