

Lesson Plan: Compare/Contrast the United States and Alaska Constitution

Lesson 3

02-01-2006

Enduring Understandings

Refer to Alaska History and Culture Studies online course, "Governing Alaska" and "Modern Alaska".

Alaska State Standards

History: D
Government and Citizenship: A, B, C, E

Grade Level

This lesson is designed for students in grades 11-12.

Estimated Time:

This lesson will take one-two class periods, plus homework time. It should be implemented concurrent with a study of Alaska's government structure, and can be used in an Alaska History/Cultural Studies class, or an American Government class.

Rationale

Students typically examine the U.S. Constitution at some point in their high school experience. Less often do they examine the form and content of the state constitution. Rarely do high school students compare and contrast the two. Yet, the Alaska constitution draws heavily on the principles of the U.S. Constitution while at the same time providing a uniquely Alaska perspective regarding such issues as individual rights, resource ownership, and land ownership/access. Therefore, an examination of the two documents provides an opportunity for students to ask important "how" and "why" questions.

“why” questions.

Materials

Copies of, or access to:

The U.S. Constitution
The Alaska Constitution

Student Guide

Chart 1: Constitutional Provisions

Answer Key – Password Protected

Chart 2: Rights of Citizens

Answer Key – Password Protected