Unit 7: State and Local Government and the Political Culture

Essential Questions:

* How do state and local governments share power with the federal government to effectively meet the needs of all citizens?
* How do interest groups influence voter opinion, elections and policy development?
* How do politicians utilize lobbyists and should their participation in politics be regulated?
* Are special interest groups a necessary component of the political process or do they create corruption?
* Is there bias in mass media coverage of political candidates and their actions; how can American citizens access fair and balanced information in order to make informed decisions?

Textbook: Chap. 8, 11, and 12

Know these key terms and their significance:

Concurrent Powers:

Reserved Powers:

Enumerated Powers:

Governor:

CT General Assembly:

Representative Miller:

Senator Linares:

Special interest groups:

Lobbying/lobbyists:

“Revolving door”:

Income tax:

Sales tax:

Excise tax/sin tax:

Estate tax/gift tax:

Progressive tax:

Regressive tax:

Deficit:

Budget surplus:

Media:

Media bias:

Explain:

What are some of the things your local government is responsible for doing?

Three pieces of recent CT state legislation:

Know the different interest groups and their goals:

Pros and cons of lobbying:

What are the largest expenditures in the federal government and state government? For individuals?

What are the largest sources of revenue at the federal, state, and local levels?

Propaganda techniques of Fox News and MSNBC: