

Document	Big Ideas	Major Quotes	Connection to Course
Declaration of Independence 1776	Separate US needed from Monarchy of Great Britain; Individual Rights Violated by king; natural rights exist in this world	“Declare the causes which impel them (people) to separate” “Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness...” “All men are created equal...”	John Locke; Popular Sovereignty; 1776; Bill of Rights; Republicanism
The Articles of Confederation 1781-1788	First Constitution Failed; no ability to tax (voluntary); no President or Executive; no central government as each state maintained sovereignty; ONE vote per state in Congress; all states to change the doc	“Each state maintains its sovereignty, freedom, and independence” “A firm league of friendship and a common defense”	Shay’s Rebellion; Congress; First Constitution; Unicameral house
The US Constitution 1788	Popular Sovereignty; Federalism; Checks and Balances; Separation of Powers; Republicanism; NO MENTION OF Judicial Review for courts; Bill of Rights not an original part (agreed to be added to gain some anti-federalist support)	“We the people...more Perfect Union...establish justice...insure domestic tranquility, common defense, general welfare, and secure liberty” “All legislative power is vested in a Congress” “The President shall be Commander in Chief...” “Federal laws....supreme law of the land...:”	Constitutional Convention-Great Compromise (Sherman), 3/5s Compromise (south v north); Trade Compromise (slavery allowed until 1807; no export tax); Electoral College Compromise; 3 branches of Govt.; vague Judicial Branch; Federalists v Anti-Federalists; Supremacy Clause; Necessary and Proper Clause; Amendment Process promotes Federalism (2/3s and 3/4s); Congressional limitations (no export tax, no bills of attainder, can not deny habeas corpus, no ex post facto laws)

<p>Federalist No 10 1787</p>	<p>Mischiefs of factions can not be eliminated, but curbed; representative and pluralist democracy; factions would neutralize one another; Republic>Democracy in large nation</p>	<p>“The same advantage a republic has over a democracy, in controlling the effects of faction, is enjoyed by a large over a small republic...”</p> <p>“A pure democracy...can admit of no cure for the mischiefs of faction...”</p>	<p>Federalists;interest groups; ratification of Constitution; public opinion; House districts; regional politics</p>
<p>Brutus No 1 1787</p>	<p>Constitution threatens states; necessary and proper clause and supremacy clause are both too expansive; country too large to elect a group to represent everyone; country too diverse as is; 13 states can NOT be 1</p>	<p>“This government is to possess absolute and uncontrollable power, legislative, executive, and judicial...”</p> <p>“...in a republic of the extent of this continent, the people...would be acquainted with very few of their rules; would know little of their proceedings, and it would be extremely difficult to change them”</p>	<p>Anti-Federalists; necessary and proper clause; supremacy clause; states rights; dual federalism</p>
<p>Federalist No 51 1788</p>	<p>Separation of powers guards against tyranny; bicameral legislature elected differently with different powers ensures branch doesn't dominate; checks and balances should cause branches to compete with one another</p>	<p>“If men were angels, no government would be necessary”</p> <p>“The society itself will be broken into so many parts, interests, and classes of citizens, tha the rights of individuals, or of the minority, wil be in little danger from interested combinations of the majority”</p> <p>“You must first enable the government to control the governed; and in the next place oblige it to control itself”</p>	<p>3 branches; house and senate; federalism; federalists and anti-federalists;</p>

<p>Federalist No 70 1788</p>	<p>One person executive ensures unity and accountability; energetic person; need to place blame on ONE person is easier than the blame game a group might cause;</p>	<p>“Wherever two or more persons are engaged in any common enterprise or pursuit, there is always danger of difference of opinion...” “is essential to the protection of the community against foreign attacks; it is not less essential to the steady administration of the laws; to the protection of property against those irregular and high-handed combinations which sometimes interrupt the ordinary course of justice; to the security of liberty against the enterprises and assaults of ambition, of faction, and of anarchy.” “A feeble Executive implies a feeble execution of the government. A feeble execution is but another phrase for a bad execution; and a government ill executed, whatever it may be in theory, must be, in practice, a bad government.”</p>	<p>Chief Executive; power of president; Federalists and Anti-Federalists</p>
<p>Federalist No 78 1788</p>	<p>Judicial branch being independent is essential to securing liberties; serving for life w/good behavior ensures a judicial branch free from legislative interference and politics; assumes judicial review is coming</p>	<p>“It proves incontestably, that the judiciary is beyond comparison the weakest of the three departments of power; that it can never attack with success either of the other two; and that all possible care is requisite to enable it to defend itself against their attacks.” “A constitution is, in fact, and must be regarded by the judges, as a fundamental law. It therefore belongs to the judges to ascertain its meaning, as well as the meaning of any particular act proceeding from the legislative body...”</p>	<p>Separation of powers; independent judiciary; bill of rights; individual rights; liberties; judicial review (precursor to marbury v madison)</p>

<p>Letter From a Birmingham Jail by MLK 1963</p>	<p>Dr King's response to "A Call For Unity", a letter penned by Southern White clergy; Social movements expand civil rights; NONVIOLENT direct action as a final means; postponed until after election to not bias the result or taint the movement as a mere political stunt;</p>	<p>"I must say to you that we have not made a single gain in civil rights without determined legal and nonviolent pressure."</p> <p>"Collection of the facts...negotiation...self purification...direct action..."</p> <p>"For years now I have heard the word, "wait",...i guess it is easy for those who have never felt the stinging darts of segregation to say "wait"..."</p>	<p>Civil Rights; freedom of assembly; elections; 14th amendment-equal protection clause; civil Rights Act of 1964; Voting rights Act of 1965; Jim Crow Laws</p>
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