

Daily Lesson Plan Template (China)

Teacher(s): Lindsey VanFossen

Time: 1 day

Topic: A Constitutional Comparison

Course: U.S. Government (11th & 12th grade)

Learning Targets:	I can describe and give examples of the basic principles of the U.S. constitution as they are represented in China's constitution.	
State Standards:	5. As the supreme law of the land, the U.S. Constitution incorporates basic principles that help define the government of the United States as a federal republic including its structure, powers, and relationship with the governed.	
Materials Needed:	Students need: Computers, U.S. Constitution Principles around the World (either printed out or posted digitally for students)	Teacher needs: Poster Paper (1 sheet for each principle), PPT with background info on U.S.-China relations
Learning about Students' Learning	This lesson should follow one on the 6 principles (limited government, popular sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, judicial review, and federalism) of the U.S. Constitution.	
Procedures including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opening • Activities • Closure 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opener: Review the 6 principles of the U.S. Constitution. With a partner, have students create a concept map on the principles. Each principle should have at least one branch defining the principle and another giving an example of how the principle plays out in the Constitution. 2. Present background info on U.S.-China relations and the structure of China's government. Why should we care about China's government? 3. Activity: U.S. Constitution Principles Around the World (China) Make sure all principles are represented in the class. 4. Closer: Assess students' progress on the assignment. Have them post one example they found of a U.S. principle in China's constitution on the corresponding poster paper. Discuss the results with the class. 	

Assessment: (Label formative or summative)	U.S. Constitutional Principals Around the World (formative)
Academic/Content Language	limited government popular sovereignty separation of powers checks and balances judicial review federalism



Where in the World are U.S. Constitutional Principles? (China)

Background: The U.S. Constitution is the oldest written national framework of government in the world (it has served America for over two centuries). In contrast, most other countries have completely abolished their constitution at one point or another. El Salvador has had 36 constitutions! Thus, it is not surprising that our constitution has influenced so many around the world.

Directions: Choose (1) basic principle of the U.S. Constitution to complete the graphic organizer below. You are to utilize constituteproject.org to find this principle in another China’s constitution. You can do so by searching the China’s constitutions by topic (i.e. popular sovereignty, federalism, separation of powers, checks and balances, limited government, and judicial review). Your notes from class and the PPT should help you in completing the U.S. side of the organizer though you can bring our constitution up as well on the site.

- **Definition of Principle:** What does it mean in both the United States and in China?
- **Evidence 1:** Where (section of constitution) can it be found in the respective constitutions? What does it specifically say? How do you interpret this (i.e. rephrase it in your own words)?
- **Evidence 2:** *see above*

Principle: _____

	United States	Country:
DEFINITION OF PRINCIPLE		
EVIDENCE 1	Where: Quote: Own Words:	Where: Quote: Own Words:
EVIDENCE 2	Where: Quote: Own Words:	Where: Quote: Own Words:

How might recognizing similarities between constitutions facilitate a greater global understanding of the world’s peoples?