

The Constitution, Amendments, and Supreme Court Decisions

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

[Preamble to the Constitution](#), by [Gordon Johnson](#), licenced under [CC0 1.0](#)

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

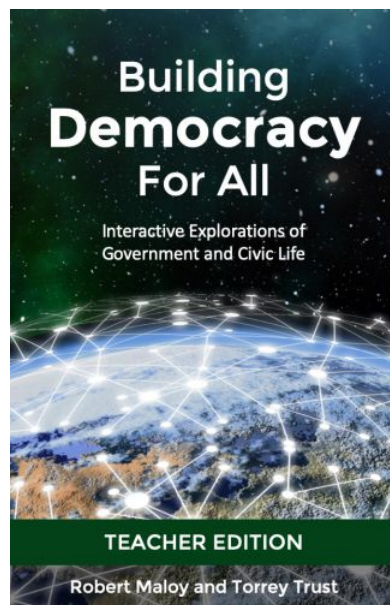
- Assembly
- Press
- Petition
- Speech
- b. Due process and equal protection
- c. Rights in conflict
 - United States flag and the “Pledge of Allegiance”
 - School prayer
 - National security
 - Gun control

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

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**. The chapters in Topic 5 cover 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.



Maloy, R. W. & Trust, T. (2020). *Building Democracy for All*. EdTech Books. Retrieved

from <https://edtechbooks.org/democracy>



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