APUSH Unit 3

Confederation & Constitution

APUSH 3.2 – APUSH 3.3

VUS.5a – VUS.5d



Review: Ideas of the Enlightenment

Thomas Hobbes

“State of nature”

Absolute monarchy

John Locke

“Natural rights”

“Life, liberty and property”

“Ordered liberty”

Jean-Jacques Rousseau

“Social contract”

“Consent of the governed”

Montesquieu

Separation of powers

Voltaire

Religious toleration

Separation of church and state

Thomas Paine

*Common Sense*

Republicanism

Democracy

Town meetings

Civic virtue

“Natural aristocracy”

Adam Smith

*The Wealth of Nations*

Capitalism

Richard Henry Lee

Thomas Jefferson

Declaration of Independence

Equality

“Inalienable rights”

“Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness”

Articles of Confederation & State Governments

During the 18th century, new ideas about politics and society led to debates about religion and governance, and ultimately inspired experiments with new governmental structures.

* Many new state constitutions and the national Articles of Confederation, reflecting republican fears of both centralized power and excessive popular influence, placed power in the hands of the legislative branch and maintained property qualifications for voting and citizenship.
* Migrants from within North America and around the world continued to launch new settlements in the West, creating new distinctive backcountry cultures and fueling social and ethnic tensions.
* As settlers moved westward during the 1780s, Congress enacted the Northwest Ordinance for admitting new states and sought to promote public education, the protection of private property, and the restriction of slavery in the Northwest Territory.
* The policies of the United States that encouraged western migration and the orderly incorporation of new territories into the nation both extended republican institutions and intensified conflicts among American Indians and Europeans in the trans-Appalachian West.
* Difficulties over trade, finances, and interstate and foreign relations, as well as internal unrest, led to calls for significant revisions to the Articles of Confederation and a stronger central government.
* The major principles of the Bill of Rights of the Constitution were based on earlier Virginia statutes.

Virginia Declaration of Rights

George Mason

Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom

Thomas Jefferson

Disestablishment

State constitutions

Property requirements

Strong legislatures

Weak executives and judiciaries

State capitals

2nd Continental Congress

Articles of Confederation

Continental Army

Equal representation

Continental Army

Westward expansion and settlement

State boundary disputes

(Old) Northwest Territory

Land Ordinance of 1785

Public education

Slavery in the territories  
Northwest Ordinance of 1787

Northwest Indian War

Admission of states to the union

Gradual abolition in the north

Weak government

States’ rights

Legislative branch

Equal representation

Supermajority

Unanimous

Taxation

Interstate commerce

Foreign trade tariffs

Currency problems

External threats

* Canada
* British forts
* Native Americans
* Spanish Florida
* Mississippi River navigation
* Barbary pirates
* Franco-American alliance & debt

Shays’ Rebellion

Constitutional Convention

After experiencing the limitations of the Articles of Confederation, American political leaders wrote a new Constitution based on the principles of federalism and separation of powers, crafted a Bill of Rights, and continued their debates about the proper balance between liberty and order.

* Delegates from the states worked through a series of compromises to form a Constitution for a new national government, while providing limits on federal power.
* The constitutional framers postponed a solution to the problems of slavery and the slave trade, setting the stage for recurring conflicts over these issues in later years.
* The Constitution’s failure to precisely define the relationship between American Indian tribes and the national government led to problems regarding treaties and Indian legal claims relating to the seizure of Indian lands.
* The Constitution of the United States established a government that shared power between the national government and state governments, protected the rights of states, and provided a system for orderly change through amendments to the Constitution itself.

Articles of Confederation, 1777

Shays’ Rebellion, 1787

Constitutional Convention, 1787

George Washington

Legislative branch

Executive branch

Judicial branch

James Madison

“Father of the Constitution”

Virginia Plan

New Jersey Plan

William Paterson

Great Compromise (Connecticut Compromise)

Roger Sherman

Senate

Equal representation

Appointment by state legislatures

House of Representatives

Proportional representation

Direct election by the people

Bicameral

Electoral College

Indirect election

Three Fifths Compromise

Compromise on trade

Slave trade

Imports & exports

Three branches

Checks and balances

Separation of powers

Taxation

Simple majority vote

Majority rule

Respect for the minority

Federalism

Central authority

National supremacy

States’ rights

Preamble

Article I

Article II

Article III

Article IV

Article V

Article VI

Article VII

Ratification

Federalists

Antifederalists

Bill of Rights

Three Branches

The powers of the United States federal government are divided between the legislative, executive and judicial branches.

Article I

Legislative branch

House of Representatives

Senate

Three Fifths Compromise

Census

Apportionment

Gerrymandering

Impeachment

Treaty ratification

Confirmation hearings

Veto override

“Power of the purse”

Revenue & appropriation

Power to declare war

Interstate commerce clause

Majority rule

Supermajority

Filibuster

Enumerated powers

Implied powers

Necessary & proper (elastic) clause

Habeas corpus

Bill of attainder

Ex post facto law

Titles of nobility

Congressional oversight

Article II

Executive branch

President

Vice president

Electoral college

Inauguration

Oath of office

Chief executive

Enforcement of law

Head of state

Commander-in-chief

Veto

Pocket veto

Pardon

Treaty negotiations

Appointment of judges

State of the Union address

Impeachment of the president

Article III

Judicial branch

Supreme Court

Chief Justice

Original jurisdiction

Appellate jurisdiction

Interpretation of law

Precedent (*stare decisis*)

Treason

Article IV

Full faith and credit

Extradition

Fugitive slave clause

Article V

Amendment

Article VI

National supremacy

Treaties

Religious test

Article VII  
Ratification

Checks & balances

Separation of powers

Federalism

Ratification & Bill of Rights

Federalists and Anti-Federalists debated whether it was possible for a republic to govern a large geographic area.

* Federalists argued that a strong central government was necessary while Anti-Federalists argued that such a government would violate the rights of the states and the people.
* The Bill of Rights was drafted to allay the fears of the Anti-Federalists.
* The major principles of the Bill of Rights of the Constitution were based on earlier Virginia statutes.
* Elements of Federalist and Anti-Federalist thought are reflected in contemporary political debate on issues such as the size and role of government, federalism, and the protection of individual rights.

Athenian democracy

Roman Republic

Roman Empire

Article VII

Ratification

Federalists

*Federalist Papers*

John Jay, Alexander Hamilton & James Madison

“Publius”

Conservatism

“Counterrevolution”

Antifederalists

*Antifederalist Papers*

George Mason

Patrick Henry

“Brutus”

Virginia Declaration of Rights

George Mason

Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom

Thomas Jefferson

Disestablishment

Bill of Rights

1st Amendment

RAPPS

Free exercise of religion

Establishment of religion

2nd Amendment

Right to bear arms

3rd Amendment

Quartering of soldiers

4th Amendment

Probable cause & search warrants

5th Amendment

Rights of the accused

Double jeopardy

Self-incrimination

Due process

6th Amendment

Speedy, public trial

Jury trial

Assistance of counsel

7th Amendment

Civil lawsuits

8th Amendment

Excessive bail & fines

Cruel & unusual punishment

9th Amendment

Non-enumerated rights

10th Amendment

Reserved powers

Modern debates about…

* “Big government”
* Welfare state
* States’ rights
* Individual liberty
* Etc.

Unit Review: Essential Questions

* How did America’s pre-Revolutionary relationship with England influence the structure of the first national government?
* What weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation led to the effort to draft a new constitution?
* How did the delegates to the Constitutional Convention balance competing interests?
* What are the underlying principles of the American system of government?
* What is the relationship between the three branches of government?  Between the national government and the states?
* How was the Bill of Rights influenced by the Virginia Declaration of Rights and the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom?
* What were the major arguments for and against the Constitution of 1787 in leading Federalist and Anti-Federalist writings and in the ratification debates?