

## Topic 2

# The Development of United States Government

*The critical media literacy activities in this section connect to the seminal documents and events of the American Revolutionary Era, including the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, the Constitutional Convention, the debates between Federalists and Anti-Federalists, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. There is also a Critical Media Literacy digital choice on the development of American Government.*

Focusing on the historical development of United States Government - an essential area of investigation and exploration in government, civics, and history classes in elementary, middle, and high schools - each of the media literacy activities in this section of the book connect the past to issues society faces today - the meaning of independence in an era of social media; the role of government in regulating self-driving automobile technology; the persistence of racism toward Black Americans from the Constitutional Convention to today; the nature of political debates and discourse in American politics; and the current relevance of the Bill of Rights to our lives as members of a democracy.

# Media Literacy Activities Choice Board

<p><b>Curate a Collection of Images of Black Lives and Culture</b></p> <p>Assemble a digital collection of images that combat racism and affirm Black lives and culture.</p> 	<p><b>Design a Social Media Campaign for a Declaration of Independence</b></p> <p>Explore the various Declarations of Independence written throughout U.S. history and then design a social media campaign for one.</p> 	<p><b>Write Your Own Hamilton-Style Lyrics</b></p> <p>Choose a political topic and write a song or rap that examines how different levels of government are handling your issue.</p> 
<p><b>Uncover Media Stereotypes Toward Black Americans</b></p> <p>Design a video, podcast, or website that connects decisions made during the Constitutional Convention to how Black Americans are portrayed in the media today.</p> 	<p><b>The Development of the U.S. Government Media Literacy Choice Board</b></p>  <p><i>Building Democracy for All</i>, a free eBook by Robert Maloy &amp; Torrey Trust explores these topics and more</p>	<p><b>Analyze the Lyrics from Hamilton</b></p> <p>Listen to songs from <i>Hamilton</i>. Then, evaluate the songs for their accuracy, credibility, relevance, and presentation. Design a Yelp/Amazon review, podcast, video, or website to showcase your findings.</p> 
<p><b>Analyze Social Media Content Creators' Videos</b></p> <p>Evaluate how Black content creators on TikTok, YouTube, or Snapchat portray Black American identity.</p> 		<p><b>Who Should Regulate Self-Driving Cars?</b></p> <p>Explore how auto manufacturers are marketing cars and what local, state, and national governments do to create safer driving for everyone.</p> 

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The Development of the U.S. Government: Media Literacy Activities Choice Board ([view](#))  
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Declarations of Independence on Social Media
Media Marketing and Government Regulation of Self-Driving Cars and Electric Vehicles
Representations of and Racism Toward Black Americans in the Media
Political Debates Through Songs from Hamilton: An American Musical
Bill of Rights on Twitter



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