Pre-assessment

1) Where are you in your familiarity/understanding of the Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Civics Education Act?

2) Where are you in your familiarity of the Grade 7 course description?

3) Where are you in your familiarity of the Grade 7 Civics End-of-Course assessment?
Introductions

• Dr. Doug Dobson: Doug.Dobson@ucf.edu
  Executive Director, The Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government
  Director, The Florida Joint Center for Citizenship

• Elizabeth Smith: Elizabeth.Smith@ucf.edu
  Assistant Director, The Florida Joint Center for Citizenship
Goals for today:

• Introduce participants to the Florida Joint Center for Citizenship

• Introduce the Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Civics Education Act and the implications for the K-12 classroom

• Provide an overview of available Florida Joint Center for Citizenship materials and resources
Supporting the Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Civics Education Act

Florida Joint Center for Citizenship
Lou Frey Institute of Politics & Government
THE FLORIDA JOINT CENTER FOR CITIZENSHIP

HTTP://FLORIDACITIZEN.ORG

THE FLORIDA JOINT CENTER FOR CITIZENSHIP PROMOTES THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENLIGHTENED, RESPONSIBLE, AND ACTIVELY ENGAGED CITIZENS.
Did you know?

• Florida has one of the weakest civic cultures in the nation.

• How do we know that?
  • 2008 Serve America Act requires the Census Bureau to collect information to support an Annual Health Assessment of the nation
  • FJCC works with the National Conference on Citizenship to analyze Florida data each year
2011 results were just released by the Corporation for National and Community Service

Key Findings About Florida Millennials:

- Best available evidence suggests that Florida is more “civically challenged” than most other states in the nation
- One response to that challenge is to try to strengthen civic education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Florida Millennials (ages 18-29)</th>
<th>Florida Millennials National Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44% Registered to Vote in 2010</td>
<td>31st</td>
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<tr>
<td>21% Voted in 2010</td>
<td>34th</td>
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<tr>
<td>3% Contacted or visited a public official</td>
<td>41st</td>
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<tr>
<td>18% Volunteered for any group</td>
<td>44th</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Status of Civic Education in Florida

• 2006 – HB 7087
  • The Legislature adopted a provision requiring that districts offer at least a semester of civics in middle school
  • “Three middle school or higher courses in social studies, one semester of which must include the study of state and federal government and civics education”

• 2008 – Next Generation Sunshine State Standards
  • Grade level specific social studies standards.
  • 40 Civics and Government Benchmarks in 7th Grade

• 2010 – Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Civics Education Act
2010 – Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Civics Education Act

• provides requirement that reading portion of language arts curriculum include civics education content for all grade levels;
• provides requirements for civics education course that students must successfully complete for middle grades promotion;
• requires administration of an end-of-course assessment in civics education at middle school level; provides requirements for course grade & course credit; requires inclusion of civics education end-of-course assessment data in determining school grades.
2010 – Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Civics Education Act

TIMELINE

• 2011-2012
  • The reading portion of the language arts curriculum within the Sunshine State Standards to include civics education content.

• 2012-2013
  • For students entering grade 6 requires the successful completion of at least one-semester civics education course at middle grades.
  • A statewide, standardized end-of-course assessment in civics education must be administered as a **field test** at the middle school level.
2013-2014
• A student’s performance on the end-of-course assessment in civics education must constitute **30% of the student’s final course grade**.
• Baseline data will be collected to establish a minimum passing score on the end-of-course assessment.

2014-2015
• A student **must earn a passing score** on the statewide-administered end-of-course assessment in order to pass the course and be eligible for promotion from middle school.
• Inclusion of the results will be used in the determination of school grades.
Next Generation Sunshine State Standards

Civics Benchmarks

Grade K (5) | Grade 1 (9) | Grade 2 (9) | Grade 3 (8) | Grade 4 (6) | Grade 5 (17) | Grade 6 (3) | Grade 7 (40) | Grade 8 (7) | Grades 9-12 (40)

Civics Benchmarks
Next Generation Sunshine State Standards

7th Grade Standards and Benchmarks

4 Civics Standards – 40 Benchmarks

3 Economics Standards – 15 Benchmarks

6 Geography Standards – 12 Benchmarks

CPALMS
FloridaStandards.org
Civics Standard 1: Demonstrate an understanding of the origins and purposes of government, law, and the American political system. (9 Benchmarks)

- Enlightenment, Montesquieu and John Locke
- Impact of documents on colonists’ views of government
- Declaration of Independence
- Articles of Confederation
- Constitution
- Federalists and Anti-Federalists
- Rule of law
Civics Standard 2: Evaluate the roles, rights, and responsibilities of United States citizens, and determine methods of active participation in society, government, and the political system. (14 Benchmarks)

- Citizenship
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Trial Process
- Mock Election
- Political Parties and elections
- Media
- Public policy, current issues and problem solving
- Service Learning
Civics Standard 3: Demonstrate an understanding of the principles, functions, and organization of government. (14 Benchmarks)

- Forms and systems of government
- Structure and functions of U.S. government
- Three Branches
- Constitutional rights
- Types of law and lawmaking process
- Landmark Supreme Court cases
- Local, State and Federal
Civics Standard 4: Demonstrate an understanding of contemporary issues in world affairs, and evaluate the role and impact of United States foreign policy. (3 Benchmarks)

- Domestic and foreign policy
- International organizations
- International conflicts
The Lou Frey Institute and 
the Florida Joint Center for Citizenship 
Support for the Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Civics Education Act

Curriculum, Professional Development, and Resources
Elementary Instructional Support

- Elementary Civics Modules
  - [http://www.floridacitizen.org/resources/elementary/curriculum](http://www.floridacitizen.org/resources/elementary/curriculum)

"Beginning with the 2011-2012 school year, the reading portion of language arts curriculum shall include civics education content for all grade levels"

- 52 Reading lessons with integrated civics content covering all K-5 civics benchmarks
- Originally developed with Leon County Schools
- Revised by committee & Just Read, Florida!
- Intended to support Common Core
Supporting the Justice Sandra Day O'Connor Civics Education Act

Civics Integration Into K-12 Reading/Language Arts

http://floridacitizen.org/resources/k12
Middle School Instructional Support

- Middle School Applied Civics
  - [http://www.floridacitizen.org/resources/middle/curriculum](http://www.floridacitizen.org/resources/middle/curriculum)

- Seven units that cover seventh grade benchmarks in civics, economics, and geography: 145 days of instruction

- Developed in 2009 with teacher-led revisions in 2010 and 2011
“requires administration of an end-of-course assessment in civics education at middle school level; provides requirements for course grade & course credit; requires inclusion of civics education end-of-course assessment data in determining school grades”

• FL Department of Education, Test Development Center’s PowerPoint Updates

### Civics End-of-Course Assessment

#### Current EOC Assessments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Algebra I (FT)</th>
<th>Geometry (FT)</th>
<th>Biology I (FT)</th>
<th>High School U.S. History (FT)</th>
<th>Middle School Civics (FT)</th>
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<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>Algebra I (B)</td>
<td>Geometry (B)</td>
<td>Biology I (B)</td>
<td>High School U.S. History (B)</td>
<td>Middle School Civics (B)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>Algebra I (SS)</td>
<td>Geometry (SS)</td>
<td>Biology I (SS)</td>
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<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>Algebra I (SS)</td>
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<td>2012-2013</td>
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<td>2013-2014</td>
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#### Plans

- [Link to PDF](http://floridacitizen.org/resources/assets/files/other/justiceact/eoc_2011_august.pdf)

**Key:** FT – Field Test; B – Baseline; SS – Standard Setting
## Tested Benchmarks

### Civics EOC Test Blueprint

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reporting Category</th>
<th>Benchmark</th>
<th>Percent of Items</th>
<th>Number of Items</th>
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<td></td>
<td>SS 7.C.12</td>
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<td>SS 7.C.13</td>
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<td>2. Roles, Rights, and Responsibilities of Citizens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>52–80</td>
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Grade 7 End-of Course Assessment

• 35 tested benchmarks that include “also assesses.”

• Multiple choice exam administered by computer.

• Field test will include 24 items; all exams after will include 52-60 items.
Teacher Item Bank

- 175 items; 5 per tested benchmark
- Cognitive complexity levels: 1 low, 3 moderate, 1 high
- Distribution plan under development
High School Instructional Support

• Civics Connection
• http://www.loufreyinstitute.org/civicsconnection/conversations
• A series of 19 15-minute videos with former members of Congress on key subjects taught in U.S. Government
• Designed to reflect the Advanced Placement U.S. Government “Topic Outline" although the interview topics are central to any U.S. Government course taught in grades 9-12
• Material may be helpful to middle and elementary teachers for their background knowledge
Professional Development Opportunities

• Teaching Middle School Civics
  • [http://www.mscivics.floridacitizen.org](http://www.mscivics.floridacitizen.org)
  • 27 modules covering all 40 grade 7 civics benchmarks
    • Content video and text
    • Classroom video for modeling instruction
    • Advanced reading, lesson plans, and video
    • Each module has a teacher assessment to demonstrate learning for professional development points

• Summer 2013 Professional Development:
  FJCC Regional Workshops
  DOE Common Core Workshops
Post-assessment

1) Where are you in your familiarity/understanding of the Justice Sandra Day O’Connor Civics Education Act?

2) Where are you in your familiarity of the Grade 7 course description?

3) Where are you in your familiarity of the Grade 7 Civics End-of-Course assessment?
Thank you!