

Salesian International School 2025-2026 Module Rubric

Year	9	Course	AG Civics	Credits	4	
Unit Summary	By the end of grade 9, students will describe the foundational concepts that shape modern society and will identify and describe the origins of political thought and fundamental principles of political theory. Students will evaluate the organization of government and its impact on society. They will compare the Constitution of Japan with other global constitutions, recognizing its role in safeguarding individual rights. With a primary focus on the Japanese government, students will define the principles and practices of modern democracy, including mechanisms of political change and the role of elections and media. They will demonstrate comprehension of fundamental economic concepts such as scarcity, supply and demand, taxes, and the benefits of trade understanding their societal implications. Using current events, students will articulate ways in which government and economic goals are connected. Moreover, they will analyze the interconnectedness of global society and the importance of global citizenship in addressing contemporary global challenges. Students will identify subjective versus objective perspectives in contemporary media, enhancing their critical thinking skills in navigating information sources. As a cumulative final project, students will integrate all the content from the year by creating their own public policy proposal.				Required Materials	
	Learning Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand different philosophical, political, and economic perspectives on the ideal society and its implications for governance. • Analyze the historical development of political thought and its influence on modern political systems. • Explore key concepts and theories in political science and economics. • Examine the structure and functions of government and its role in shaping society. • Apply civics and economics concepts to real world scenarios. 				How Politics Works Notebook, writing utensil. iPad, internet access	
					Course Content	
					At the end of the year, Total Score will be calculated as follows: Term 1 (25%) + Term 2 (25%) + Term 3 (50%) = Total Score: 100%	
Assessment Basis						
	Knowledge Fundamentals	Application Communication	Inquiry Creativity			
Research Level 3: Creative Thought	A3 /10 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can synthesize ideas from different viewpoints to propose innovative approaches to societal organization. • I can generate original insights based on analysis or comparisons. • I can propose creative solutions for organizing government based on a comprehensive understanding of political and economic thought. 	B3 /13 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can present ideas about modern society and government innovatively using diverse media or formats. • I can articulate original viewpoints on political issues and support them with evidence and reasoning. • I can propose creative solutions to real-world problems related to government and society. 	C3 /23 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can develop and refine original political theories or frameworks based on research and inquiry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Propose and defend a unique theory, hypothesis, or model that explains a complex political phenomenon or solves a civic problem. • I can evaluate political ideas using cross-disciplinary insight and apply those ideas to real-world policy or ethical dilemmas. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Synthesize ideas from history, economics, sociology, ethics, and law to explore how political concepts work in complex systems. ◦ Apply analysis to real-world case studies, proposing realistic and ethical solutions. • I can challenge conventional thinking through original analysis, and anticipate counterarguments with thoughtful rebuttals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Identify gaps, contradictions, or biases in political narratives and propose alternative interpretations or paths forward. • I can lead independent research that goes significantly beyond classroom content, using a wide variety of academic and primary sources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Integrate high-level sources (e.g., think tanks, international organizations, academic journals) into original research and argumentation. • I can create and communicate sophisticated, multi-perspective arguments using advanced reasoning and creative presentation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Clearly organize and present complex arguments that consider local and global perspectives, long-term implications, and moral considerations. 	Key Topics Term 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Philosophy and the Foundations of Political Thought • Introduction to the Basic Economic Problem • Political Ideologies • Modern Society and Media Assessment Term 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Role of Government in Society • What Does Scarcity Really Mean? • Ideology Comparative Analysis • Subjective vs Objective Media 		
Application Level 2: Critical Thought	A2 /7 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can analyze different perspectives on society and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses. • I can compare and contrast various political and economic theories and their implications for organizing government. • I can interpret primary sources and apply political theory to real-world scenarios. 	B2 /10 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can articulate complex ideas about modern society and government using appropriate terminology. • I can analyze and interpret political texts and effectively communicate insights through writing and discussion. • I can apply political theory to analyze current events and communicate findings in a coherent manner. 	C2 /17 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can propose original research questions or hypotheses that push the boundaries of political inquiry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ask original, insightful questions that expand understanding. Discuss the reasoning, importance, and possible answers for those questions. • I can share my own personal insight and analysis about the strong, in-depth connection. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Discuss how the topic aligns with or challenges ideas from previous lessons. ◦ Explore the relationship from multiple perspectives, such as social, economic, or political viewpoints. • I can demonstrate advanced creativity in exploring and expanding understanding of political concepts through inquiry and research. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Expand inquiry and research beyond the topics in class and beyond the questions in the assessment. 	Key Topics Term 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political Systems, Institutions, and Change • History and Components of the Constitution of Japan • Governments Around the World • The Role of Banks and Government in Economics • Civic Engagement Assessment Term 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Government Political Report • The Constitution of Japan • Economic Policy Analysis • Civic Engagement: What can I do right now? 		
Foundation Level 1: Logical Thought	A1 /3 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can define and explain basic concepts related to modern society and government. • I can describe the foundational principles of political and economic thought. • I can complete all parts of assessments and projects on time 	B1 /7 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can communicate basic ideas about modern society and government using simple, clear and concise language. • I can demonstrate basic proficiency in applying political theory to practical examples. • I can make basic connections between ideas in politics and government. 	C1 /10 points <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can formulate insightful questions that stimulate critical inquiry into political issues. • I can make strong, in-depth connections between ideas in politics and government. • I can analyze and evaluate sources to gather information and draw informed conclusions about political topics. 	Key Topics Term 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Society and Us • Inquiry into Alternative Policies • Public Policy Processes, Ethics, and Considerations Assessment Term 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Solutions to Modern Problems • Cumulative Public Policy Proposal 		
	Basics	Development	Judgment			