

U.S. Government

Unit 1: Origins

Guiding Questions

1. How does a political system have an impact on the success or failure of a state?
2. What were the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation and how do they relate to why states fail?
3. Why is compromise required for a successful state to endure?
4. How did historical events, documents, and older governments contribute to the ideas behind the formation of the Constitution?

Reading Schedule

- 1/9 Tuesday: Chapter 1 Section 2 (forms of government)
- 1/16 Tuesday: Chapter 2 Section 3 (Articles of Confederation)
- 1/17 Wednesday: Chapter 2 Section 4 (Compromises)
- 1/18 Thursday: Chapter 2 Section 5 (Ratification)
- 1/22 Monday: Chapter 3 Section 2 (Formal Amendments)
- 1/23 Tuesday: Chapter 3 Section 3 (Change by other means)

Writing Assignment

1/12 “When Governments don’t work” – due Monday, 1/22

Test: Thursday, January, 25th

Be familiar with the following terms: autocracy, oligarchy, parliamentary, confederate, divine right theory, evolutionary theory, social contract theory, force theory, state, limited government, representative government, bicameral, unicameral, confederation, popular sovereignty, checks and balances, separation of powers, judicial review, federalism, Federalists, Anti-Federalists, ratification, Connecticut compromise, three-fifths compromise, commerce and slave-trade compromise

Be familiar with the importance of the following people: King John, Iroquois Confederacy, John Locke, Jean Jacques Rousseau, Baron de Montesquieu, Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton

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Be familiar with the cause(s), effect(s) and importance of the following: Magna Charta, English Bill of Rights, Enlightenment philosophies, Articles of Confederation, Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution, *Marbury v. Madison*

Be prepared to answer and support the Guiding Questions