Unit 6: The Judicial Branch and the Supreme Court

Essential Questions:

* How did the Marshall Court influence the role of the Supreme Court and its ability to check the other branches of government?
* What was the philosophical purpose for appointing Supreme Court Justices to life terms and is it appropriate in the modern era?
* Does the political affiliation of Supreme Court justices influence their decision making? Should justices follow judicial activism or judicial restraint?
* How does the jurisdiction of state and federal courts differ?
* What is the importance of citizen juries?

Textbook: Chap. 7

Know these key terms and their significance:

State courts (and what they types of cases they cover):

Federal courts (and what they cover):

Original jurisdiction and which courts have it:

Appellate jurisdiction and which courts have it:

Judicial Review:

*Marbury v. Madison*:

Writ of certiorari:

Decisions:

Majority:

Concurring:

Precedents:

Judicial restraint:

Judicial activism:

Judicial independence:

Civil law:

Criminal law:

Petitioner:

Respondent:

Rule of Four:

Plaintiff:

Defendant:

Voir dire:

Dissenting:

Explain:

How the Supreme Court checks the other branches:

How the other branches check the Supreme Court:

How are Supreme Court justices nominated and approved?

What factors are taken into account (by the President, Senate Judiciary Committee, public, etc.)?

Know ALL the Landmark Supreme Court cases we covered (as well as relevant amendments in the Bill of Rights):

The nine Supreme Court justices and their ideologies:

Upcoming controversial cases:

The importance of jury duty (and the role of grand juries):