

“Who Am I?”

The North Carolina Council of State and Governor’s Cabinet

Overview

Students will explore the roles and responsibilities of the North Carolina Council of State and the Governor’s Cabinet, as well as learn which individuals currently hold these positions, by preparing for and participating in a game, “Who Am I.” This activity is recommended as an introductory overview or as a review.

Grade

10

NC Essential Standards for American History: Founding Principles, Civics, and Economics

- CE.C&G.2.1- Analyze the structures of national, state and local governments in terms of ways they are organized to maintain order, security, welfare of the public and the protection of citizens
- CE.C&G.2.2- Summarize the functions of North Carolina state and local governments within the federal system of government
- CE.C&G.2.4- Compare the Constitutions and the structures of the United States and North Carolina governments

Essential Questions

- What officials and agencies make up the executive branch of North Carolina’s government?
- What purpose does the Council of State and the Governor’s Cabinet serve? What duties do these officials and agencies perform?

Materials

- North Carolina Council of State and the Cabinet Graphic Organizer, handout attached
- North Carolina Council of State and the Governor’s Cabinet Chart, worksheet attached
- Internet access or textbook
- Who Am I Roles, attached
- Comparison of Federal and State Governments, attached
- Who’s Who in NC State Government, attached

Duration

45 minutes

Procedure

Council and Cabinet of *WHO*?

1. As a warm up, ask students to consider:
 - How does the NC Constitution separate powers? Why is a separation of powers important?
 - What are the three branches of government as defined by our state (and federal) Constitution? Which of the three branches of government do you feel is most important in North Carolina and why?
 - If you were going to work for one of the branches in NC, for which would you most want to work and why?
2. Tell students they are going to be learning about (or reviewing if using this activity for EOC review) various positions that exist within the Executive Branch. Hand out the attached worksheet and graphic organizer and give students some introductory information regarding the Council of State and the Governor’s Cabinet, such as:

- **Council of State**
 - The NC Constitution establishes within the executive branch nine elected offices in addition to the office of governor. These elected officials act independently of the governor and are collectively called the Council of State.
 - Members of the Council of State are: Lieutenant Governor, State Auditor, Attorney General, Commissioner of Insurance, Commissioner of Agriculture, State Treasurer, Commissioner of Labor, Secretary of State, Superintendent of Public Instruction. With the exception of the lieutenant governor, each member of the Council of State oversees a related state agency.
 - The Council of State oversees and approves certain state functions, such as buying and selling property.
 - Like the Governor and the Lt. Governor, these eight individuals that make up the Council of State serve four-year terms and appoint staff within their own agencies.
 - Each individual acts under policies and procedures decided by the General Assembly and decides how to carry out these practices.

- **Governor's Cabinet**
 - The cabinet is made up of ten individuals appointed by the Governor; because these individuals are appointed, the Governor oversees what each does.
 - These individuals help the Governor by overseeing 10 separate departments.

3. Allow students to partner up and assign a reading on the North Carolina Council of State & Governors Cabinet from their textbook (such as Chapter 30, Section 2 of Glencoe's Civics and Economics) or use a handout from the Internet. Tell students that they should fill in the worksheet as they read. Under the title listed in the "Public Official" column, students should write the individual's name currently filling this position in North Carolina. Then, under "Jobs Performed," students should find at least three jobs performed by each individual or agency. Make sure students understand that what they are doing will assist them in preparing to play a game, "Who Am I," and that if they are unsure of any answers, it is important they ask for assistance.

4. Once students have filled in their charts, go over the correct answers and discuss:
 - Based on your reading, who would you say is the most important person in the Council of State and the Governor's Cabinet and why?

Who Am I?

5. Prior to class, cut out the "Who Am I" roles that are attached. Once students have completed their worksheets (or the following day) tape one role to the back of each student. (There are 21 roles and these can be duplicated or omitted based on the number of students in your class.)

6. Instruct students that they will walk around the room, finding a classmate and saying "Who am I?" The other student will read the name on that person's back and respond by saying, "You are someone who...", completing the sentence with hints about the Council or Cabinet member's job duties or other facts learned when filling out the worksheet. Hints may also include the name of the person currently filling that role in NC. Students should be careful not to give too much away and should make one another work to figure out who they are. If possible, have students do this without the assistance of their worksheets. If the first person a student speaks to cannot help them figure out who they are, they can continue on to another classmate for more hints. Once students have successfully figured out who they are, they can take a seat.

Culminating Activities/Assessments

- Invite government officials from these offices to class, allowing students to interview them. See the Carolina K-12's lesson "[Rotating Interviews with Local Government Officials](#)" for a format to apply to the interview process.
- For more in depth lesson on the Council of State, see the Carolina K-12's "[North Carolina's Council of State.](#)"

Name: _____

Directions: Under the title listed in the “Public Official” column, write the individual’s name currently filling this position in NC. Then, under “Jobs Performed,” find *at least* three jobs performed by each individual or agency.

I. The North Carolina Council of State

Public Official	Jobs Performed
Governor	1. 2. 3.
Lieutenant Governor	1. 2. 3.
Attorney General	1. 2. 3.
Commissioner of Agriculture	1. 2. 3.
Commissioner of Insurance	1. 2. 3.
Commissioner of Labor	1. 2. 3.
Secretary of State	1. 2. 3.

State Auditor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
State Treasurer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
Superintendent of Public Instruction	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.

II. Governor's Cabinet

Administration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
Commerce	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
Corrections	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
Crime Control and Public Safety	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.

Cultural Resources	1. 2. 3.
Environment and Natural Resources	1. 2. 3.
Health and Human Services	1. 2. 3.
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	1. 2. 3.
Revenue	1. 2. 3.
Transportation	1. 2. 3.
Community College System	1. 2. 3.

Helpful Websites

The NC Council of State: <http://www.governor.state.nc.us/contact/councilState.aspx>

Community College System: <http://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/>

Commissioner of Insurance: www.ncdoi.com

Office of the Governor: www.governor.state.nc.us

Office of the Lt. Governor: www.ltgov.state.nc.us

Office of the Attorney General: www.ncdoj.com

Commissioner of Agriculture: www.agr.state.nc.us
Commissioner of Labor: www.nclabor.com
Secretary of State: www.sosnc.com
Superintendent of Public Instruction: www.ncpublicschools.org
Department of Revenue: www.dor.state.nc.us
State Auditor: www.ncauditor.net
Department of Transportation: www.ncdot.org
State Treasurer: <https://www.nctreasurer.com/Pages/default.aspx>
Department of Administration: www.doa.state.nc.us
Department of Commerce: www.nccommerce.com
Department of Corrections: www.doc.state.nc.us
Department of Crime Control and Public Safety: www.nccrimecontrol.org
Department of Cultural Resources: www.ncdcr.gov
Department of Environment and Natural Resources: www.ncdenr.gov
Department of Health and Human Services: www.dhhs.state.nc.us
Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention: www.ncdjdp.org

Council of State and the Cabinet

Governor

Lt. Governor

Council of State
(Elected Officials)

Attorney General	Commissioner of Agriculture	Commissioner of Insurance	Secretary of Labor
Secretary of State	State Auditor	State Treasurer	Superintendent of Public Instruction

Governor's Cabinet
(Appointed Officials)

Department of Administration	Department of Commerce	Department of Corrections	Department of Crime Control and Public Safety	Department of Cultural Resources
Department of Environment and Natural Resources	Department of Health and Human Services	Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention	Department of Revenue	Department of Transportation

President of the NC Community College System

Who Am I Roles

Governor	Commerce
Lieutenant Governor	Corrections
Attorney General	Crime Control and Public Safety
Commissioner of Agriculture	Cultural Resources
Commissioner of Insurance	Environment and Natural Resources
Secretary of Labor	Health and Human Services
Secretary of State	Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
State Auditor	Revenue
State Treasurer	Transportation
Superintendent of Public Instruction	Community College System
Administration	

Name: _____

Comparison of Federal and State Governments

Federal Government/ President	State Government/ Governor
Qualifications: Age: U.S. Citizenship: Resident: Term: Salary: Housing: Advisors:	Qualifications: Age: U.S. Citizenship: Resident: Term: Salary: Housing: Advisors:

Federal Government/ Congress	State Government/ General Assembly
Qualifications (Senate): Age: Resident: U.S. Citizen: Leader of the Senate: Acting Leader: Term: Number of Members: Qualifications (H.O.R.): Age: Resident: U.S. Citizen: Leader of the H.O.R.: Term: Number of Members: Session: Override Veto: Salary:	Qualifications (Senate): Age: Resident: U.S. Citizen: Leader of the Senate: Acting Leader: Term: Number of Members: Qualifications (H.O.R.): Age: Resident: U.S. Citizen: Leader of the H.O.R.: Term: Number of Members: Long Session: Short Session: Override Veto: Salary:

Name: _____

Who's Who in N.C. State Government



Title	Name	Political Party
Governor		
Lieutenant Governor		

House of Representatives

Title	Name	Political Party
Speaker of the House		
Majority Leader		
Minority Leader		
Majority Whips		
Minority Whip		

Senate

Title	Name	Political Party
President Pro Tempore		
Majority Leader		
Minority Leader		
Majority Whip		
Minority Whip		

Your County House Members

Name	Political Party

Your County Senate Members

Name	Political Party

If you had the opportunity to run for any one office above, which would you hope to fill and why?