



Richard Woods, Georgia's School Superintendent
"Educating Georgia's Future"

**Georgia Department of Education
Item for State Board of Education Approval
– Standards Adoption & Revision –**

Item Name

TL - Standards - American Government/Civics Georgia Standards of Excellence

Recommendation – Action – Standards Adoption

It is recommended that the State Board of Education grant permission for the adoption of amendments to the American Government/Civics Georgia Standards of Excellence which will subsequently be added to the State-Funded List of K-8 Subjects and 9-12 Courses.

Supports the Following Education Goal or Goals in the Agency Strategic Plan

- Revise/develop and implement viable academic standards that engage learners with essential knowledge, skills, and enduring concepts.

Rationale

The University System of Georgia (USG) has requested an update to the Georgia Standards of Excellence for the American Government/Civics course. The standards addition to this course incorporate an examination of American freedom and democracy against totalitarian ideology.

Details

In response to a request from the USG, the American Government/Civics course is being amended to add the following standard:

SSCG18: Examine how American ideals of freedom and democracy protect against the threats of totalitarian ideology.

- Describe the role of government in totalitarian systems (e.g., communism and fascism).
- Compare the structures, power-base, and decision-making processes of American democracy to those of totalitarian governments.
- Compare the rights and responsibilities of citizens in American democracy to those in totalitarian governments.
- Explain how the ideals of American democracy conflict with those of totalitarianism.
- Explain the causes for the growth and decline of totalitarian forms of government and American policies to resist their spread.

If approved, the amended course standards will be posted for at least 30 days for public review and comment. USG has reviewed and approved the standard language.

Contact

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