

## FOUNDATIONS OF DEMOCRACY & GOVERNMENT

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## Principles of Government

1. What is "government"?
2. Why do governments exist?
3. What kinds of governments are there?

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## Principles of Government

1. What is "government"?
  - Thoughts?
  - *A body that has the power to create and enforce laws in a society.*
  - Legitimacy & Coercive Force



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## Principles of Government

1. What is “government”?
2. Why do governments exist?
  - Maintain Order
  - Provide Public Services
  - Provide National Security
  - Make Economic Decisions



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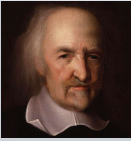

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## Principles of Government

Thomas Hobbes	John Locke
	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1588-1679</li> <li>• Humans are selfish</li> <li>• Life without a strong government (i.e., monarchy) was "solitary, poor, nasty, brutish, and short".</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1632-1704</li> <li>• Father of <i>liberalism</i></li> <li>• Governments are created by (and liable to) the governed to preserve "life, health, liberty, or possessions".</li> </ul>

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## Social Contract Theory

**Liberalism** is a political and moral philosophy based on the rights of the individual, liberty, consent of the governed, political equality, right to private property and equality before the law. Liberals espouse various and often mutually warring views depending on their understanding of these principles but generally support private property, market economies, individual rights (including civil rights and human rights), liberal democracy, secularism, rule of law, economic and political freedom, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, and freedom of religion. Liberalism is frequently cited as the dominant ideology of modern history.

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## Principles of Government

1. What is “government”?
2. Why do governments exist?
3. What kinds of governments are there?
  - Who has the Power?

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## Principles of Government

1. What is “government”?
2. Why do governments exist?
3. What kinds of governments are there?
  - Autocracy
  - Oligarchy
  - Democracy
    - So important that it gets its own slide...

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## Principles of Government

- Democracy
  - Rule by the people
  - Direct vs. Representative
  - Defining Characteristics:
    - ✓ Individual Liberty (with limits)
    - ✓ Majority Rule & Minority Rights
    - ✓ Free Elections
    - ✓ Competing Political Parties/Factions
  - Difficult (it’s a verb...)

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## Origins of American Government

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## Origins of American Government



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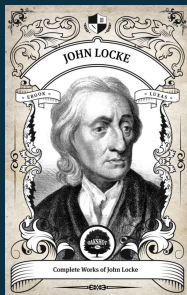
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## Origins of American Government

- British Colonial Government
  - Limited Government
    - Magna Carta (1215)
    - Petition of Right (1628)
    - Bill of Rights (1688)
  - Enlightenment Ideas
    - Social Contract Theory
  - Colonies were "Democracy Adjacent"
    - Separation of Powers



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## Origins of American Government

- Revolutionary Period
  - Salutary Neglect
  - French & Indian War
    - Albany Congress
  - Tea, Sugar, & Stamp Acts
    - "No taxation without representation"
  - 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress
    - Thomas Paine – *Common Sense*
    - Declaration of Independence

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## Origins of American Government

- Declaration of Independence
  - Thomas Jefferson was primary author
  - John Adams and Benjamin Franklin gave input
  - A statement of Enlightenment ideals... and a break-up note

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## Origins of American Government

- Articles of Confederation
  - Unicameral Legislature
  - Powers →
    1. Make treaties with foreign nations
    2. Wage war
    3. Conduct diplomacy
    4. Maintain a navy (not army...)
    5. Standardize weights and measures
    6. Maintain a Postal System

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## Origins of American Government

- Articles of Confederation

- Unicameral Legislature

- Limits→

1. Could not:

- tax
- Regulate trade
- Issue currency
- Enforce laws

2. Needed nine states to agree to pass a law

3. Only state militias

4. No executive branch

5. No federal court system

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## Origins of American Government

- Articles of Confederation

- Unicameral Legislature

- Limits→

- Problems

- Economy
- Shay's Rebellion
- Annapolis Convention

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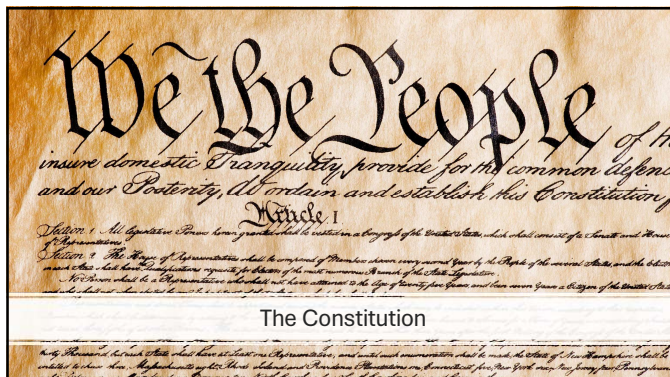
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## The Constitution

- Definition?
- Need



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## The Constitution

- Constitutional Convention (1787)
  - Make up
  - Original Goal → Fix/strengthen the Articles of Confederation
  - Done in private



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## The Constitution

- What do these men have in common?



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## The Constitution

### •Debates

- Big States vs. Small States
  - Virginia Plan
  - New Jersey Plan
  - Connecticut Compromise
    - Bicameral

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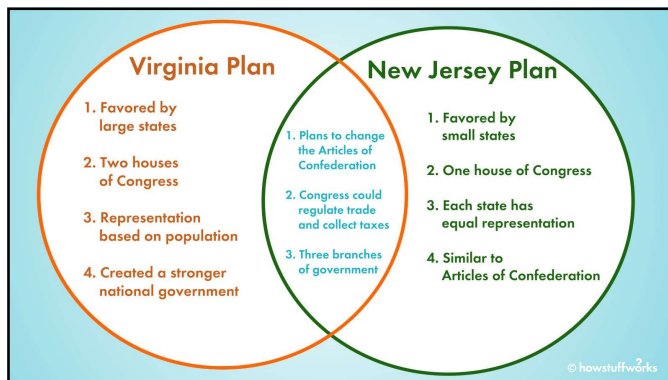
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## The Constitution

### •Debates

- Big States vs. Small States
- Executive Branch
- Federal Supremacy
- Slavery
  - Controversial
  - 3/5 Compromise
  - 1808
  - Fugitive Slave Laws

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# The Constitution

- Structure
  - Brevity + Structure – Details = Flexibility
- Parts:
  1. Preamble
  2. Articles
  3. Amendments

**The United States Constitution has three parts.**

A Preamble

7 Articles

27 Amendments

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# The Constitution

- Structure
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- Parts:
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US Constitution	Summation
Article I	Legislative branch
Article II	Executive branch
Article III	Judicial branch
Article IV	Explains relationship of states to one another and the national government; each state gives citizens of other states the same right.
Article V	Amending the constitution
Article VI	Supremacy clause
Article VII	Ratifying the constitution

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# The Constitution

- Principles
  1. Popular Sovereignty
  2. Federalism
  3. Separation of Powers
  4. Checks & Balances
  5. Judicial Review
  6. Limited Government

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