Fall Semester Exam Review

IMPORTANT DATES
- **Jamestown**, the first permanent English settlement, was founded in 1607.
- The **Mayflower Compact** was signed in 1620.
- The **Declaration of Independence** was signed on July 4, 1776.
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- President Thomas Jefferson purchased the **Louisiana Territory** from France in 1803.

IMPORTANT PLACES AND EVENTS
- The first shots of the American Revolution were fired at **Lexington, Massachusetts** in April 1775.
- **Concord, Massachusetts** was the site of the first battle of the American Revolution.
- The **Battle of Saratoga** was the turning point of the American Revolution.
- The British defeat at **Yorktown, Virginia** by George Washington’s troops signaled the end of the American Revolution.

IMPORTANT VOCABULARY
- **Mercantilism** is an economic theory that a country’s strength is measured by the amount of gold it has, that a country should sell more than it buys, and that colonies exist for the benefit of the “Mother Country.”
- **Representative Government** is a system of government in which voters elect representatives to make laws for them. (known commonly as a **republic**)
- The **House of Burgesses** was the first representative assembly in the new world.
- **Unalienable rights** are rights that cannot be given up, taken away or transferred. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, are some of those rights.
- **Individual Rights** are the Constitutional principle expressed in the Bill of Rights.
- The **Three Branches of Government** are the Legislative Branch, the Judicial Branch, and the Executive branch.
**Limited Government** is the Constitutional principle that is expressed in the idea that no person is above the law.

A **Republic** is a nation in which voters choose representatives to govern them. **Republicanism** is the Constitutional principle that shows our belief in this system. It also refers to an attitude toward society in the late 1700s based on the belief that the good virtue and morality of the people was essential to sustain the republican form of government.

**Checks and Balances** is a system set up by the Constitution in which each branch of the federal government has the power to check, or control, the actions of the other branches.

**Federalism** is the sharing of power between the states and the national government.

**Separation of Powers** is a system in which each branch of government has its own powers.

**Popular Sovereignty** is the Constitutional principle that the people have final authority in the government. (“We the People”) This was the reason behind allowing each territory to decide for itself whether or not to allow slavery.

To **amend** means to change, or add to.

A **Democracy** is a form of government that is run for and by the people, giving people the supreme power.

**Ratify** means to approve by vote.

**Judicial Review** is the right of the Supreme Court to judge laws passed by Congress and determine whether they are constitutional or not. Established by the decision in Marbury v Madison.

**Federalists** were supporters of the Constitution who favored a strong national government. The did not feel the need for a Bill of Rights. Established as a political party by Alexander Hamilton.

**Anti-Federalists** were people opposed to the Constitution, preferring more power be given to the state governments than to the national government. Most refused to ratify without a Bill of Rights. Patrick Henry, George Mason were among their leaders.

**Free Enterprise** is the freedom of private businesses to operate competitively for profit with minimal, or no, government regulation.

A **tariff** is a tax on goods brought into a country.

A **protective tariff** is a tax placed on goods from another country to protect the home industry.

**Nullification** is the idea of a state declaring a federal law illegal.

**Primary Sources** are the original records of an event. They include eyewitness reports, records created at the time of an event, speeches, and letters by people involved in the event, photographs and artifacts.

**Secondary Sources** are the later writings and interpretations of historians and writers. Often secondary sources, like textbooks and articles, provide summaries of information found in primary sources.

**IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS AND POLICIES**

- **The Magna Carta**, signed in 1215 by King John, was the first document that limited power of the ruler.
- **The English Bill of Rights** protected the rights of English citizens and became the basis for the American Bill of Rights.
- **The Mayflower Compact** was the agreement signed in 1620 by the Pilgrims in Plymouth, to consult each other about laws for the colony and a promise to work together to make it succeed.
- **Common Sense** was a pamphlet written by Thomas Paine to convince colonists that it was time to become independent from Britain.
- **The Declaration of Independence** was a document written by Thomas Jefferson, declaring the colonies independence from England.
- **The Treaty of Paris of 1763** ended the French and Indian War and effectively kicked the French out of North America.
- **Proclamation of 1763** was a treaty that set the western border of the English colonies at the Appalachian Mountains and restricted westward expansion.
- **The Stamp Act** was a tax on paper in the colonies. This was repealed after colonial protests & boycotts.
- **“No Taxation without Representation”** was a common protest in response to the lack of representation of the colonies in Parliament.
“The Intolerable Acts” was another name for King George III’s response to the Boston Tea Party. (aka the Coercive Acts, in England)

The Treaty of Paris of 1783 ended the American Revolution and forced Britain to recognize the United States as an independent nation.

The Articles of Confederation was the first American constitution. It was a very weak document that limited the power of the Congress by giving states the final authority over all decisions.

The Northwest Ordinance was a policy of establishing the principles and procedures for the orderly expansion of the United States.

The Great Compromise created two houses of Congress. One based on population, the other gave equal representation to each state.

The 3/5 Compromise- gave “other persons” a partial count for the purpose of representation and taxing. This was a compromise for the divide on whether slaves should count in the population or not.

The Constitution of the United States sets out the laws and principles of the government of the United States.

The Federalist Papers were a series of essays written by James Madison, John Jay, and Alexander Hamilton, defending the Constitution and the principles on which the government of the United States was founded and explaining how rights would still exist.

The Bill of Rights is the first ten amendments to the Constitution and detail the protection of individual liberties.

George Washington’s Farewell Address advised the United States to stay “neutral in its relations with other nations” and to avoid “entangling alliances”. He believed in Isolationism- which means don’t get involved with foreign countries- and that political parties were bad for the nation.

IMPORTANT PEOPLE

Abigail Adams was the wife of John Adams and an early pioneer for women’s rights that asked him to “Remember the Ladies” when creating a new government.

John Adams was a member of the Continental Congress, ambassador to Europe during the Revolution, George Washington’s Vice President, and the 2nd President of the U.S.

Samuel Adams was a member of the Sons of Liberty who started the Committee of Correspondence to stir public support for American independence.

James Armistead was an African American spy for the Patriots who provided information regarding the events of Yorktown.

Crispus Attucks was a free African American man that was one of the first men to die in the “Boston Massacre.”

Wentworth Cheswell was a messenger of the Committee of Safety who rode along with Paul Revere on his “midnight ride” to warn of British movement towards Lexington, MA.

Benjamin Franklin was an inventor, statesman, diplomat, signer of the Declaration of Independence and delegate to Constitutional Convention.

Bernardo de Galvez was a Spanish colonial governor who helped the patriots secure New Orleans and allowed them to travel the Mississippi River during the Revolution.

King George III was the King of England who disbanded the colonial legislatures, taxed the colonies, and refused the Olive Branch Petition leading to the final break with the colonies.

Alexander Hamilton was a leader of the Federalist Party, author of a portion of the Federalist Papers, first Secretary of the Treasury, creator of the Bank of the U.S., and killed in a duel in 1804 by then Vice President of the United States, Aaron Burr.

Patrick Henry was a passionate patriot who became famous for his fiery speeches in favor of American independence. His most famous quote included the words, “Give me liberty or give me death!” He refused to attend the Constitutional Convention because he distrusted the motivation behind it.

Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence (1776); leader of the Democratic-Republicans; became the 3rd President of the United States.
• **Marquis de Lafayette** was a Frenchman who aided the Patriot troops at Valley Forge by personally financing provisions for the troops.

• **John Marshall** was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court that expanded the power of the Judicial Branch with decisions in *Marbury v Madison* and other cases.

• **James Madison** is considered to be the “Father of the Constitution” (1787) and author of the Bill of Rights. He was the 4th President of the U.S.

• **Mercy Otis Warren** was a patriotic playwright during the Revolution.

• **Thomas Paine** wrote pamphlets like *Common Sense* and *The Crisis* to encourage American independence and resolve; written in a way that ordinary people could understand. *Common Sense* said that the king had no common sense for taxing the colonists.

• **Haym Solomon** was Jewish immigrant that helped finance the Patriot’s war effort in the Revolution.

• **George Washington** was the leader of the Continental Army who became the first President of the United States. Leader of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia.

**IMPORTANT BATTLES**

• **Lexington and Concord** are the first battles of the American Revolution – the “shot heard ‘round the world”.

• **Saratoga** is the turning point of the American Revolution; this convinced France and Spain that the patriots could win.

• **Valley Forge** is where the patriots spent the winter and learned how to be more professional soldiers.

• **Yorktown** is where the British surrendered during the American Revolution.

• **Battle of New Orleans** is where Andrew Jackson successfully defended New Orleans and the Mississippi River during the War of 1812.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

• The **First Amendment** states that “Congress shall make no law” restricting the freedom of press, assembly, and petition, establishment and practice of religion and speech. (PAPERS)

• The **Second Amendment** guarantees the right of states to organize militias, or armies, and the right of individuals to bear arms.

• The **Third Amendment** forbids the government to order private citizens to allow soldiers to live in their homes.

• The **Fourth Amendment** requires that warrants be issued if property is to be searched or seized (taken) by the government.

• The **Fifth Amendment** protects an accused person from having to testify against him or herself (self-incrimination); bans double jeopardy, and guarantees that no person will suffer the loss of life, liberty, or property without due process of law.

• The **Sixth Amendment** guarantees the right to a speedy public trial by an impartial jury; the right to a lawyer; the right to cross examine witnesses; and the right to force witnesses at a trial to testify.

• The **Seventh Amendment** guarantees the right to a jury trial in civil suits.

• The **Eighth Amendment** prohibits cruel and unusual punishment and excessive bail or fines.

• The **Ninth Amendment** states that the people have rights other than those specifically mentioned.

• The **Tenth Amendment** states that powers not given to the federal government belong to the states.

• The **Twelfth Amendment** allows for separate votes to be cast for President and Vice President. This is the modern system for electing our President.

**SIGNIFICANT SUPREME COURT CASES OF THE EARLY REPUBLIC**

• **Marbury v. Madison** was the 1803 Court decision that gave the Supreme Court the right to determine whether a law violates the Constitution. It set up the principle of *judicial review*.

• **McCulloch v Maryland** was a decision that ruled the Bank of the United States was constitutional, and that the national government > the states.

• **Gibbons v Ogden** established that the U.S. government was in control of interstate commerce.