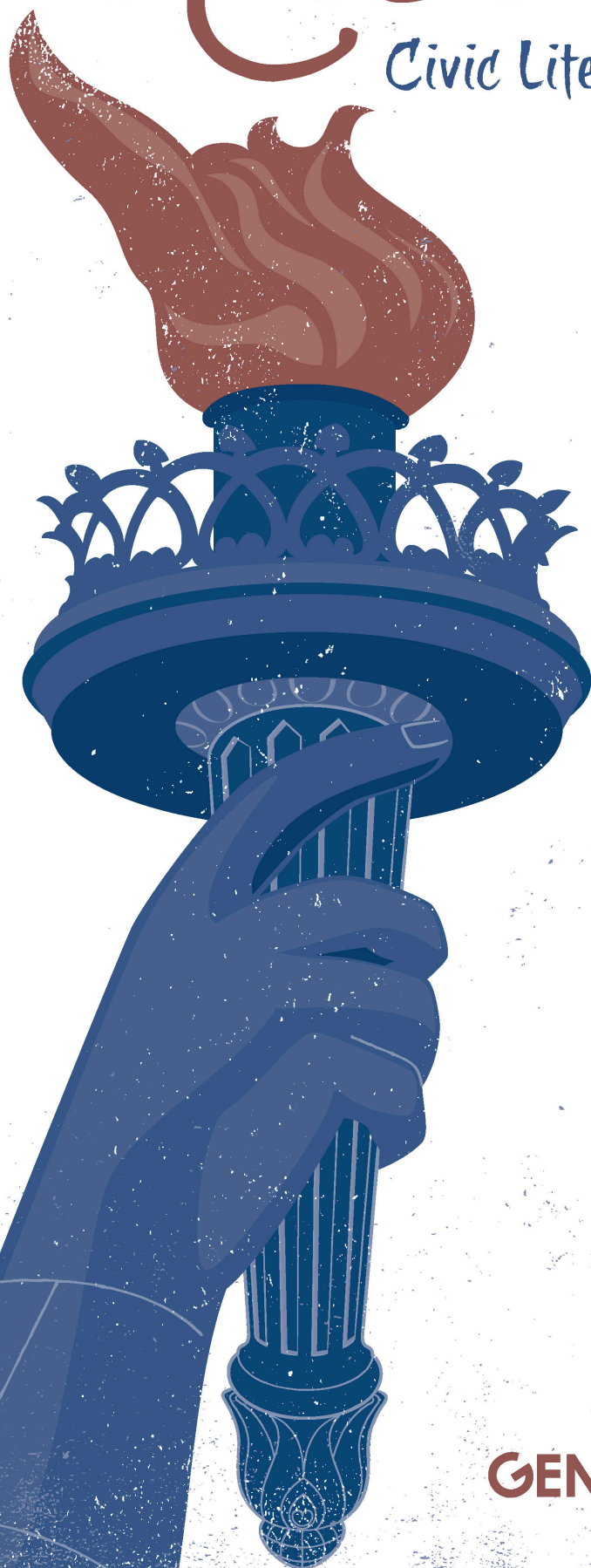


iCitizen

Civic Literacy for Young Americans



HSLDA'S
GENERATION  **JOSHUA**

Syllabus

Welcome to Generation Joshua's *iCitizen* course! This is a *civics* course, not an American government course. As such, *iCitizen* is not as detailed or as focused on theory as a government course might be. Instead, *iCitizen* focuses on the practical knowledge that all citizens should have about how their government functions and how it affects them.

Upon completion of this course, your student will have a better understanding of the history, purpose, and structure of American government, America's role abroad, basic economics, and many other important elements of civics and patriotism. Your student will know what it means to be an American citizen and will be equipped to be engaged at the local, state, and national levels of government. Additionally, your student will be well prepared to enroll in a high school-level American government course if desired.

Course Components

The *iCitizen* course is divided into 10 chapters that are meant to be completed in the order they are presented. Relevant excerpts from the Constitution are highlighted throughout the chapters to teach the basis of our government.

Each chapter is divided into several sections, concluding with review questions to test the student's comprehension of the material presented. These review questions are also valuable study aids to help students prepare for the end-of-chapter quizzes. Students should answer the review questions using complete sentences. If grades are desired, they are the supervising teacher's responsibility—*please do not send the review answers to Generation Joshua*. While we do not provide an answer key for the instructor to use in grading review questions, all of the answers (with the exception of those involving the student's analysis or opinion) can be found in the chapter text.

Both the textbook and this teacher edition include a glossary at the end in which all bolded terms throughout the text are defined. For convenience, the teacher edition also includes glossary terms at the end of each chapter. Although most unfamiliar terms in *iCitizen* are defined in the glossary or can be understood through their use and context, we recommend that students have a dictionary available.

Essays

Every chapter concludes with three or four essay questions that are either descriptive or analytical. If you decide to assign essays as part of this course, have your student pick one essay question from each chapter and write a one- or two-page essay on the topic.

We recommend that students use at least two outside sources for each written essay. These sources do not have to be directly quoted in the essay, but students should cite each source using a footnote, endnote, or in-text citation when referring to it and should list all sources at the end of the essay in a works-cited or references section. If you do not already have a preferred style guide, we recommend the MLA, Turabian, or APA documentation styles, as these are commonly used at the college level.

Essays should be graded by instructors—*please do not send them to Generation Joshua*. Elements to consider when grading essays are grammar, spelling, logical flow, and soundness of argument (for an analytical essay) or historical accuracy (for a descriptive historical essay). Students should not receive full credit for essays that do not use at least two sources, unless otherwise indicated in the essay question.

Chapter Quizzes and Final Test

At the end of each chapter is a quiz with 10–20 multiple-choice and true-false questions that assess retention of key concepts, people, and documents. The cumulative test at the end of the course evaluates how well the student has assimilated and synthesized *iCitizen's* primary themes. The final test contains 50 multiple-choice, true-false, and matching questions.

An answer key for all the chapter quizzes and the final test is at the end of this teacher edition. The correct answer to each question is bolded.

Credits

As a 15-week, semester-long course, *iCitizen* is designed to meet the requirements for one-half of a high school credit. We provide a schedule at the end of this syllabus that enables your student to complete the course in this time frame.

If you want your student to earn one full high school credit (two semesters of study) incorporating the *iCitizen* material, consider having them take an additional half-credit in a

related subject, such as economics, sociology, or geography. Another option is to add supplemental reading and writing assignments to the *iCitizen* material to create a full one-credit, two-semester course. See “Two-Semester Option” later in this syllabus for ideas on how to accomplish this.

Completion certificates are available for this course. To request one, please email generationjoshua@hslida.org after your student completes the course.

Student Time Commitment

Below are the approximate times it will take a student to complete each week’s assignments. Bear in mind that these are estimates only. Parents are best qualified to assess the time required for their students to complete each task. Please adjust as needed.

- Read assigned chapter or sections: 1–2 hours
- Answer review questions: 30–45 minutes
- Study for chapter quiz: 30–45 minutes
- Take chapter quiz: 15–30 minutes
- Write chapter essay (optional): 2–4 hours (depends on essay length and amount of research)

Grading and Course Setup Options

Following are suggested approaches to setting up and grading the *iCitizen* course, depending on your learning goals for your student.

Recommended Grading Scale

- 90–100 points: A (Superior grasp of the material)
- 80–89 points: B (Good understanding of the material)
- 70–79 points: C (Average/passing)
- 60–69 points: D (Unsatisfactory/consider retaking the course)
- 59 or below: F (Retake the course)

One-Semester Option

By following the 15-week assignment schedule provided later in this syllabus, students can complete the course in one semester, earning one half-credit. The instructor will need to decide

whether to grade the review questions and whether to assign essays. A variety of possible grading schematics are suggested below.

We suggest that review questions be graded on completeness, not correctness. The instructor should simply check to see if the student answered each review question. Since the answers to all the questions are in the text, students should receive full credit if they have an answer for each question and no credit if they do not answer every question. The review questions are meant for quiz preparation. The quizzes, not the review questions, measure the student's comprehension and therefore should receive greater weight.

Quizzes + Final Test

10 quizzes—8 points per quiz (80% of course grade)

Final test—20 points (20% of course grade)

Review Questions + Quizzes + Final Test

40 sets of review questions (out of 45—this allows you to drop a few low grades or not assign review questions during busy weeks)—1 half-point per set (20% of course grade)

10 quizzes—6 points per quiz (60% of course grade)

Final test—20 points (20% of course grade)

Review Questions + Essays + Quizzes + Final Test

40 sets of review questions—1 half-point per set (20% of course grade)

10 short essays—2 points per essay (20% of course grade)

10 quizzes—5 points per quiz (50% of course grade)

Final test—10 points (10% of course grade)

Two-Semester Option

For this option, the instructor plans and assigns supplemental reading and writing exercises every other week, alternating with the *iCitizen* assignments. (Field trips to museums and historic sites can also serve as supplemental assignments.) For example, after completing Week 1 on the 15-week *iCitizen* schedule suggested below, the student could read selections from *The Federalist Papers* and *The Antifederalist Papers* and write a two-to-three-page analysis, as

assigned by the instructor. This allows the *iCitizen* assignments to be spread out over two semesters.

Generation Joshua does not provide a supplemental schedule for this option—it is up to the instructor to determine and assign relevant outside reading and writing exercises. Let the *iCitizen* text be your inspiration! Examples of readings include excerpts from historical documents, biographies, modern works by historians or economists, and, where appropriate, novels. The “Supplemental Resources” section at the end of each chapter is a great place to start.

We suggest creating your own grading schematic for this two-semester option. Feel free to use the one-semester grading schematics suggested above as guides.

Suggested 15-Week Assignment Schedule

Week 1

- ☐ Read chapter 1, sections 1.1–1.2.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 1.1–1.2.

Week 2

- ☐ Read chapter 1, sections 1.3–1.5.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 1.3–1.5.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 1 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 1.

Week 3

- ☐ Read chapter 2, sections 2.1–2.2.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 2.1–2.2.

Week 4

- ☐ Read chapter 2, sections 2.3–2.4.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 2.3–2.4.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 2 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 2.

Week 5

- ☐ Read chapter 3, sections 3.1–3.4.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 3.1–3.4.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 3 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 3.

Week 6

- ☐ Read chapter 4, sections 4.1–4.5.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 4.1–4.5.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 4 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 4.

Week 7

- ☐ Read chapter 5, sections 5.1–5.4.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 5.1–5.4.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 5 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 5.

Week 8

- ☐ Read chapter 6, sections 6.1–6.3.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 6.1–6.3.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 6 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 6.

Week 9

- ☐ Read chapter 7, sections 7.1–7.3.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 7.1–7.3.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 7 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 7.

Week 10

- ☐ Read chapter 8, sections 8.1–8.3.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 8.1–8.3.

Week 11

- ☐ Read chapter 8, sections 8.4–8.5.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 8.4–8.5.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 8 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 8.

Week 12

- ☐ Read chapter 9, sections 9.1–9.3.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 9.1–9.3.

Week 13

- ☐ Read chapter 9, sections 9.4–9.6.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 9.4–9.6.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 9 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 9.

Week 14

- ☐ Read chapter 10, sections 10.1–10.6.
- ☐ Answer review questions for sections 10.1–10.6.
- ☐ Write essay (optional).
- ☐ Study chapter 10 for quiz.
- ☐ Take quiz 10.

Week 15

- ☐ Study chapters 1–10 for test.
- ☐ Take end-of-course test.

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