

Section 2

The Philosophical Foundations of the United States

STANDARD II: The student will understand the formation and development of the United States.

OBJECTIVE 1: Recognize and comprehend the impact of the influences of intellectual and religious thought on the political systems of the United States.

ELIGIBLE CONTENT QUESTIONS (THIS IS THE STUFF YOU MUST KNOW!)

What were the intellectual and religious ideas that influenced the political systems of the United States? What is the significance of the Magna Carta? What are the political philosophies of John Locke, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, and The Barron de Montesquieu? What is the importance of the Great Awakening? What are the elements of the Bill of Rights, and how did these early ideas lead people to desire a Bill of Rights?

What are the major models and concepts for the central government? What was the First and Second Continental Congresses? How did the first political parties form? What is the significance of the Declaration of Independence? What is the importance of the Articles of Confederation? What were the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation? What events took place at the Constitutional Convention of 1787? What was the major debate over State vs. national power? What were the Major crises and compromises that took place at the convention? How was the debate over ratification resolved? What were the Federalist Papers and what impact did they have on the ratification of the Constitution?

What were the first American political parties like? How did they differ in their opinions about economics? How did their leaders, Jefferson and Hamilton impact their ideas? What were their views on the national debt, state debt, and the banking system?

What were the significant statements given to the fledgling nation in Washington's Farewell Address?

What was the impact of John Marshall on the Supreme Court? What is Judicial Review and how did it become a precedent in the Marbury v. Madison case? What other major decisions came out of the Marshall court?

Terms and Concepts for

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Anglican Church	This is actually the Church of England founded by King Henry VIII when in 1534 he declared that England's church would be independent from the Roman Catholic Church.
Apprentice	This was a person who agreed to work for a master craftsman and, in return, was taught the trade by the craftsman.
Articles of Confederation	This was the first governing document, or constitution, of the United States of America. The final draft was written in summer 1777 and adopted by the Second Continental Congress on November 15, 1777. Its major flaw was that it lacked taxing authority. The federal government had to request funds from the states. A second concern was its one-state, one-vote plank. The larger states were expected to contribute more but had only one vote, though they could remedy this by dividing into smaller states. The Articles created a mutual defense confederation designed to manage the American Revolutionary War. The Articles were replaced by the United States Constitution on June 21, 1788.
Barron de Montesquieu	This person was a French social commentator and political thinker who lived during the Enlightenment. He is famous for his writings about the theory of separation of powers, taken for granted in modern discussions of government and implemented in many constitutions throughout the world.
Bill of Rights	These are the first 10 amendments to the United States Constitution. They limit the powers of the federal government, protecting the rights of all citizens, residents and visitors on United States territory. Among the enumerated rights these amendments guarantee are: the freedoms of speech, press, and religion; the people's right to keep and bear arms; the freedom of assembly; the freedom to petition; and the rights to be free of unreasonable search and seizure; cruel and unusual punishment; and compelled self-incrimination. The Bill of Rights also restricts Congress' power by prohibiting it from making any law respecting establishment of religion and by prohibiting the federal government from depriving any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. In criminal cases, it requires indictment by grand jury for any capital or "infamous crime," guarantees a speedy public trial with an impartial and local jury, and prohibits double jeopardy. In addition, the Bill of Rights states that "the enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the

people," and reserves all powers not granted to the Federal government to the citizenry or States.

Cash Crop

This is a crop that is produced for sale rather than for consumption by the farmer and his or her family. It is traded for cash.

Central Government

This is the type of government that the framers of the Constitution wanted when they were drafting the Constitution in 1787. Federalists wanted a strong central government and Anti-Federalists wanted a weak central government.

Charter

This is a document which grants rights to an individual or a group. Specifically, it was given to the leaders of a colony to authorize them to form the colony.

Common Law

This is law based on past customs and confirmed as legal by judges' decisions.

Constitution

The United States Constitution is the document that lays out the governmental structure. It is the supreme law of the land in the United States.

Dissident

This refers to a person one who disagrees with the majority.

Ethnic

This concept relates to a large group of people's nationality or other characteristics such as customs, language and religious beliefs.

Fall Line

This was an imaginary line connecting the points on a system of rivers at which an upstream traveler would first encounter water falls. Because of the difficulty of transporting goods past waterfalls, early settlement of the interior stopped at the fall line.

First Continental Congress

This was a body of representatives appointed by the legislatures of twelve North American colonies of the Kingdom of Great Britain in 1774. It met briefly then set up its successor, the Second Continental Congress, which organized the Americans into war against Britain. The First Continental Congress was held in Philadelphia in 1774, with 55 members representing all American colonies except Georgia.

Fodder

This is food for livestock generally consisting of coarse vegetation such as hay or corn stalks.

Fundamental Orders of Connecticut

This was the first written constitution (1639) in the New World which set down guidelines for government in Connecticut. It called for the election of the colony's governor and legislature.

Gibbons v. Ogden

This was a Supreme Court Case in 1824 in which the Supreme Court decided that the power to regulate

interstate navigation was granted to Congress by the Commerce Clause of the Constitution.

Great Awakening

This is the name sometimes given to a period of heightened religious activity, primarily in the northeastern US during the 1730s and 1740s. The revival began with Jonathan Edwards, a well-educated theologian and Congregationalist minister from Northampton, Massachusetts, who came from Puritan and Calvinist roots, but emphasized the importance and power of immediate, personal religious experience. Edwards wrote a sermon called "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God."

Hamilton, Alexander

This man was one of the Founding Fathers. He was a leading statesman, financier and political theorist. He was one of the framers at the Constitutional Convention in 1787 and was one of the two chief authors of the Federalist Papers. Under President Washington, he became the first Secretary of the Treasury. He convinced Congress to use an elastic interpretation of the Constitution to pass far-reaching laws. They included: the funding of the national debt; federal assumption of the state debts; creation of a national bank; and a system of taxes through a tariff on imports and a tax on whiskey that would help pay for it.

Heretic

This is a person who holds beliefs which are opposed by the established church.

House of Burgesses

This was the representative government that existed in Virginia in 1619. It was the first legislature in the New World made up of representatives elected by eligible voters.

Huguenots

These were French Protestants of the 16th or 17th century.

Indentured Servant

This was a person who agreed to work for a certain length of time for a person who paid the servant's passage to the colonies.

Institution

This is an established law, custom, organization, or way of dealing with certain kinds of situations or problems.

Jefferson, Thomas

This person was the third President of the United States (1801–1809), the principal author of the Declaration of Independence (1776), and one of the most influential Founding Fathers for his promotion of the ideals of Republicanism in the United States.

Judicial Review

This is the precedent that was established at the holding of Marbury v. Madison.

Legislature

This is the lawmaking body of a government.

Locke, John

John Locke (August 29, 1632 – October 28, 1704) was an English philosopher. Locke is considered the first of the British Empiricists, but is equally important to social contract theory. His ideas had enormous influence on the development of epistemology and political philosophy, and he is widely regarded as one of the most influential Enlightenment thinkers and contributors to liberal theory. His writings influenced Voltaire and Rousseau, many Scottish Enlightenment thinkers, as well as the American revolutionaries. This influence is reflected in the American Declaration of Independence.

Magna Carta

This was also called the Great Charter. It was written in 1215. It was a document which King John of England was forced to sign stating that nobles were entitled to vote on tax increases and that freemen accused of wrongs were entitled to a trial by a jury of their peers.

Maize

This is a food crop. It is also called corn.

Marbury v. Madison

This Supreme Court Case resulted from a petition to the Supreme Court by William Marbury, who had been appointed as Justice of the Peace in the District of Columbia by President John Adams shortly before leaving office, but whose commission was not delivered as required by John Marshall, Adams's Secretary of State. When Thomas Jefferson assumed office, he ordered the new Secretary of State, James Madison, to withhold Marbury's and several other men's commissions. Marbury and three others petitioned the Court to force Madison to deliver the commission to Marbury. The Supreme Court denied Marbury's petition, holding that the statute upon which he based his claim was unconstitutional.

Marshall, John

This person was the fourth Chief Justice of the United States, serving from February 4, 1801 until his death in 1835. He dominated the Court for over three decades and played a significant role in the development of the American legal system. Most notably, he established that the courts are entitled to exercise judicial review, the power to strike down laws that violate the Constitution.

Mayflower Compact (1620)

This was an agreement written by leaders of the Pilgrims that stated that they would make and obey their own laws.

McCulloch v. Maryland

This was a very important Supreme Court Case in which the state of Maryland attempted to impede operation of a branch of the Second Bank of the United States by imposing a tax on all notes of banks not chartered in Maryland. Though the law, by its language, was generally applicable, the U.S. Bank was the only out-

of-state bank then existing in Maryland, and the law is generally recognized as specifically targeting the U.S. Bank. The Court invoked the Necessary-and-proper clause in the Constitution, which allowed the Federal government to pass laws not expressly provided for in the Constitution's list of express powers as long as those laws are in useful furtherance of the express powers.

Molasses

This is a thick, dark syrup produced during the refining of sugar. It is used in the production of Rum.

Monarchy

This is a government or state which is ruled or headed by a king or queen.

Naval Stores

These are naval supplies such as tar, pitch, and turpentine which are needed for building and maintaining wooden ships.

Patron

This is a person who was given a large estate in New Netherland if that person settled fifty tenant farmers on that land.

Philadelphia Convention

This is the Constitutional Convention that took place in Philadelphia in 1787.

Political Parties

These were the two political parties during the time of the early republic: The Federalists and the Democratic Republicans (Anti-Federalists).

Precedent

This is an established constitutional interpretation that occurs at the holding of a Supreme Court Case.

Proprietor

This is a person to whom the English monarch gave a large tract of land in America--these lands became proprietary colonies.

Ratification

This was the process that began on September 17, 1787. The Constitution was completed in Philadelphia at the Federal Convention, followed by a speech given by Benjamin Franklin who urged unanimity, although they decided they only needed nine states to ratify the constitution for it to go into effect. The Convention submitted the Constitution to the Congress of the Confederation, where it received approval according to Article 13 of the Articles of Confederation, but the resolution of the Congress submitting the Constitution to the states for ratification and agreeing with its provision for implementation upon ratification by nine states is contrary to Article 13. Eventually all thirteen states did ratify the Constitution.

Representative Government

This is a government consisting of individuals who have been elected by voters to represent them and their views. We sometimes call this a republic.

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques	This man was a Genevan philosopher of the Enlightenment whose political ideas influenced the French Revolution, the development of socialist theory, and the growth of nationalism.
Royal Colony	This was an English colony directly under the king's control and where the king's policies were executed by a king-appointed governor. The king did allow, however, freemen in royal colonies to vote for representatives in colonial assemblies.
Second Continental Congress	This was a body of representatives from all walks of life appointed by the legislatures of thirteen British North American colonies which met from May 10, 1775, to March 1, 1781. It was the body which adopted the Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation. During the American Revolution, it acted as the de facto national government of the United States by raising armies, directing strategy, appointing diplomats, and making formal treaties.
Separation of Church and State	This is the doctrine that suggests that government should neither help nor hurt religion--a view held by people such as Roger Williams who objected to the governmental role of Puritan leaders in Massachusetts.
Shay's Rebellion	Shays' Rebellion or Shays Rebellion was an armed uprising in Western Massachusetts from 1786 to 1787. The rebels, led by Daniel Shays and known as Shaysites (or Regulators), were mostly small farmers angered by crushing debt and taxes. Failure to repay such debts often resulted in imprisonment in debtor's prisons or the claiming of property by the state. Though initial reactions were peaceful, the farmers eventually forcibly attempted to prevent courts in Western Massachusetts from sitting. The rebellion started on August 29, 1786. A Massachusetts militia that had been raised as a private army defeated the main Shaysite force on February 3, 1787. There was a lack of an institutional response to the uprising, which energized calls to reevaluate the Articles of Confederation and gave strong impetus to the Constitutional Convention which began in May 1787.
State Debt	This was one of the arguments debated at the constitutional convention in Philadelphia in 1787. Northern states had established war debts after the revolution. Federalists promoted a assumption of those debts and Anti-Federalist and southern states were against such an assumption. To pacify the south and the anti-federalists, a compromise was reached. The new nation's capital would be located in a southern state and a bill of rights would be added to the constitution.
State vs. National Power	This debate that took place during the constitutional convention focused on how much power should be given

to the states and the national government. Some states wanted the national government to have little power and some wanted the national government to have great power.

Stocks

This was a device used to punish rule-breakers by locking their ankles in a fixed position and exposing them to public ridicule.

Subsistence Farmer

This was a farmer who grew enough food for his or her needs as opposed to a cash-crop farmer who grew crops for sale.

Suffrage

This is the right to vote.

Supreme Court

This is the highest court of the land and final arbiter of the meaning of the constitution. As a result of *Marbury v. Madison*, and the Marshal Court, the Supreme Court established Judicial Review.

The Banking System

This was a debated issue during and after the Constitutional Convention. Federalists like Alexander Hamilton were in favor of a strong central bank. Anti-Federalist like Thomas Jefferson were against such an institution.

The Federalist Papers

These documents were a series of essays written in secret by John Jay, Alexander Hamilton and James Madison. They explained and justified the concepts found in the new Constitution and pleaded for ratification.

Toleration Act (1649)

This was a law passed by the Maryland colonial assembly which granted religious freedom to all Christians in that colony.

Triangular Trade

That was a common trading pattern during the colonial period in which merchants traded colonial rum for slaves in Africa, then traded these slaves for molasses in the West Indies, and then traded the molasses for more rum in the colonies.

Washington's Farewell Address

This was a letter written in 1796 by George Washington to the people of the United States at the end of his second term as President. The two most significant elements of the address were the suggestion to resist the entanglements of political party and foreign alliances.

Work Ethic

This is the attitude that hard work is morally good.

"One Page" Timeline for

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- 1215 The Magna Carta was signed between Pope Innocent and King John
- 1469 Italian political philosopher Niccolo dei Machiavelli was born.
- 1469 Desiderius Erasmus of Rotterdam was born.
- 1561 Francis Bacon was born in England.
- 1588 English philosopher Thomas Hobbes was born, prematurely, supposedly because his mother was frightened by the news of the approach of the Spanish Armada.
- 1596 French philosopher Rene Descartes was born at La Haye in Touraine, France.
- 1651 Thomas Hobbes (5 April 1588 – 4 December 1679) wrote Leviathan establishing the agenda for nearly all subsequent Western political philosophies.
- 1632 John Locke was born. Locke was a British philosopher who is largely responsible for modern conceptions of empiricism. He is also one of the main persons to develop the ideas of natural rights, social contract and political rebellion.
- 1681 William Penn (October 14, 1644 – July 30, 1718) was made "Absolute Proprietor" (and founder) of a Quaker settlement which he called Pennsylvania.
- 1689 Charles de Montesquieu was born in Château de la Brède.
- 1689 The English Bill of Rights was written.
- 1694 Voltaire was born.
- 1706 Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), perhaps one of the best American examples of a man of the enlightenment era, was born. He was perhaps the most esteemed of the early American Founding Fathers and was directly involved in the writing of the Articles of Confederation.
- 1741 Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) wrote "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"
- 1776 Thomas Paine (1737-1809) wrote Common Sense.
- 1776 Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) wrote the Declaration of Independence.