

Essential Standard:

- FP.C&G.3 Analyze the legal system within the United States in terms of the development, execution and protection of citizenship rights at all levels of government.
 - Concept(s): Rights, Legal System, Protection, Citizenship, Rule of Law, Responsibility

FP.C&G.3.1

Analyze how the rule of law establishes limits on both the governed and those who govern while holding true to the ideal of equal protection under the law (e.g., the Fourteenth Amendment, Americans with Disabilities Act, equal opportunity legislation).

Students will understand:

1. Democratic governments often seek to work with its citizens to make and enforce laws that ensure the general welfare of the people and maintain the common good. (Structure of government, rule of law, equal justice under the law, private property rights, federalism, due process, individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights, individual responsibility)
2. In a democracy, rule of law often shapes the behavior of citizens, establishes procedures for making policies, and limits the power of government. (Rule of law, equal justice under the law, private property rights, federalism, due process, individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights, individual responsibility)
3. Equal protection of the law promotes equal treatment as an element of fundamental fairness that prohibits discrimination by government institutions. (Rule of law, equal justice under the law, private property rights, federalism, due process, individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights, individual responsibility)

Students will know:

1. How to define rule of law and recognize why it is an important concept for democratic governance. (Rule of law)
2. How the definition of the concept of “equal protection under the law” has changed over time. (Rule of law, equal justice under the law)
3. Specific constitutional and legal protections that provide equal protection to all citizens and how the courts have interpreted them over time. (Rule of law, equal justice under the law)
4. The concept of limited government and how that concept has changed over time. (Structure of government, rule of law, equal justice under the law, private property rights, federalism)

Note: *Teachers may select the content that they use to address the rule of law and equal protection.*