

Study Guide Government Mid-term

It may not be every little detail, but very close to it. Enjoy! HA! A few terms may not be located in chapter mentioned, so please check index/glossary, they may have more detailed explanation from a section we missed, but did go over in class.

Chapter 1

- Sovereignty —Government —Thomas Hobbes—Social Contract
- John Locke —Natural Rights
- Functions of Govt.: -Maintaining Order - Services -Resolve Conflict -Values
- What is the Public Good? Federal Government
- Anarchy Minority Rights Representative Democracies

Chapter 2

Magna Carta English Bill of Rights Charter Stamp Act Declaration of Independence
“unalienable rights” Articles of Confederation (its limits on govt. power)
Constitutional Convention Virginia Plan New Jersey Plan “Great Compromise”
Slavery compromise Trade & Presidency compromises
Federalist vs. Anti-federalist The Federalist Papers

Chapter 3

Checks & Balances (Review chart pg 49) Limited Govt. Federalism
Judicial Review Unconstitutional How amend the constitution
Know the Bill of Rights Know 12 thru 27! Factions

Chapter 5

The four influences on lawmakers decisions Oversight Census Apportionment
Gerrymandering Qualifications for House/Senate Franking privilege
Immunity Size of House/Senate Effect on electoral college of census
How to determine # of elector votes per state Expressed powers
Impeachment (House) Implied Powers Elastic Clause Reserve Clause (amendment 10)
Ex post facto Writ of habeas corpus Bill of attainder

Chapter 6

Quorum Term limits Incumbents Majority party/minority Speaker of House
Party whips Floor leaders President Pro Tempore Censure Expulsion
Types of Committee: Appropriations, Authorizing, Standing, Select, Joint &
Conference. Seniority system The six steps in a bill becoming law.
Mark-up What happens at hearings? Filibuster Roll-Call vote
Veto Pocket veto Line-item veto Pork-Barrel spending PAC's

Chapter 7

The 7 jobs of President: Executive, Commander-in-Chief Agenda Setter
Nation Rep Chief of State (Diplomat) Foreign Policy Party leader

Qualifications Presidential Succession
Presidential Powers = Executive Orders Executive Privilege
Alliances Executive agreements War Powers Act Pardon
Reprieve Lobbying

Midterm Review - Gov

per 2

Chapter 1

Sovereignty: absolute authority a gov. has over its citizens

Government: An institution w/ the power to make and enforce rules

Thomas Hobbes: political philosopher who believed in a "social contract"

Social Contract: the people give up some rights in exchange for protection and services

John Locke: political philosopher who believed that government relies on the consent of the governed and that the government must secure natural rights

Natural Rights: rights one has simply by being born

Functions of Gov:

Maintaining order: police, officials, laws, etc...

Services: things people can't provide for themselves: health care, disaster relief

Resolve Conflicts: court system

Values: liberty, equality, and other values in gov. policy

Public Good: public interest or well being of society as a whole

Federal Gov: some powers are divided among national, state, and local governments

Anarchy: a state of political disorder resulting from the absence of rules and gov

Minority Rights: political rights that cannot be abolished in a democracy even though they are less than half the population

Representative Democracies: people elect representatives to conduct the business of government for them

Chapter 2

Magna Carta: forced on King John in 1215; limited king's power with the rule of law; government leaders must act according to set of laws

English Bill of Rights: Given to William and Mary; listed rights of citizens: petitions, free elections, no royal army w/o parliament's consent, Parliament operates w/o royal interference

Charter: English monarch gave settlers right to establish colony

Stamp Act: 1765: colonists must pay tax for paper goods

Declaration of Independence: 1776: adopted by the 2nd Continental Congress; explained why they believed Independence was necessary

unalienable rights: natural rights; life, liberty, pursuit of happiness

Articles of Confederation: 1st plan of gov for US; loose confederation of states

Limits on power:

-needed formal approval of all states

-unicameral legislature: majority vote for major decisions and 9 for minor decisions

-Any amendment required approval of all states

-Only Congress had power to declare war and conduct foreign policy

-no executive branch

-no national court system

-no power to tax

-no power to regulate trade

Constitutional Convention: May 25, 1787: government was to be made stronger

Virginia Plan: reps according to population

New Jersey Plan: all states equally represented

"Great Compromise": bicameral legislature: one based on pop.; one with equal reps per states

Slavery Compromise: slaves count as 3/5 a person
Trade Compromise: wouldn't stop importing slaves until 1808; can't tax exports
Presidential Compromise: chosen by state electors=reprs+senators; electors chosen by popular vote. If none receives majority; the House chooses
Federalist: supported stronger form of gov
Antifederalist: opponents of Constitution
-lacked bill of rights
-pop gov could only exist in small territory
The Federalist Papers: written by Jay, Madison, and Hamilton under name Publius to convince populace of the benefits of Federalism

Chapter 3

Checks and Balances: the branches of government check each other
-Legislature: override veto by 2/3
-approves appointments, spending, and treaties
-can impeach pres or supreme court justice

-Executive: approves/vetos

-Judicial: rules constitutional or not

Limited Govt: constitution limits gov by establishing guidelines for how gov may act
separation of powers, checks and balances

Federalism: powers divided up among national, state, local governments
-national gov. superior to all others

Judicial Review: power to decide if laws or actions are valid
Unconstitutional: when a law or action violates the Constitution
How to Amend Constitution:

1. proposed by vote in Congress (2/3 of both houses must approve); and ratified by states
2. National convention called by 2/3 states

Bill of Rights (1st 10)

1. freedom of speech, religion, assemble, petition gov
2. bear arms
3. quarterin soldiers
4. search and seizure
5. due process of law; protects rights of accused
6. speedy, fair trial
7. right to trial by jury
8. no excessive bails/ fines; no cruel or unusual punishment
9. some rights not listed in Constitution
10. some rights not listed go to states
11. judicial branch-no foreign cases
12. election procedure- pres and vice
13. no slavery
14. people born in US=citizens; equal protection
15. all men may vote
16. taxes
17. election of senators
18. Prohibition
19. women may vote

Reserve Clause: some powers reserved to states
Ex post facto: law applies to action before it was past
Habeous Corpus: must show the reason why a person is kept in jail
Bill of Attainder: law punishing unconvicted person

NOT allowed

Chapter 6

Quorum: majority of Congress necessary to do business

Term limits: do not exist for Congress

Incumbents: office holders in elections

Majority party: greater number; Speaker of House from majority as well as committee leaders

Minority party: lesser party

Speaker of House: directs debate and who gets to speak when

Party whips: organizes votes within party - what to vote for

Floor leaders: next two positions under Speaker of the House or VP; direct their parties debate

President Pro Tempore: fills in Senate when V.P not their; member w/ most seniority

Censure: stronger disciplinary reprimand

Expulsion: voted out of office by 2/3 vote

Committees:

Appropriations: how much money to what

Authorizing: solving public problems

Standing: permanent committees

Select: tempory for a specific investigations etc...

Joint: members of both House and Senate

Conference: compromise between House and Senate about bill

Seniority: Committee chairs chosen by seniority

Bill becomes Law:

1. Committee

2. Hearings

3. Mark up

4. Floor Consideration

5. Conference Committee

5. Presidential Action

*Supreme Court may declare unconstitutional

Mark up- bill decided line by line

Hearings: testimony in support of bill; open to public

Filibuster: right of Senator to talk forever; delaying strategy; cloture can stop a filibuster

Roll Call Vote: Each member is called on to declare their vote

Veto: pres. power to reject legislation

Line-item veto: pres power to reject some bits of spending bills

pork-barrel spending: money appropriated to "worthless" projects in a congressman's home district

PACs : political action Committee: interest groups formed for participating in politics and giving \$ to candidates

Chapter 7

7 Jobs of Pres:

1. Chief Executive: carries out laws

2. Chief Agenda Setter: suggests budget

3. Representative of Nation: head in times of national disaster etc...

4. Chief of State: cermonial positions, meeting with foreign chiefs of state

5. Commander in Chief: heads army