**Final Exam Review Study Guide**

**Unit 1 Citizenship**

1. Know the Nationalization process for people wishing to become US citizens. Know the 5 steps:
2. Be in the US for five years as a permanent resident
3. Be 18 years of age
4. Be able to read, write and speak English.
5. Take and pass citizenship exam
6. Take oath of citizenship.
7. Know your duties and responsibilities of citizenship. Know the difference between a duty/obligation and a responsibility.
8. Rule of Law. Know the 14th amendment protects and grants everyone citizenship. Gives all citizens equal protection of the laws. Know that the US is governed by laws and not by people in positions of power.

**Unit 2: Civic Engagement**

1. Know the role that media plays in protecting our democracy. You should be able to relate this with the reason for the first amendment and the right to free speech/press.
2. Know the difference between public and private media. What does bias mean? How can we be most informed in our society?
3. Know what interest groups are and the role that public opinion polls play in our democracy.
4. What does propaganda mean? Know the different techniques of propaganda. There are seven of them.

**Unit 3: Political Parties and Elections**

1. There are two main political parties in the US: Democrats and Republicans. You should know that democrats believe in more government involvement: government exists to help people. Republicans believe that government gets in the way of people’s lives. They believe in less taxes.
2. You should know what political parties are and why they exist. They exist to help the public better understand what people stand for and makes it easier for people to vote.
3. You should know that there are minor political parties like the libertarians and the socialist parties. These parties never get much public support but their ideas help to shape what the major parties campaign on during elections.
4. You should know the basic requirements to be able to vote in this country and to be able to participate in an election. You need to be:
5. 18 years of age.
6. Need to be a US citizen.
7. You may need to sign up for a political party in order to vote in a primary.
8. You will need valid government ID.
9. You need to make sure you register to be able to vote.

**Unit 4: Federal Government**

1. You should know the preamble of the constitution and know the goals of the constitution.
2. Know the different branches of the constitution: executive, legislative and judiciary. Know the roles they play in our system: executive=enforces laws, legislative= makes laws, and the judiciary= reviews the laws to see if they are constitutional.
3. You should review your notes to make sure you have some idea of some of the powers of each of the three branches of government. Example: What powers does the president have? What powers does the legislative branch have?
4. How does a bill become a law in our country? What procedure does it have to go through to become a law? Can all laws be introduced in both houses? What happens if the president vetoes a bill? How long does a president have to decide to veto a bill?
5. What are some checks and balances in our system of government? What does checks and balances even mean?? Provide an example or two? Example: The president can veto legislation from the legislative branch but how can the legislative branch make sure the president doesn’t have too much power? What role can the courts play in all this?
6. What does the term “federalism” mean? You should know that it has something to do with “sharing power”. But who shares the power?

**Unit 5: State and Local Government**

1. You should know that the state governments share power with the federal government under our constitution and that the 9th and 10th Amendments refer to the powers that states have.
2. You should know that the state government makes laws that deal with issues affecting people who live in that state, and that states deal with more local issues in people’s lives such as crime, education.
3. You should know that the states have the same structure as our federal government. Same branches and have the same process for passing a bill into law.

**Unit 6: Constitutional Amendments**

1. Know all ten of the Bill of Rights. See my slides for more info on this.
2. Know amendments 13, 14,15, 19, 24th and 26th amendments.
3. Know that these amendments have had a huge impact on American society: example voting rights for women and African Americans.
4. Be familiar with the ways to change the constitution. There are two ways to change the US Constitution. Know what they are.
5. Compare the US and Florida Constitutions. Know that the Florida Constitution offers more rights than those found in the US constitution, just not less.
6. Know that the US has had a lot of important cases that deal with constitutional amendments: Example Brown Vs. Board of Education which dealt with the 14th Amendment and overturned the decision in Presley vs. Ferguson.

**Unit 7: Foundations of American Government**

1. Know the basic foundations of how our country came to be. Know that the American colonies wanted independence from Britain because they were being mistreated. Know that this mistreatment had a huge influence on how we see the role of government in our lives and the constant fear that government would take away our freedoms.
2. You should know some of the main theorists that helped shape our constitution. Hobbes: People are selfish, Locke, people have rights and that democratic government is a social contract between government and the people. Montesquieu gave us separation of powers in our constitution.
3. See notes and exam review section for more details on this.

**Unit 8: Exam Review section of my website.**

1. See my website for exam review and all of my unit slides which also includes information given out by Ms. Giraldo during the Civics boot camp. It also includes more information on some famous court cases and a few links on the US Court System.
2. See exam info for final lessons on the different forms of government around the world AND the role that international organizations play in the world today! See the flowing link for more information:

[www.denismacisaac.weebly.com](http://www.denismacisaac.weebly.com). This is my website. Go to the **“civics” tab** and see all of my lesson notes from this year and any additional info that you might find useful from Ms. Giroldo!