**Civics and Economics Top 100 Topics to Know for the EOC**

**Goal 1: The learner will investigate the foundations of the American political system and explore basic values and principles of American democracy.**

Colonial Differences:

* New England – Puritans, farming, lumber, fishing, ship building and trading
* Middle – religious toleration, economy based on exporting wheat
* Southern – large plantations, rice, cattle, farming, slavery

Magna Carta: An English document drawn up by nobles under King John which limited the power of the king. It has influenced later constitutional documents in Britain and America.

Enlightenment Philosophers:

* **John Locke** – Natural rights, rights people are born with, government can’t take away.
* **Montesquieu** – Separation of powers, dividing government power among legislative, executive, & judicial branches.
* **Rousseau** – Social contract, people give up some rights in order to receive social order.

House of Burgesses: The Virginia House of Burgess formed the first legislative body in colonial America. Later other colonies would adopt similar legislative bodies.

Mayflower Compact: The first agreement for self-government in America. It was signed by the 41 men on the Mayflower and set up a government for Plymouth Colony.

Mercantilism: possession of colonies provided mother countries with raw materials and markets to sell their goods in. Great Britain exported goods and forced the colonies to buy them so Great Britain would have more money.

Long-term causes of the Revolution: Discontent with foreign rule from Great Britain, Mercantilism, want of self-government, to gain self liberties, no taxation without representation.

Short-term causes of the Revolution: “Shot heard round the world” (Lexington and Concord) Thomas Paine’s *Common Sense* and the Declaration of Independence.

Declaration of Independence: 1776, signed on the 4th of July by the Second Continental Congress. It dissolved (ended) the colonies dependence and ties with Great Britain. Also listed grievances (complaints) about King George III and said the colonies were not their own nation.

Articles of Confederation: first attempt at a constitution in the colonies. Gave most power to the states because the people were scared of a powerful central government. Articles had many weaknesses because the federal government had no power. No taxes, no national military, no judicial branch, all states had to agree to amend the Articles. Articles of Confederation were replaced by the Constitution.

Constitutional Compromises:

* Great Compromise: settled the differences between the New Jersey and Virginia Plans. New Jersey wanted representation to be equal; Virginia wanted representation to be based on population. The Great Compromise (Connecticut Compromise) created a **bicameral** legislature. Senate has equal representation and the House of Representatives is based on population.
* 3/5ths Compromise: to count population for representation in the House; slaves count as 3/5ths a person or every 5 slaves count as 3 persons. This was a compromise between Southern farm based states and business based Northern states.

Federalists: supported the Constitution; wanted a strong central government; Madison, Hamilton, and Jay wrote Federalists papers trying to get the public to support the Constitution.

Anti-Federalists: against the Constitution, wanted strong state governments and a weak central government

**Goal 2: The Learner will analyze how the government established by the United States Constitution embodies the purposes, values, and principles of American Democracy.**

Principles of the Constitution: Popular Sovereignty, Federalism, Separation of Powers, Checks and Balances, Limited Government, and Flexibility (able to be amended/changed)

3 Branches of Government:

1. Legislative: Congress; makes laws; Article 1
2. Executive: President; enforces laws; Article 2
3. Judicial: Supreme Court; interprets laws; Article 3

Bill of Rights: first 10 Amendments of the Constitution that give citizens their basic rights and freedoms. These were added to get the Anti-federalists to ratify (approve) the Constitution.

Suffrage Amendments:

* 15th: African American men granted right to vote
* 19th : Gave women the right to vote
* 23rd: gave the residents of the District of Columbia the right to vote in presidential elections.
* 24th: abolished poll taxes
* 26th gave 18 year olds and older the right to vote

Civil War Amendments:

* 13th Amendment: abolished slavery
* 14th: defined citizenship and guaranteed all citizens
* 15th : gave African Americans the right to vote

Impeachment: a majority of the members in the House of Representatives can accuse the President or other high government officials of serious wrongdoing while in office.

Judicial Review: The Supreme Court’s power to overturn any law that it decides is in conflict with the Constitution. (decided constitutional or unconstitutional)

Landmark Supreme Court Cases:

1. Marbury v Madison: judicial review created; midnight judges
2. Plessy v Ferguson: “separate but equal” is allowed and okay
3. Brown v Board of Education Topeka Kansas: overturned Plessy v Ferguson by saying separate is not equal
4. Gideon v Wainwright: uses the 14th Amendment to make all citizens equal under law, Gideon was not given an attorney.
5. Miranda v Arizona: rights of the accused; read your Miranda Rights at the time of arrest
6. Roe v Wade: gives women the right to choose an abortion, based on privacy
7. Texas v Johnson: allows burning of the flag, based on freedom of speech
8. Tinker v Des Moines: students are allowed to protest as long as there is not interruption of learning or teaching.
9. Charlotte v Mecklenburg: allowed schools to use busing to racially balance schools.
10. Mapp v Ohio: exclusionary rule; evidence taken illegally can’t be used in court
11. McCulloch v Maryland: rule National Bank is constitutional and states cannot tax the national government, made national government superior to states
12. Gibbons v Ogden: ruled national government has power of interstate commerce

States’ Rights: a concept used to defend a state law that the federal government seeks to override

Government Revenue: Money the government collects such as taxes, fines, bonds, or user fees

Government Agencies: Conservation of natural resources, Immigration, Crime control and drug prevention, Health and Human Services, National Security, Transportation

**Goal 3: The learner will analyze how state and local government is established by the North Carolina Constitution.**

3 Branches of State and Local Government:

1. Legislative: NC General Assembly
2. Executive: Governor
3. Judicial: NC State Supreme, Appeal, Superior and District Court

Incorporation and Charters: a document giving permission to create a government and providing a plan as how that government should work

Types of Local Government: County, City, Special Districts (school districts) Townships, Metropolis

**The Leandro Case:** Determined that every North Carolina child has a Constitutional right to a sound, basic education.

State and Local Revenue: most money comes from State Income Taxes. Other forms of revenue are sales tax, excise tax, licenses, property tax, permits, user fees, and federal grants

State and Local Spending: most money is spent on schools and detention centers. NC has the one of largest state college system so most of our money is spent on education. Also spend money on health services, libraries, public housing, parks recreation, elections

**Goal 4: The learner will explore active roles as a citizen at the local, state, and national levels of government.**

Political Party Systems:

1. One Party System: one political party controls the government (Communism)
2. Two Party System: two main political parties compete for government positions. There can be smaller less powerful parties called Third Parties. Started in American with the Federalists and Anti-federalists.
3. Multi-party System: three or more political parties compete for government positions.

Types of Elections:

1. Primary election: members form the same party select candidates to run in general election.
2. General election: voters make a final decision about candidates or issues
3. Recall election: voters can remove elected officials from office.

Voting Procedures and Qualifications: 18 years old, US citizen, resident of the state where he/she wants to vote, registered to vote.

Election Campaign Process:

 Private and Public Funding: money is raised to pay for the campaign

 Canvassing: going door to door asking people to vote for a candidate

Endorsements: the action of publicly declaring one’s personal support for a candidate. (Tiger Woods endorses Nike)

Propaganda: messages that are meant to influence the people’s votes

Interest Groups and PACS

 Interest Groups: people who work together for similar interest or goals

PACS: Political Action Committees promotes its members’ interest in state and national politics, regulated by the federal government on how much money they are allowed to donate to campaigns.

Electoral College: A group made of electors from each state who vote for presidential candidates; based on the “winner take all system” in most states. (know how this works!)

Mass Media and Public Opinion: TV, newspapers, magazines and the internet are the greatest factors that influence public opinion. Internet is available 24-7

Rights: what you are allowed to do (freedoms)

Duties: what you are required to do (pay taxes, obey laws, go to school, serve on juries)

Responsibilities: what you should do (vote, recycle, donate to charity, volunteer)

*Mediation:* is a process by which people agree to use a third party to help them settle a conflict

*Arbitration*: is the use of a third party to make a legal decision that is binding to all parties involved.

**Goal 5: The learner will explain how the political and legal systems provide a means to balance competing interests and resolve conflicts.**

Levels of Courts

 Federal Courts: District Courts, US Court Appeals, US Supreme

Types of Jurisdiction:

 Original: a courts authority to hear a case first

 Appellate: a courts authority to hear an appeal of a decision by another court

Concurrent: a courts authority to hear a case is shared with another court (state and federal can both hear the case)

Exclusive: a courts authority to hear a case is not shared with another court (federal court only is an example)

Criminal Law: group of laws that tell which acts are crimes, how accused persons should be tried in court, and how crimes should be punished.

Civil Law: groups of laws that help settle disagreements between people

Judicial Independence: the idea that judges are independent of the people. They can make decisions they feel are just and correct without worrying about going against the desires of most people. One reason Supreme Court Justices are granted life terms

Hung Jury: a jury that cannot make a unanimous decision

Plea Bargain: the way most cases are ended in the US criminal courts. This means the person pleas to a lower crime for a lesser punishment.

The Legislative Process: HOW A BILL BE COMES A LAW: MAKE SURE YOU KNOW THIS IN ALL ITS STEPS!!!!

Town meeting: found especially in New England, a legislative assembly of the qualified voters of a town (example of a direct democracy)

Annexation: when a town or city takes over more land area and makes them part of the city/town. The most common way towns/cities are growing.

Zoning: local rules that divide a community into areas and tell how the land can or cannot be used

Committees in Congress:

 Standing Committees: permanent committees there from session to session

Joint Committee: permanent committees that have members from both the House and Senate

Select Committees: committees in one house; created for a special purpose and a limited amount of time

Conference Committees: committees that have members from both the House and Senate; created for a special purpose; usually to discuss legislation and are created for a limited amount of time

**Goal 6: The learner will explain why laws are needed and how they are enacted, implemented, and enforced at the national, state and local levels.**

 Types of Laws:

Common Law: a body of law based on custom, and precedent, also known as unwritten law

Criminal Law: the group of laws that tell which acts are crimes, how accused persons should be tried in court, and how crimes should be punished

Civil Law: the group of laws that help settle disagreements between people

Types of Punishments: Probation, Juvenile detention, Community Service, House Arrest, Prison, Boot Camp

Criminal Trial Process:

1. Arrest: police arrest and book suspect
2. Preliminary Hearing: suspect appears before a judge, bail is set
3. Arraignment: Defendant pleads not guilty, trial date is set. OR defendant pleads guilty to a plea bargain
4. Trial: prosecution and defense present cases to jury. Jury reaches verdict.
5. Acquittal: Defendant found not guilty and goes free. OR Sentencing: defendant found guilty and sentenced to their punishment

Civil Trial

1. Plaintiff’s attorney files a complaint
2. Court sends a summons to defendant
3. Defendant’s attorney files a written answer
4. Attorneys from both sides exchange pleadings documents
5. Attorneys for plaintiff and defendant argue case in court
6. Court gives verdict

Law Enforcement Agencies:

 FBI: Federal Bureau of Investigation

 SBI: State Bureau of Investigation

 Local Law Enforcement such as Police or Sheriff

Regulatory Agencies

FCC: Federal Communications Commission: makes rules for radio and television stations

CSPC: Consumer Safety Product Commission: sets safety standards for products.

Informed Citizenry: “Ignorance of the law is no excuse” It is the job of each citizen to know the law. Saying “I did not know” is not an excuse for any crime or wrongdoing.

**Goal 7: The learner will investigate how and why individuals and groups make economic choices.**

Factors of Production:

1. Natural Resources: found in nature
2. Labor: people who do both physical and mental work
3. Capital: machines and materials that are not natural resources used in production
4. Entrepreneur: person/persons who start a new business or make new improvements to an old method

Scarcity: not having enough resources or products the wants and needs of the people; the main problem of economics…the reason we have to make choices and decisions

Trade Offs: the alternative you face if you decided to do one thing rather than another

Opportunity Costs: the cost of the next best use of time and money when choosing to do one thing rather than another

Law of Diminishing Returns: the tendency for utility (satisfaction) one receives from a good or service to decline with more use or exposure. (your old shoes don’t usually make you as happy as your new ones)

Marginal Utility: the additional gain a consumers gets from purchasing one more unit

Productivity: the degree to which resources are being used efficiently to produce goods or services; how well you use your resources to make the most product in the least amount of time

Specialization: when people or businesses only focus on goods or services than can produce better than others.

Division of Labor: breaking down a job into separate smaller tasks to be done individually, example is an assembly line (like used by Ford)

Needs: requirements for survival; food, clothing, shelter, water

Wants: things we desire/ would like to have such as entertainment, vacation, and items that make life easier

Marginal Cost (MC) : the extra cost to produce one extra unit

Practice MC Problems:

1. It cost $400 to produce 200 pairs of sunglasses. It cost $420 to produce 201 pairs of sunglasses. What is MC?
2. It costs $1000 to produce 5 Dell computers. It costs $1800 to produce 7 Dell computers. What is MC?

Marginal Revenue (MR.) : the extra profit made from producing one addition unit.

Marginal Revenue problems are worked the same as MC. The question is just worded to say : You make $400 dollars when you sell 200 pairs of sunglasses. You make $420 dollars when you sell 201 pairs of sunglasses. What is MR.?

Marginal Benefit: the extra benefit of producing one additional unit.

Cost-Benefit Analysis: economic model that compares to marginal cost to marginal benefit

Command Economy: an economic system in which the major decision are made by the government (Lenin; Castro)

Market Economy: an economic system in which individuals own factors of production and make economic decisions through free interaction

Mixed Economy: an economic system combining the characteristics of more than one type of economy

Traditional Economy: an economic system in which the decisions of what, how and for whom to produce are based on custom or habits of the culture.

**Goal 8: The learner will analyze features of the economic system of the United States**

Economics: the study of how we make decisions in the world where resources are limited.

The 3 Questions of Economics: WHAT to produce? HOW to produce? FOR WHOM to produce?

Free Enterprise System: economic system in which individuals and business are allowed to compete for profit with a minimum of government interference (laizze- faire)

Circular Flow Model: shows the input and output of production of the main sectors in the economy. Examples of sectors included in flow model: government, consumers, Factor market, Product market, foreign countries.

Supply: the amount of goods and services that producers are able and willing to sell at various prices

Law of Supply: the principle that suppliers will normally sell more product at higher prices and be less willing to sell product at lower prices. Price and supply move in the SAME direction

Supply Schedule: table (T-chart) listing price and amount producer willing to sell

Supply Curve: graph of a supply schedule, displays same information with price on the vertical axis and supply on the horizontal. “SUP”

Demand: the desire, willingness, and ability to buy a good or service.

Law of Demand: the concept that people are morally willing to but less of a product if the price is high and more if the price is low. Price and demand move in OPPOSITE directions.

Demand Curve: table (T-chart) listing price and amount demanded.

Demand Curve: graph of a demand schedule, displays same information with price on the vertical axis and demand on the horizontal. “DD Down”

Types of Income:

1. Wages: payment for labor or services to a worker, normally based on an hourly, daily, weekly time
2. Salary: fixed amount of income for compensation for work; paid on a regular basis.

Surplus: situation in which quantity supplied is greater than the quantity demanded

Shortage: situation in which quantity demanded is greater than quantity supplied

Competition: the struggle that exists between buyers and sellers to get the best products and the lowest prices

Types of Business:

1. Sole Proprietorship: a business owned and operated by a single person
2. Partnership: a business owned by 2 or more people
3. Corporation: type of business organization owned by many people through stocks. They are treated through laws as if there were a person; have many rights, freedoms, and protections

Labor Unions: associations of workers organized to improve wages and working conditions

Investments: the purchase of goods that will be used or have monetary gain in the future (be worth more)

**Goal 9: The learner will analyze factors influencing the United States economy.**

Business Cycle: all business go through periods of growth and decline 

Economic Indicators: using items like GDP (Gross Domestic Product) to predict the future of the economy

Consumer Price Index: an index of prices used to measure the change of cost to purchase goods and services

Gross Domestic Product: the total market value of all the goods and services produced with the borders of a nation during a specified period (FINAL PRODUCTS ONLY)

Government Regulation: a regulation is a legal restriction place by government agencies; usually enforced by the threat of a fine (regulate pollution)

Globalization: individuals and nations working across barriers of distance, culture, and technology

Downsizing: for a business to become smaller by reducing the number of personnel

Regional Economic Issues: NC’s furniture and textile industries are closing or moving to new locations where labor is cheaper; resulting in high unemployment

Tariffs: a tax on imported goods

NAFTA: North American Free Trade Agreement: an agreement between US, Canada, and Mexico; established free trade and took effect in 1994

WTO: World Trade Organization: international organization based in Geneva that monitors and enforces rules governing global trade

Federal Reserve System: US banking system made up of 12 banks; has broad regulatory powers over the money supply and credit structure in the US

National Debt: the debt acquired by the federal government by borrowing money

Inflation: the increase in level of prices; during inflation the value of the dollar decreases

**Goal 10: The learner will develop, defend, and evaluate positions on issues regarding the personal responsibilities of citizens in the American constitutional democracy.**

Discrimination: unfair treatment based on prejudice against a certain group

Freedom: emphasizes the opportunity given for the exercise of one’s rights, powers, or desires

Public Problems: underemployment; education needs, citizen apathy, disease, poverty, disease, discrimination, homelessness, crime, pollution

Civic Responsibility: includes participating in government and helping to fix many of the public’s problems

Choice: the power, right, or liberty to choose