

Lesson 9: The Supreme Court and the Bill of Rights

Background Essay Questions

Guiding Question

How has the Supreme Court decided cases in controversies related to the Bill of Rights?

- I can identify the role of the Supreme Court in protecting civil liberties.
- I can explain how the Supreme Court's role has changed over time.

1. What was the original Founding understanding of the Bill of Rights? How does this connect to the Founding Principle of federalism?
2. How has incorporation led to controversy in the twentieth century?
3. What rights has the Supreme Court protected, starting with the Warren Court?
4. In your opinion, is the Supreme Court the branch of government best suited to protect civil liberties? Explain your reasoning.