|  |
| --- |
| **TEXAS CTE LESSON PLAN**[www.txcte.org](http://www.txcte.org) |
| **Lesson Identification and TEKS Addressed** |
| **Career Cluster** | Government and Public Administration |
| **Course Name** | Political Science I |
| **Lesson/Unit Title** | Political Ideologies |
| **TEKS Student Expectations** | **130.203.** **(c) Knowledge and skills**(4) The student analyzes belief systems that claim to improve society. The student is expected to:(A) define political ideologies such as feminism, Marxism,Nazism, and capitalism; and(B) coordinate the four elements of perception, evaluation, prescription, and movement with political ideologies. |
| **Basic Direct Teach Lesson**(Includes Special Education Modifications/Accommodations and one English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) Strategy) |
| **Instructional Objectives** | The student will be able to:* Analyze the three major categories of political ideologies in American society.
* Identify the political parties that affiliate with these ideologies.
* Understand the process of how citizens gain their attitudes and opinions of the political ideologies in society.
* Examine the progression of political ideologies in society throughout history.
* Identify other political ideologies in American society that are typically associated with Third Parties.
 |
| **Rationale** | There are several different political ideologies in society today. Students should be able to identify the foundations of each political ideology and differentiate between the liberal and conservative political ideologies in American society. An awareness of these ideologies is imperative for a person working in the field of politics. |
| **Duration of Lesson** | This lesson should take 7- 9 hours. |
| **Word Wall/Key Vocabulary***(ELPS c1a,c,f; c2b; c3a,b,d; c4c; c5b) PDAS II(5)* | None |
| **Materials/Specialized Equipment Needed** | * Political Ideologies Key Terms
 |
| **Anticipatory Set**(May include pre-assessment for prior knowledge) | Lead a class discussion about the political spectrum. Have students identify what they know about the liberal and conservative ideologies in American society. At the end of the discussion have the students take a political spectrum quiz to assess their personal political ideologies (i.e., <http://www.people-press.org/typology/quiz/>). Use the Discussion Rubric for assessment.  |
| **Direct Instruction \*** | I. What is the difference between the liberal and conservative ideologies in America? A. Political Ideology 1. The coherent set of values and beliefs people hold about the purpose of government in the action of individuals 2. Two key components of various ideologies are the extent to which adherents believe that the government should have a role in people’s everyday lives and how much government should promote economic equality in society 3. Ideologies are sets or systems of beliefs that shape the thinking of individuals and how they view the world around them: a) Race b) Nationality c) The role and function of government d) Relationships between men and women in society e) Human responsibility to the environment 4. According to political scientists, there are four functions in which political ideologies are turned into actiona) Explanation – ideologies can provide Americans with reasons for why social and political conditions are the way they are, especially in time of a crisisb) Evaluation – ideologies can provide the standards for evaluating social conditions, political institutions, and events.c) Orientation – ideologies provide individuals with an orientation towards issues and a position within the worldd) Political Program – ideologies help people to make political choices and guide their political actions5. Religious, philosophical, and cultural beliefs can become cohesive ideologies that create natural groups within society and lead to political conflict6. In American society, the most notable natural groups are considered to be the conservatives, liberals, and moderates7. Political ideologies can be identified by two categories:a) Fiscal – center around money and the economyb) Social – center around the people and the rights of citizens in the United StatesB. Conservatives1. Believe that government is best when it has little involvement in individuals’ lives2. Believe that government should play a limited role in regulating business and the market forces3. Believe that the private sector is better equipped to deal with domestic issues and economic issues4. Are more likely to live in rural areas5. Often favor the traditional Christian valuesa) A majority of Evangelicals, Protestants, and Roman Catholicsb) Very few Muslims and Jews6. Fiscal Conservatives favora) Less government involvement in businessb) Less government regulation of the economyc) Local and state action over federal involvementd) The importance of fiscal responsibilitye) Balanced budgetsf) Private sector handling of domestic problems7. Social Conservativesa) Are voters who have strong religious ties and increasingly affect the political process and policies in the USb) Favor government intervention to regulate sexual and social behaviorc) Favor restricting abortiond) Favor banning same-sex marriagee) Favor stricter regulations on immigrationC. Liberals1. Are associated with the ideas of liberty and political equality2. Advocate change in social, political, and economic realms to protect the equality of individuals in society3. Emphasize the importance of civil liberties outlined by the Bill of Rights4. Believe that the overall role of government in society is to promote opportunity both economically and politically5. Are more likely to live in urban areas6. Fiscal Liberals favora) Government-funded social welfare programs like Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaidb) Government involvement in economic affairsc) Government regulation of business and workplace conditionsd) Government-supported access to free, public education7. Social Liberalsa) Continue to support political equality by advocating contemporary movements that promote political rights for the disenfranchisedb) Favor a clear separation of church and statec) Favor rights for gays and lesbiansd) Favor fair workplace conditionse) Favor a woman’s right to choosef) Favor affirmative actionD. Moderates1. Take a relatively “centrist” view on political issues2. Identify with both conservative and liberal ideologies on political issuesa) Believe that the role of government is to balance the wants of workers and businessesb) Believe government should foster stability in American societyc) Advocate nondiscrimination in opportunities offered to American citizensd) Advocate protection of economic freedoms, security, and stability3. 35% of Americans consider themselves Moderate (O’Conner, 2011)a) The number of citizens that identify themselves as moderates has steadily been declining since 19744. Are identified as being “split-ticket” voters, meaning they vote for both Republican and Democrats on a voting ballot5. Many political scientists believe that moderate ideologies are better than extreme ideologies when dealing with the role of government in societyE. Problems with Ideological Labels1. It is not uncommon for a person to have both conservative and liberal ideologies on different political issues2. The range in ideological issues have caused the American public to have a declining trust in the government since 1960a) Polarizing issues in the 1960s that drained public support were those that addressed issues with racial inequality and foreign policy(1) The Vietnam War(2) The Civil Rights Act of 1964b) The first time American’s asked themselves, “Is big government the solution for social and economic struggles?”F. Political Culture1. Defined as commonly shared attitudes, beliefs, and core values about how government should operate2. Emphasizes values ofa) Libertyb) Equalityc) Popular Consentd) Majority Rulee) Individualismf) Religious Freedom3. As a society, although Americans fundamentally disagree about economic and social issues, all citizens believe in political equality and freedom of political expressionII. Which political parties are associated with the Liberal and Conservative political ideologies?A. Political Parties1. An organized effort by office holders, candidates, activists, and voters to pursue their common interests by gaining and exercising power through the electoral process2. Have broad platforms which are focused on many issues3. Are the formal statement of the party principles and policy objectives4. Have these goals:a) Win an election for public officeb) Spread the message about the party’s ideology and issuesc) Gain support from American voters5. Run candidates in the hope that they will win seats in Legislative and Executive branches, thus allowing parties to govern in a way that would favor their own partisan agenda6. Political scientists have described political parties as consisting of three separate but related entities:a) The office holders who organize themselves and pursue policy objectives under the party labelb) The workers and activists who make up the party’s formal organization structurec) The voters who considered themselves allied or associated with the partyB. The Organization of American Political Parties1. The formal party apparatus, including committees, headquarters, conventions, party leaders, staff, and volunteer workersa) In the U.S. party organization is the most visible at the local levelb) They operate separately from the national party, except during a presidential election year2. Resembles a pyramid, with a broad base of support at the bottom, while power flows up to smaller groups at the state and national levels3. The National Partiesa) Meet every four years at the national convention to determine their party’s nominee for Presidentb) At the national convention, the party activists adopt rules and develop a party platform which outlines positions on certain issuesc) The national party committees are responsible not only for the party’s national convention, but they are also responsible for the daily operations of the party(1) DNC – Democratic National Committee(2) RNC – Republican National Committeed) Money donated to the national parties is often redirected to the state and local parties to help win elections and mobilize voters4. The State Partiesa) Act as the intermediaries between the national and local partiesb) Receive funds from the national and local partiesc) Have become increasingly significant since the 1960sd) Are responsible for party building activities such as voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts (GOTV)e) Are typically made up of a few members from each county or geographic region of the statef) Operate according to the limits set by their own state legislature5. County and Local Partiesa) The foot soldiers of the political parties (i.e. they help raise campaign funds and mobilize voters)b) Play a key role in shaping community engagement and individual participation in the political processc) Most participation at the local level is done on a volunteer basisC. The Republican Party1. Advocates for smaller government that performs fewer social welfare functions2. Believes that the government should play a stronger role in regulating traditional moral valuesa) Restore the traditional Christian values that the United States was founded uponb) Support the ban of some social issues like gay marriage and abortion3. Are more assertive when it comes to foreign affairs since the 9/11 terrorist attacks by emphasizing military action4. Believe the federal government should a have decreased responsibility when it comes to the economy and social welfare programs. The larger role should be placed on the states5. Includes predominately small business owners, citizens who identify themselves as very religious and the upper-middle class6.The Republican Party Platforma) Abortion – pro-life and the 14th Amendment should protect the life of an unborn childb) Taxation – taxes can be paid by doubling exemptions for dependents, reducing the corporate tax rate, eliminating the federal death tax, and giving tax credit for medical expensesc) National Security – the U.S. must be equipped to quickly respond to acts of bioterrorism and WMD’sd) Education – a large sum of federal money is being spent on a failing education system. New innovations to education like year-around school, school vouchers, and charter schools can create a system which makes K-12 more college and workforce ready7. Identifies closely with both the fiscal and social conservative political ideologiesD. The Democratic Party1. The oldest political party in the United States2. Has a platform that closely resembles the one of Franklin Delano Roosevelt’s during the New Deal Eraa) The government should provide a safety net for the nation’s economy in order to prevent economic collapses like the one that caused the Great Depressionb) The platform also advocated for the expansion of social welfare programs3. Expanded its platform to include rights for women, gays, and the environment4. Advocates for diplomacy over military action since 9/11a) Without military intervention, federal funds can be used towards domestic social welfare programs which more directly impact the American citizens5. Includes prominently women, ethnic minorities, and working-class voters6. The Democratic Party platforma) Abortion – strongly supports the Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision and a woman’s right to chooseb) Taxation – eliminate corporate loopholes, provide tax cuts immediately to the middle class, and eliminate the Bush-Era tax cuts for families making more than $250,000 a yearc) National Security – bring war to an end in Iraq and shut down Al Qaeda in Afghanistan and Pakistan. America will invest more in human intelligence for deployed operativesd) Education – a quality education should be available to all children by continuing to fund public school education. Higher education will be readily available to students by doubling Pell Grants and lowering college tuition7. More closely aligned with both the fiscal and social liberal political ideologiesE. What makes a political party successful?1. Parties must present distinct, comprehensive programs for governing the nation2. Each party’s candidates must be committed to its program and have the internal cohesion and discipline to carry out its program3. The majority party must implement its programs, and the minority party must state what it would do if it were in power4. The majority party must accept responsibility for the performance of the governmentIII. How do American citizens gain a political understanding?A. Political Socialization1. The process through which young people acquire political orientations as they grow up, based on inputs from parents, teachers, the media, and friends2. Increases with age: people’s political orientations grow firmer3. Usually done informally, by either family, friends, or the media4. Occasionally learned formally via education5. A much more subtle process in the U.S., unlike that of authoritarian regimesB. Agents of Political Socialization1. Familya) Has a central role because of two crucial resources(1) Time(2) Emotional commitmentb) How a majority of young people will vote can be predicted simply by knowing the political leanings of their parentsc) Political activism is passed from one generation to the nextd) Parental influence has long-lasting effects on a person’s underlying political attitudes2. Mass Mediaa) Considered to be the “new parent” of political socialization because as a child gets older, the media replaces parents as the main source of informationb) Children are spending more time watching television than they are spending at school each weekc) Television has a tremendous impact on how people view the government; it is the most used outlet of mass mediad) Studies have shown that younger generations prefer cable news channels rather than network channels (Edwards, 2011)e) Cable news channels often provide a skewed opinion about policy because they are owned by a private company and are supposed to appeal to certain viewersf) Network news is often considered to be unbiased and meant to serve as an information outlet for all citizensg) Other media outlets such as online magazines and blogs are tremendously skewed because they are not regulated by a bureaucratic agency like the Federal Communications Commission (FCC)3. Schoola) The only formal institution for political socializationb) Most American schools promote national loyalty and support for basic American values (i.e. the day begins with the Pledge of Allegiance)c) Through the school system the government also educates students about the virtues of capitalism and democracyd) Political socialization often changes once a student reaches college because courses are designed for students to think more critically about political consequencese) Studies have shown that when children are old enough to leave home and attend college, they begin to question their political decisions (O’Conner, 2011)f) Better-educated citizens are more likely to vote and exhibit more knowledge about politics and public policy4. Religiona) The broadest agent of political socialization because it varies greatly from person to personb) Can be a defining element in the development of a person’s political beliefs; for others, religion is irrelevant(1) Those who regularly attend religious services are likely to share conservative ideologies and/or support Republican candidates (Harris, 2011)(2) White Protestants are the most likely group to vote Conservative, more than any other religious group (Harris, 2011)c) Often the reason people make political decisions based on social issues, like abortion and gay marriageC. Political Learning Over a Lifetime1. Politics is a lifelong activity that does not stop when people graduate from school or move out of their parents’ house2. Politics is a learned behavior3. Americans learn to vote, pick a political party, and evaluate political events in the world around themIV. How have political ideologies changed over time?A. Party Eras in American History1. Party Era – a long period of time that a majority of Americans affiliate with a dominant political party2. America is a two-party system, but minority parties have played a role in shaping its political ideology3. Party Realignment – a period when the majority party is replaced by the minority party; this usually happens as a result of a national crisisa) The Civil Warb) The Great Depression4. The Democratic Party is the oldest political party in the U.S.B. 1796–1824: Federalist vs. Anti-Federalist (First Party System)1. The Federalist Party was the first political party in the USa) Federalist Ideology(1) Closely centered around the basic principles of the U.S. Constitution(2) Supported the ratification of the U.S. Constitution(3) Supported the creation of a national bank(4) Supported a strong central governmentb) Federalist Party members(1) George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and others(2) Typically lived in the northern colonies, resided in urban areas and were more educated2. The Anti-Federalist Party was a short-lived political partya) Anti-Federalist ideology(1) Did not believe in the creation of a strong central government(2) Believed that power should remain with the states(3) Supported the ratification of the Articles of Confederation(4) Favored slaveryb) Anti-Federalist membersc) Typically lived in the southern colonies: rural farm owners who were uneducated and owned slavesC. 1828–1856: Democrats vs. The Whigs1. The Democratic Partya) Had to broaden the political agenda from previous years because of the expansion West and the number of immigrants that came to Americab) Eliminated political elitism and mobilized the masses to become involved in the political processc) Andrew Jackson is considered the founder of the modern day Democratic Party2. The Whigsa) Run by notable political figures such as Henry Clayb) Had two distinct wings(1) The northern industrialists(2) The southern farmersc) Opposed the democratic ideologies that broadened the political rights of citizensD. 1860–1928: Two Republican Eras1. Slavery became the political issue that dominated US society2. The demise of the Whig Party led to the birth of the Republican Party3. The Republican Party rose in the late 1850s as the anti-slavery party4. The election of Abraham Lincoln was one of the reasons for the South’s secession from the union5. Following the end of the Civil War, the north remained heavily Republican, while the south remained heavily Democratic for 60 years6. At the turn of the 20th century, the Republicans and the Democrats fought a bitter battle over the country’s economy7. Republicans favoreda) The gold standardb) Industrializationc) High tariffs8. Democrats favoreda) Changing to the silver standardb) Prohibition of alcohol9. The Republicans reigned for the next three decades until the crash of the stock market in 1929E. 1932–1964: The New Deal Coalition1. The Great Depression led to the end of the Republican-dominated era2. The Republican president during the 1929 stock market crash was Herbert Hoover3. The new leader of the Democrats became Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR)4. FDR enacted several social welfare programs to help stimulate the economy and to fix the economic depression5. This era of the Democratic Party is the origin of today’s liberal ideology6. The basic elements of the New Deal Coalitiona) Urban dwellers – many urban areas were staunchly Republican before the realignment of the New Deal Erab) Labor unions – FDR supported the formation of labor unionsc) Catholics and Jews – became strongly Democratic during the FDR presidencyd) The poor – supported FDR’s economic assistance programse) African Americans – supported the coalition because of the movements towards civil rights7. The US remained heavily Democratic until the election of Richard NixonF. 1968–Present: Southern Realignment1. Richard Nixon formulated the “Southern strategy” which emphasized support for state’s rights, law and order, and a strong military posture in the USa) This was highly effective in the southb) The south began to realign with the Republican Party and its conservative ideologiesc) The Democrats officially lost their hold in the south during the late 1980s2. The liberal and conservative ideologies of the New Deal Era are still present in the political thinking of the US3. Since the New Deal Era, the office of the Presidency and control of congress has rotated evenly between Republicans and Democrats4. In today’s society only 60 percent of Americans identify with either the Democrats or Republicans (Edwards, 2011)5. There are many factors that now play a role in shaping a person’s ideologya) Genderb) Racec) Aged) Geographic region6. This has resulted in several years of “divided government,” one party controls the executive branch and the other party controls one or both bodies of the legislative branchV. How do other political ideologies affect American society?A. Other Ideologies in American Society1. Although Liberals and Conservatives dominate the political landscape, other ideologies are present in American society2. These ideologies can fall even farther to the left or the right on the political spectrumB. Socialism1. An ideology that stresses economic equality2. Wants the government to play a larger role in the means of production3. Lies farther left on the political spectrum than liberalism4. Often uncommon in American society because of the economic principle of “laissez-faire,” or governmental hands-off5. The Socialist Party in America was at its peak in 1912 when Eugene Debs ran for President of the USC. Libertarianism1. An ideology advocating that government should take a “hands-off” approach in most matters2. Believes that social issues should not be decided by government and there should be total social freedom3. Believes in absolute economic freedom and supports the rights of property owners and the capitalist economy4. Believes that government is not the outlet for upholding traditional values in America5. Lies farther right on the political spectrum than conservatives6. Identifies with the third-party movement known as the Tea Party MovementD. Neoconservatism1. An ideology that advocates military over diplomatic solutions in foreign policy2. Differs from traditional conservativism in several waysa) Traditional conservatives tend to advocate for “isolationist foreign policy” while neoconservatives (neo-cons) advocate for military actionb) Neo-cons believe in a unilateral approach to military action rather than a collective coalition like conservativesc) Neo-cons are less concerned with social policy and more concerned with foreign policyd) Neo-cons deeply oppose communism and the threat of terrorism3. Emerged in the early 1970s during the Cold War4. Was also a powerful force during the George W. Bush administration |
| **Guided Practice \*** | None |
| **Independent Practice/Laboratory Experience/Differentiated Activities \*** | * Students will create an organizational chart of how citizens are politically socialized in American society. The chart will begin with the first agent of socialization and progress through all of the other agents of political socialization. The chart should include methods used to socialize citizens and the role they play in shaping political opinion. Use the Individual Work Rubric for assessment.
* The Right to Bear Arms. Divide the students into groups. Have the groups consist of elected politicians, gun lobbyists (the NRA), Gun Control Lobbyists (Coalition Against Gun Violence), gun-owning citizens, and people who have been affected by gun violence. Have the students assume their assigned role. Each side will hold a mock rally in which they present their reasons for or against gun control in America. Use the Role Play Rubric and/or the Debate Rubric for assessment.
* Political Interview. Have the students interview a male and a female of their parent’s generation and a male and a female of their grandparent’s generation. The interview should focus on the adults’ political ideologies and include questions that ask, “Why do you feel that way?” and, “Has your opinion changed over time?” Then have the students use this information to determine which factors create a person’s opinion and how that opinion can change. Have the students use their own political spectrum results from the class discussion to predict whether their political opinions will change as they get older. Use the Research Rubric for assessment.
* Political Spectrum Survey. As a group, have the students conduct a school-wide political spectrum survey in which students are asked what political ideology they identify with. The results will be calculated and posted in the classroom. Then have the students conduct a similar school-wide survey, in which they ask the same group to take a short political spectrum quiz to identify their political ideologies. Have the students calculate the results from the quizzes and post them with the political spectrum survey results. Then have the students compare and contrast the results of both surveys to see if ideology does match party affiliation. Use the Peer Evaluation Rubric and the Discussion Rubric for assessment.
 |
| **Lesson Closure** | None |
| **Summative/End of Lesson Assessment \***  | * Political Ideologies Quiz and Key
* Debate Rubric
* Discussion Rubric
* Individual Work Rubric
* Peer Evaluation Rubric
* Research Rubric
* Role Play Rubric

**Accommodations for Learning Differences:** For reinforcement, students will create an organizational chart of how citizens are politically socialized in American society. The chart will begin with the first agent of socialization and progress through all the other agents of political socialization. The chart should include methods used to socialize citizens and the role they play in shaping political opinion. Use the Individual Work Rubric for assessment.  |
| **References/Resources/****Teacher Preparation** | * Edwards, George, Martin Wattenberg, and Robert Lineberry. Government in America: People. Politics and Policy. 14th. New York City: Pearson Education, Inc, 2009. Ch. 1, 15, 20 & 21. Print.
* Harris, Jean, Brigid Harrison. American Democracy Now. 2nd. New York City: McGraw Hill , 2011. Ch. 2, 16, 17 & 18. Print.
* O'Conner, Karen, and Larry Sabato. American Government: Roots and Reform. 10th. New York City: Pearson Education, 2009. Ch. 2, 4, 17 & 19. Print.
* Patterson, Thomas. The American Democracy. 9th. New York City: McGraw Hill Higher Education, 2009. Ch. 2, 17 &18. Print.
* <http://www.people-press.org/typology/quiz/>
 |
| **Additional Required Components** |
| **English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) Strategies** |  |
| **College and Career Readiness Connection[[1]](#footnote-1)** | Social Studies StandardsI. Interrelated Disciplines and SkillsC. Change and continuity of political ideologies, constitutions, and political behavior1. Evaluate different governmental systems and functions.2. Evaluate changes in the functions and structures of government across time. |
| **Recommended Strategies** |
| **Reading Strategies** |  |
| **Quotes** |  |
| **Multimedia/Visual Strategy****Presentation Slides + One Additional Technology Connection** |  |
| **Graphic Organizers/Handout** |  |
| **Writing Strategies****Journal Entries + 1 Additional Writing Strategy** |  |
| **Communication****90 Second Speech Topics** |  |
| **Other Essential Lesson Components** |
| **Enrichment Activity**(e.g., homework assignment) | Students will write a 3–5 page research paper on a third-party in American society. The paper should identify the major ideologies of that political party, both economically and socially. The paper should also include the party’s organization and any leaders within the organized party. Use the Research Rubric for assessment. |
| **Family/Community Connection** |  |
| **CTSO connection(s)** | SkillsUSA |
| **Service Learning Projects** |  |
| **Lesson Notes** |  |

1. Visit the Texas College and Career Readiness Standards at <http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/collegereadiness/CRS.pdf>, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB), 2009. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)