

FP.C&G.1.2

Explain how the Enlightenment and other contributing theories impacted the writing of the Declaration of Independence, the US Constitution and the Bill of Rights to help promote liberty, justice and equality (e.g., natural rights, classical theories of government, Magna Carta, Montesquieu, Locke, English Bill of Rights, etc.).

Students will understand:

1. Theories of liberty, justice, and equality that are developed over time often shape the political documents and foundations of a nation. (U.S. Constitution, N.C. Constitution, Declaration of Independence, Supreme Court Decisions, Congressional Acts)
2. New ideas or ways of thinking are often integrated into a nation's founding and development. (Inalienable rights, structure of government, separation of powers with checks and balances, rule of law, equal justice under the law, federalism, individual rights set forth in the Bill of Rights)
3. Constitutional governments are often founded upon ideas such as freedom, equality and the rights of individuals. (Inalienable rights, structure of government, separation of powers with checks and balances, rule of law, equal justice under the law, federalism, individual rights set forth in the Bill of Rights, individual responsibility)

Students will know:

1. The philosophical theories of the Enlightenment and the 18th century from men such as Locke, Rousseau, Hobbes, Jefferson, and Montesquieu (Inalienable rights, structure of government, separation of powers with checks and balances, rule of law, and equal justice under the law).
2. American colonists brought with them the knowledge of Enlightenment theories and those theories impacted the development of United States government. (Inalienable rights, structure of government, separation of powers with checks and balances, rule of law, equal justice under the law, federalism, individual rights set forth in the Bill of Rights, individual responsibility)
3. The fundamental principles of the Declaration of Independence as contained in the Preamble. (Inalienable rights, rule of law, equal justice under the law)
4. The fundamental principles of the United States Constitution. (Separation of powers with checks and balances, rule of law, federalism)
5. The ways in which the Preamble to the United States Constitution reflects the purpose of government in the United States. (Rule of law, equal justice under the law, due process, federalism).
6. The freedoms established in the Bill of Rights. (Inalienable rights, structure of government, equal justice under the law, due process, federalism, individual rights set forth in the Bill of Rights, individual responsibility)

Key Terminology:

- **Philosophical Theories** - The theories and ideas that shaped the development of intellectual philosophies and spanned many popular political, social and economic debates. The point of a theory is to explain observations, which in turn seek to explain the world or society in which we live.

Constitutional Government - A constitutional government is any government with defined parameters, structure, and function as established by a constitution