

NOTE: Today is a computer lab lesson. Please make sure you have signed up for the lab in advance.

TITLE OF LESSON

American Government Unit 2 Lesson 40 – Portfolio Work
Does Democracy Work?

TIME ESTIMATE FOR THIS LESSON

One class period

ALIGNMENT WITH STANDARDS

California – History 12.2, 12.3, 12.10

MATERIALS

Portfolio Requirement 4i – Student Page
Sample Portfolio – Teacher Created
Art Materials (colored markers/pencils, colored construction paper, old magazines, scissors, glue, tape, etc.)

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- To organize documents and papers into a cohesive and thoughtful portfolio
 - To creatively combine and present how the student got involved.
 - To demonstrate mastery of course content and skills in a portfolio presentation
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FOCUS AND MOTIVATE STUDENTS – WARM-UP ACTIVITY

- 1) Homework Check – Stamp/initial complete homework assignments. Pass back graded work and have students place in the appropriate section of their binders.
 - 2) **Agenda** – Have students copy the goal, agenda, and homework onto the next clean page in a notebook.
 - 3) Computer Protocol – Remind students of appropriate computer lab behavior and the consequences for any misbehavior.
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ACTIVITIES – INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP

1. Review and Save – Have students take out their copies of the **Portfolio Requirement 4i** sheet and review its contents briefly by demonstrating with the Sample Portfolio. Explain that today, they should stay focused on completing their section essays that are included on each section's title page. Quickly go over with students where they should save their work on the computer. Ideally, they should save to a disk that has their name written on it and can be turned in to you at the end of the period for a grade. However, you may have a school server that they can save to so that you can access their work after they have left. Check with your site technology person to find out if you have that option available. Then you may want to post the steps to saving on the board for the students to follow.
2. **Peer Revision** – Have students take out the handwritten drafts of their section title pages. Then ask students to switch them with a partner. Explain to students that the paragraphs must be able to convey a strong, organized structure for their ideas. All paragraphs will need to introduce the title and topic of the section, as well as explain the contents and why these items were chosen for this particular section. Students should write comments or make their suggestions directly on the places they are suggesting changes to. Tell students they will have 15 minutes only to complete their revisions. At the end of 15 minutes, call time.
3. Typing and Portfolio Work – Tell students they will have most of the rest of the period to make the changes their partner suggested and type their section title pages.

4. Tech Work – The students may also want to work creatively on building their portfolio either with the art materials that are available or by using the computer. Again suggest to them some possible ideas for the tech component of their portfolio such as: images in Photoshop; a web page that houses all of their portfolio work; a Powerpoint presentation of all of their portfolio requirements; a Flash presentation for each intro page or for the whole portfolio; etc.
 5. Clean up – About five minutes before the end of class, have students print hard copies of their section title pages (if they are finished and if they are creating a hard copy version of their portfolio) and save their work. If students have not finished, you may wish to open the lab to them at lunch or after school so that they can finish this part of their assignment on time. Have students shut down their computers, clean up their workstations, and push in their chairs.
 6. Homework – Before students leave class, instruct them that their homework is to continue building and focusing their portfolio.
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HOMEWORK

Continue work on portfolio.

GROUP ROLES

None

DOCUMENTATION FOR PORTFOLIO

Unit 1

Action Plan

Persuasive Essay or Flash Argument: Why should government care...?

American Government Unit 1 Final Exam

Unit 2

Political Beliefs Project

Ideological Plan

GIP Question Sheet

Service Requirement Check-Ins

Model Congress Bill on GIP Issue

Field Trip Worksheet