



## Democracy for Cadette, Senior and Ambassador Extension

**Pillar:** Civic Engagement

**Outcomes:** Once you've earned this badge, use these steps to gain a deeper understanding and about your local, state, and national government.



### Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors will follow these steps to extend the learning about their badge:

1. Find out MORE about local government. (Discover, Connect, Take Action)
  - a. Learn the Robert's Rules of Order. Try using it in a troop meeting. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aSAN-OKKNk>
  - b. What is on the current agenda for your City Council? Talk to you family about how they feel about what the City Council wants to do. Research both sides of the issue. Where do you fall on the issue and do you agree with your parents? Do you agree with the City Council?
  - c. Find out what the City Council's current vision for your city is. What parts of that vision do you like and why? What parts do you question? Why? Is the vision good for all people? Why or why not? Who will be directly impacted both positively and negatively and how? Who is indirectly impacted both positively and negatively and how? Write a letter to your City Council representative letting them know how you and your family see the future of your city.
2. Find out more about state government. (Discover, Connect, Take Action)
  - a. How many representatives do you have in your state? Where are the boundaries for the areas they represent located? What major towns or cities are located within the boundaries and how will that impact the vote for those seats.
  - b. When are the House and Senate in session? What are they currently working on? Is there a change you would like to see? Write a letter to your representative and let them know!
  - c. What services are responsibilities of your state government and what services are responsibilities of the city government? Where do these responsibilities overlap?
3. Find out more about the federal legislative branch. (Discover, Connect, Take Action)
  - a. Your representation in Washington D.C. is based on the results of the Census. Where is this guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution? Learn more about the Census and its importance by completing our GSKSMO Censes patch here: <https://www.gsksmo.org/content/dam/girlscouts-gsksmo/OtherDocuments/at-home/All-Census-Patch.pdf>
  - b. Learn how a bill becomes a law.
  - c. Write a letter to your State Senator or your State Representatives. Ask for a flag for your troop. When the flag is received, research proper flag etiquette. Learn how to best display and care for the flag. Use it to learn/practice a flag ceremony. <https://www.aoc.gov/what-we-do/programs-ceremonies/capitol-flag-program>
4. Find out more about the federal executive branch. (Discover, Connect)
  - a. Look up the 22<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. What does it say about the President's job?
  - b. Find out who the current President has appointed to his cabinet. Who are they and what do they do? What are their qualifications?
  - c. Learn about what the Electoral College here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W9H3gvnN468>.



5. Find out more about the federal judicial branch. (Discover, Connect)
- How many women have held Supreme Court seats? Who were/are they, who appointed them? What are these women known for? Find a decision one of these judges made. Find out their opinion, is it an opinion you agree or disagree with? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cMPROvI8toA>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJAOWPO00cM>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PDxrS5nnxsM>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DErAPVKbcc8>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qbk8Z110M1o>, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dbEui7DSBCY>
  - What other courts make up the Federal Judicial Branch and what kinds of cases do they see?
  - Which judges are elected by the people and what judges are appointed to their positions? What kind of cases do they see? How could they be removed?

**When you're finished:** Congratulations, you have earned your badge! You can purchase it online at

<https://www.girlscoutshop.com/search?keywords=democracy+badge>

Purchase the GS Virtual main patch and bars at

<https://www.gsksmo.org/orderpatches>

