

## Topic 5

## The Constitution, Amendments, and Supreme Court Decisions

*Topic 5 explores the evolving nature of the United States Constitution through amendments, landmark Supreme Court decisions, social and political movements, and dramatic historical events. Chapters address the history and the present-day realities of core constitutional issues around the struggles of women, people of color, and individuals with disabilities to gain civil rights and civil liberties in our nation's democratic system.*

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## Snapshot of Topic 5

### Supporting Question

- How has the content and interpretation of the Constitution evolved over time?

## Massachusetts Standards [8.T5.1-6]

1. [The necessary and proper clause](#)
2. [Amendments to the U.S. Constitution](#)
3. [Constitutional issues related to the Civil War, federal power, and individual rights](#)
4. [Civil Rights and equal protection for race, gender, and disability](#)
5. [Marbury v. Madison and the principle of judicial review](#)
6. [Significant supreme court decisions:](#)
  - a. First Amendment rights
    - Religion
    - Assembly
    - Press
    - Petition
    - Speech
  - b. Due process and equal protection
  - c. Rights in conflict
    - United States flag and the “Pledge of Allegiance”
    - School prayer
    - National security
    - Gun control

## AP Government and Politics Standards

- **Unit 3: Civil Rights and Civil Liberties**
  - 3.1 Bill of Rights
  - 3.2 Freedom of Religion
  - 3.3 Freedom of Speech
  - 3.5 Right to Bear Arms
  - 3.11 Government Responses to Social Movements
  - 3.12 Balancing Minority and Majority Rights

## Topic 5: The Constitution, Amendments, and Supreme Court Decisions

The Necessary and Proper Clause
Amendments to the Constitution
Constitutional Issues Related to the Civil War, Federal Power, and Individual Civil Rights
Civil Rights and Equal Protection for Race, Gender, and Disability
Marbury v. Madison and the Principle of Judicial Review
Significant Supreme Court Decisions



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