

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES: UNIT I

After reading Chapters 1,2,3,4, and 5 in your text and attending the lectures you should be able to:

#### Chapter 1: The American Heritage

Describe **politics**, and the conditions that contribute to **political conflict** in society.

Define **government**.

Describe **public policy**.

Describe **political culture**, and what the author of your text refers to as “**America’s Core Values**”, which include **liberty, equality, and self-government**. Be sure to be able to describe what each of these means.

Describe the other principles that your author includes in the core ideals: **individualism, unity, and diversity**.

Define **power**, and the impact of the competition for power within American politics.

Define **authority**.

Describe what is meant by **limited government**, and how it is incorporated into our system of government.

Describe the characteristic of the **extreme fragmentation** of governing authority within the American political system.

Define **democracy**.

Define **constitutionalism**

Define **capitalism**.

Define **sovereignty**.

Define **legitimacy**.

Describe the four theories of power as stated in the text:

- 1) **majoritarianism**
- 2) **pluralism**
- 3) **elitism**
- 4) **bureaucratic rule**

Understand the **model of the American political system** as shown in the textbook.

#### Chapter 2: Constitutional Democracy

Describe what is meant by a “**social contract**”.

Understand the influence of **John Locke** on the framers of the Constitution, and his ideas for **limited government, individual rights, and natural law**.

Know who **Baron de Montesquieu** was, and the impact of his ideas in the creation of our political system.

Understand the changing nature of life (economic, social, and political) in the colonies, and how this was having an impact on political forces in America.

Describe the objectives of the framers of the constitution: **limited government** and **self-government**, and how framers sought to balance these competing objectives.

Describe the significance of the **Declaration of Independence**.

Describe how the **Articles of Confederation** organized the first government of the United States, and what the weaknesses of them were.

Describe what the original purpose of the 1787 Constitutional Convention was to be.

Describe **separation of powers**, and how the framers of the Constitution set about to put this in place.

Describe **checks and balances**

Describe why the framers were concerned with the **tyranny of the majority**.

Describe the difference between the Framers' use of the terms "republic" and "democracy".

Describe the **Bill of Rights**, and what conditions led to the inclusion of these in the Constitution.

Describe **constitutional democracy**.

Describe the “**Great Compromise**”.

Describe the “**North-South (3/5’s) Compromise**”.

Describe what is meant by **inalienable (natural) rights**.

Differentiate between the **Federalists** and the **Anti-Federalists** on the question of constitutional ratification.

Differentiate between “**direct democratic government**” and “**indirect representative government**”.

Explain the significance of the Supreme Court's decision in **Marbury v. Madison (1803)** and the concept of **judicial review**.

Describe how the framers' sought to limit government power through specific **grants of power** and **denials of power**.

Describe **Jeffersonian democracy**.

Describe **Jacksonian democracy** its direct impact on democracy in the United States.

Describe the impact of the **progressive era** on democracy in the United States.

### Chapter Three: Federalism

Define **federalism**.

Describe how federalism differs from **confederacy** and a **unitary** structure of government.

Describe the impact of the Supreme Court case of **McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)**.

Describe **sovereignty**.

Differentiate between **enumerated, implied, and reserved powers** as provided for in the U.S. Constitution.

Describe the **necessary and proper (elastic) clause** of the U.S. Constitution.

Describe the **supremacy clause** of the U.S. Constitution.

Distinguish between **dual and cooperative federalism**.

Describe **fiscal federalism** and distinguish between federal **grants-in-aid, categorical grants, and block grants**.

Describe **devolution**.

### Chapter Four: Civil Liberties

Describe and be able to give examples of **civil liberties**.

Describe the liberties guaranteed of the **First Amendment** of the U.S. Constitution.

Describe how **freedom of expression** is so essential to a democratic government.

Describe how the Supreme Court uses **tests** to determine the constitutionality of laws, and be able to define the following tests: **clear-and-present-danger test; imminent-lawless-action test**.

Describe **symbolic speech**.

Describe **prior restraint**.

Define **slander** and **libel** and how it relates to freedom of expression.

Describe the “**due process of law**” clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Describe the effect of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in **Gitlow v. New York (1925)**.

Define **selective incorporation**.

Describe the “**establishment clause**” of the First Amendment and how it is interpreted.

Describe the concept of a “**wall of separation**”.

Describe the “**free exercise clause**” of the First Amendment and how it differs from the “establishment clause”.

Identify what **the right of privacy** is, what it protects, and how it was created and defined by the Supreme Court.

Define **due process**.

Describe **procedural due process**, the procedural rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights and how the Supreme Court has altered those rights through its rulings.

Define **exclusionary rule**.

### Chapter Five: Equal Rights

Describe **civil rights**, and be able to distinguish it from **civil liberties**.

Describe the impact of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in **Brown v. Board of Education**.

Explain what "**equality under the law**" means.

Describe the "**equal protection of the laws**" clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Describe the provisions of the **Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968**.

Describe the provisions of the **Voting Rights Act of 1965**.

Distinguish between **de jure** and **de facto** segregation.

Describe the intentions of **equality of result** policies.

Define **affirmative action**, describe what it was designed to achieve, and how the Supreme Court has viewed it.