

# Appendices

O  
rganizing  
Q  
uestions  
and  
C  
ontent  
S  
ummary

K-4	5-8	9-12
<p><b>I What Is Government and What Should It Do?</b></p>	<p><b>I What Are Civic Life, Politics, and Government?</b></p>	<p><b>I What Are Civic Life, Politics, and Government?</b></p>
<p>Defining government                      Defining power and authority                      Necessity and purposes of government                      Functions of government                      Purposes of rules and laws                      Evaluating rules and laws                      Limited and unlimited governments                      Importance of limited government</p>	<p>Defining civic life, politics, and government                      Necessity and purposes of government                      Limited and unlimited governments                      The rule of law                      Concepts of “constitution”                      Purposes and uses of constitutions                      Conditions under which constitutional government flourishes                      Shared powers and parliamentary systems                      Confederal, federal, and unitary systems</p>	<p>Defining civic life, politics, and government                      Necessity of politics and government                      The purposes of politics and government                      Limited and unlimited governments                      The rule of law                      Civil society and government                      The relationship of limited government to political and economic freedom                      Concepts of “constitution”                      Purposes and uses of constitutions                      Constitutions under which constitutional government flourishes                      Shared powers and parliamentary systems                      Confederal, federal, and unitary systems                      Nature of representation</p>

K-4	5-8	9-12
<p><b>II What Are the Basic Values and Principles of American Democracy?</b></p>	<p><b>II What Are the Foundations of the American Political System?</b></p>	<p><b>II What Are the Foundations of the American Political System?</b></p>
<p>Fundamental values and principles                      Distinctive characteristics of American society                      American identity                      Diversity in American society                      Prevention and management of conflicts                      Promoting ideals</p>	<p>The American idea of constitutional government                      Distinctive characteristics of American society                      The role of voluntarism in American life                      American identity                      The character of American political conflict                      Fundamental values and principles                      Conflicts among values and principles in American political and social life                      Disparities between ideals and reality in American political and social life</p>	<p>The American idea of constitutional government                      How American constitutional government has shaped the character of American society                      Distinctive characteristics of American society                      The role of voluntarism in American life                      The role of organized groups in political life                      Diversity in American society                      American national identity and political culture                      Character of American political conflict                      Liberalism and American constitutional democracy                      Republicanism and American constitutional democracy                      Fundamental values and principles                      Conflicts among values and principles in American political and social life                      Disparities between ideals and reality in American political and social life</p>

K-4	5-8	9-12
<p><b>III How Does the Government Established by the Constitution Embod the Purposes, Values, and Principles of American Democracy?</b></p>	<p><b>III How Does the Government Established by the Constitution Embod the Purposes, Values, and Principles of American Democracy?</b></p>	<p><b>III How Does the Government Established by the Constitution Embod the Purposes, Values, and Principles of American Democracy?</b></p>
<p>The meaning and importance of the United States Constitution</p> <p>Organization and major responsibilities of the national government</p> <p>Organization and major responsibilities of state governments</p> <p>Organization and major responsibilities of local governments</p> <p>Identifying members of government</p>	<p>Distributing, sharing, and limiting powers of the national government</p> <p>Sharing of powers between the national and state governments</p> <p>Major responsibilities for domestic and foreign policy</p> <p>Financing government through taxation</p> <p>State governments</p> <p>Organization and responsibilities of state and local governments</p> <p>Who represents you in legislative and executive branches of your local, state, and national governments</p> <p>The place of law in American society</p> <p>Criteria for evaluating rules and laws</p> <p>Judicial protection of the rights of individuals</p> <p>The public agenda</p> <p>Political communication</p> <p>Political parties, campaigns, and elections</p> <p>Associations and groups</p> <p>Forming and carrying out public policy</p>	<p>Distributing governmental power and preventing its abuse</p> <p>The American federal system</p> <p>The institutions of the national government</p> <p>Major responsibilities of the national government in domestic and foreign policy</p> <p>Financing government through taxation</p> <p>The constitutional status of state and local governments</p> <p>Organization of state and local governments</p> <p>Major responsibilities of state and local governments</p> <p>The place of law in American society</p> <p>Judicial protection of the rights of individuals</p> <p>The public agenda</p> <p>Public opinion and behavior of the electorate</p> <p>Political communication: television, radio, the press, and political persuasion</p> <p>Political parties, campaigns, and elections</p> <p>Associations and groups</p> <p>Forming and carrying out public policy</p>

K-4	5-8	9-12
<p><b>IV What is the Relationship of the United States to Other Nations and to World Affairs?</b></p>	<p><b>IV What is the Relationship of the United States to Other Nations and to World Affairs?</b></p>	<p><b>IV What is the Relationship of the United States to Other Nations and to World Affairs?</b></p>
<p>Nations Interaction among nations</p>	<p>Nation-states Interaction among nation-states United States' relations with other nation-states International organizations Impact of the American concept of democracy and individual rights on the world Political, demographic, and environmental developments</p>	<p>Nation-states Interaction among nation-states International organizations The historical context of United States foreign policy The ends and means of United States foreign policy Impact of the American concept of democracy and individual rights on the world Political developments Economic, technological, and cultural developments Demographic and environmental developments United States and international organizations</p>

K-4	5-8	9-12
<p><b>V What Are the Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy?</b></p>	<p><b>V What Are the Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy?</b></p>	<p><b>V What Are the Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy?</b></p>
<p>The meaning of citizenship                      Becoming a citizen                      Rights of individuals                      Responsibilities of individuals                      Dispositions that enhance citizen effectiveness and promote the healthy functioning of American democracy                      Forms of participation                      Political leadership and public service                      Selecting leaders</p>	<p>The meaning of citizenship                      Becoming a citizen                      Personal rights                      Political rights                      Economic rights                      Scope and limits of rights                      Personal responsibilities                      Civic responsibilities                      Dispositions that enhance citizen effectiveness and promote the healthy functioning of American constitutional democracy                      Participation in civic and political life and the attainment of individual and public goals                      The difference between political and social participation                      Forms of political participation                      Political leadership and careers in public service                      Knowledge and participation</p>	<p>The meaning of citizenship in the United States                      Becoming a citizen                      Personal rights                      Political rights                      Economic rights                      Relationships among personal, political, and economic rights                      Scope and limits of rights                      Personal responsibilities                      Civic responsibilities                      Dispositions that lead the citizen to be an independent member of society                      Dispositions that foster respect for individual worth and human dignity                      Dispositions that incline the citizen to public affairs                      Dispositions that facilitate thoughtful and effective participation in public affairs                      The relationship between politics and the attainment of individual and public goals                      The difference between political and social participation                      Forms of political participation                      Political leadership and careers in public service                      Knowledge and participation</p>

Illustrative  
Performance  
Standard  
912

# Illustrative Performance Standard

Performance standards are statements of criteria for determining desirable levels of achievement of content standards. They specify "how good is good enough."

Students can demonstrate their achievement of content standards in various ways, such as:

- **written performances**, including short answer, multiple choice, and essay examinations; research papers
- **oral performances**, including oral reports, participation in simulated public hearings, mock trial and appellate court proceedings, panel discussions, and debates
- **participatory activities**, including serving as participant/leader in committee meetings, panel discussions, student government, student courts, and civic organizations
- **visual and audio presentations**, including charts, graphs, diagrams, models, portfolios, video and audio tapes

Regardless of the means (e.g., written essay, oral presentation) chosen to demonstrate achievement of a content standard, students' responses should give evidence that they have understood major concepts, know relevant historical and contemporary conditions and developments, and, where applicable, can use what they have learned to evaluate, take, and defend positions on current issues.

The performance standard that follows is presented to illustrate what performance standards are and how they relate to content standards. These performance standards will specify appropriate levels of increasingly sophisticated student responses, each building on the previous response. For example, in the following illustrative performance standard from grades 9–12, the

- **basic level** provides criteria to determine if students can explain the essential characteristics of limited and unlimited governments and identify at least one historical and contemporary example of such governments
- **proficient level** provides criteria to determine if, in addition to satisfying the basic level, students can explain the differences between such forms of limited governments as constitutional democracies and such forms of unlimited governments as authoritarian and totalitarian systems
- **advanced level** provides criteria to determine if, in addition to satisfying criteria for the basic and proficient levels, students can demonstrate a deeper understanding of the characteristics of these types of governments including, for example, the role of civil society in limited and unlimited governments and the role of ideology in authoritarian and totalitarian regimes

## CONTENT STANDARD

### 1 Limited and unlimited governments.

Students should be able to explain the essential characteristics of limited and unlimited governments.

To achieve this standard students should be able to

- describe the essential characteristics of limited and unlimited governments
  - ▶ limited governments have established and respected restraints on their power, e.g., constitutional government—

- governments characterized by legal limits on political power
- ▶ unlimited governments are those in which there are no regularized and effective means of restraining their power, i.e.,
    - authoritarian systems—governments in which political power is concentrated in one person or a small group, and individuals and groups are subordinated to that power
    - totalitarian systems—modern forms of extreme authoritarianism in which the government attempts to control every aspect of the lives of individuals and prohibits independent associations
  - identify historical and contemporary examples limited and unlimited governments and explain their classification, e.g.,
    - ▶ limited governments—United States, Great Britain, Botswana, Japan, Israel, Chile
    - ▶ unlimited governments—Nazi Germany, Imperial Japan, Spain under Franco, Argentina under Perón, Iraq under Hussein, Iran

**PERFORMANCE STANDARD****BASIC LEVEL**

To demonstrate a **basic** level of proficiency, a student’s response should include the following major characteristics of limited and unlimited government and provide at least one historical and contemporary example of each type of government.

<b>LIMITED GOVERNMENTS</b> Constitutional governments	<b>UNLIMITED GOVERNMENTS</b> Non-constitutional governments
<b>MAJOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• powers effectively restricted by constitutions and other laws, e.g.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ goals of government and means used to attain them do not violate the constitution</li> <li>▶ effective limits on police/court powers</li> <li>▶ limits on powers of executive and legislatures</li> <li>▶ laws apply to governors as well as the governed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• constitutional restraints, if any, not effective e.g.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ police power not effectively limited</li> <li>▶ courts controlled by executive</li> <li>▶ executive not restricted by a legislature or the courts</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>HISTORICAL EXAMPLES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the United States</li> <li>• Great Britain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Italy under Mussolini</li> <li>• Spain under Franco</li> </ul>
<b>CONTEMPORARY EXAMPLES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Israel</li> <li>• Japan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Iraq</li> <li>• Libya</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LIMITED GOVERNMENTS</b> Constitutional governments</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UNLIMITED GOVERNMENTS</b> Non-constitutional governments</p>
<b>MAJOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• institutional devices used to limit powers, e.g.,               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ written or unwritten constitutions</li> <li>▶ independent judiciaries</li> <li>▶ checks and balances</li> <li>▶ separation of powers</li> <li>▶ bill of rights</li> <li>▶ regular, free, and fair elections</li> </ul> </li> <li>• powers are limited to the purposes specified in a constitution, e.g., the protection of individual rights and promotion of the common good</li> </ul>	<p><b>Authoritarian systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unlimited authority exercised by an individual or group</li> <li>• individual rights subordinated to state</li> <li>• no regularized and effective restraints on powers of government, e.g.,               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ no popularly elected assembly</li> <li>▶ no free elections</li> <li>▶ no independent judiciary</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Totalitarian systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• government attempts to control every aspect of the lives of individuals and prohibits independent associations</li> <li>• government use of intimidation and terror</li> </ul>

<b>LIMITED GOVERNMENTS</b> Constitutional governments	<b>UNLIMITED GOVERNMENTS</b> Non-constitutional governments
<b>HISTORICAL EXAMPLES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canada</li> <li>• Australia</li> <li>• New Zealand</li> <li>• United States</li> </ul>	<p><b>Authoritarian systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Russia under the Czars</li> <li>• Japan under the military in the 1930s</li> </ul> <p><b>Totalitarian systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soviet Union under Stalin</li> <li>• Germany under Hitler</li> <li>• China under Mao</li> <li>• Romania under Ceausescu</li> <li>• Cambodia under Pol Pot</li> <li>• North Korea under Kim-Il-Sung</li> </ul>
<b>CONTEMPORARY EXAMPLES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Botswana</li> <li>• Japan</li> <li>• Denmark</li> <li>• Venezuela</li> <li>• United States</li> </ul>	<p><b>Authoritarian systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenya</li> <li>• Myanmar (Burma)</li> </ul> <p><b>Totalitarian systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cuba under Castro</li> <li>• Iraq under Saddam Hussein</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>LIMITED GOVERNMENTS</b> Constitutional governments</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>UNLIMITED GOVERNMENTS</b> Non-constitutional governments</p>
<b>MAJOR CHARACTERISTICS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide protection of a private sphere of life free from unreasonable interference from government</li> <li>• active presence of more than one political party; concept of “loyal opposition”</li> <li>• active presence of civil society composed of numerous nongovernmental organizations and groups</li> </ul>	<p><b>Authoritarian systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• often military or quasi-military in character</li> <li>• often nationalistic/fundamentalist</li> <li>• ban organizations deemed to be a threat</li> <li>• civil society restricted in accordance with the interests of the regime</li> </ul> <p><b>Totalitarian systems</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ideology as a secular religion</li> <li>• control of education, literature, the arts, religion, and mass communication</li> <li>• control or bans on travel and emigration</li> <li>• a few centers of power/influence outside the ruling party (e.g., armed forces, scientific elite) may be permitted</li> <li>• civil society non-existent, because independent organizations and associations are not allowed</li> </ul>

# Glossary

**affirmative action**

Policy or program designed to redress historic injustices committed against racial minorities and other specified groups by making special efforts to provide members of these groups with access to educational and employment opportunities.

**alien**

Anyone not a citizen of the country in which he or she lives.

**amendment (constitutional)**

Changes in, or additions to, a constitution. Proposed by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress or by a convention called by Congress at the request of two-thirds of the state legislatures. Ratified by approval of three-fourths of the states.

**anarchy**

Absence of formal legal order; also the social context in which legitimate political authority does not exist.

**Articles of Confederation**

First constitution of the United States, 1781. Created a weak national government, replaced in 1789 by the Constitution of the United States.

**authority**

Right to control or direct the actions of others, legitimized by law, morality, custom, or consent.

**Bill of Rights**

First ten amendments to the Constitution. Ratified in 1791, these amendments limit governmental power and protect basic rights and liberties of individuals.

**Bill of Rights of 1689**

See *English Bill of Rights*.

**British constitution**

Framework for running the British government. The British constitution is unwritten, consisting of common law, acts of Parliament, and political customs and traditions.

***Brown v. Board of Education (1954)***

Supreme Court case which declared that “separate-but-equal” educational facilities are inherently unequal and therefore a violation of equal protection of the law guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment.

**bureaucracy**

Organizations that implement government policies.

**cabinet**

Secretaries, or chief administrators, of the major departments of the federal government. Cabinet secretaries are appointed by the president with the consent of the Senate.

**caste system**

Divisions in society based on differences of wealth, inherited rank, privilege, profession, or occupation.

**chauvinism**

Fanatical patriotism, blind devotion to and belief in the superiority of one’s group.

**checks and balances**

Constitutional mechanisms that authorize each branch of government to share powers with the other branches and thereby check their activities. For example, the president may veto legislation passed by Congress, the Senate must confirm major executive appointments, and the courts may declare acts of Congress unconstitutional.

**citizen**

Member of a political society who therefore owes allegiance to and is entitled to protection by and from the government.

**citizenship**

Status of being a member of a state, one who owes allegiance to the government and is entitled to its protection and to political rights.

**civil law**

Body of law that deals with the private rights of individuals, as distinguished from criminal law.

**civil liberties**

Areas of personal freedom with which governments are constrained from interfering.

**civil rights**

Protections and privileges given to all U.S. citizens by the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

**civil rights laws**

Laws passed by Congress or state legislatures designed to protect the rights of individuals to fair treatment by private persons, groups, organizations, businesses, and government.

**civil rights movements**

Continuing efforts to gain the enforcement of the rights guaranteed to all citizens by the Constitution.

**Civil War Amendments**

Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments, passed following the Civil War. They freed the slaves, granted them citizenship, and guaranteed them the rights of citizens.

**class system**

System in which members of social classes are prevented from moving into other classes.

**clear and present danger**

Standard used to justify limitations on speech that will lead directly to harm to others.

**colonial charters**

Documents granting authority to the original colonies by the British.

**common law**

Body of unwritten law developed in England from judicial decisions based on custom and earlier judicial decisions. It constituted the basis of the English legal system and became part of American law.

**common or public good**

Benefit or interest of a politically organized society as a whole.

**compact**

See *covenant*.

**concurrent powers**

Powers that may be exercised by both the federal government and the state governments—for example, levying taxes, borrowing money, and spending for the general welfare.

**consent of the governed**

Agreement by the people to set up and live under a government. According to the natural rights philosophy, all legitimate government must rest on the consent of the governed.

**constitutionalism**

Idea that the powers of government should be distributed according to a written or unwritten constitution and that those powers should be effectively restrained by the constitution's provisions.

**covenant**

Binding agreement made by two or more persons or parties; compact.

**criminal law**

Branch of law that deals with disputes or actions involving criminal penalties (as opposed to civil law), it regulates the conduct of individuals, defines crimes, and provides punishment for criminal acts.

**delegated powers**

Powers granted to the national government under the Constitution, as enumerated in Articles I, II, and III.

**democracy**

Form of government in which political control is exercised by all the people, either directly or through their elected representatives.

**divine right**

Theory of government that holds that a monarch receives the right to rule directly from God and not from the people.

**domestic tranquility**

Internal peacefulness; lack of disturbance within a country.

**due process of law**

Right of every citizen to be protected against arbitrary action by government.

**English Bill of Rights**

An act passed by Parliament in 1689 which limited the power of the monarch. This document established Parliament as the most powerful branch of the English government.

**enumerated powers**

Powers that are specifically granted to Congress by Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

**equal protection clause**

Fourteenth Amendment provision that prohibits states from denying equal protection of the laws to all people—that is, discriminating against individuals in an arbitrary manner, such as on the basis of race.

**equal protection of the law**

Idea that no individual or group may receive special privileges from nor be unjustly discriminated against by the law.

**Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)**

Placed before Congress in 1923, the ERA stated that "Equal rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State on account of sex." ERA passed Congress in 1972, but the required three-quarters of the states failed to ratify it. Time for its adoption expired in 1982.

**equality of opportunity**

An equal chance for all persons in such areas as education, employment, and political participation.

**established church or established religion**

Official, state-sponsored religion.

**establishment clause**

Clause in the First Amendment that says the government may not set up, or establish, an official religion.

**ethnicity**

Group of people that can be identified within a larger culture or society on the basis of such factors as religion, ancestry, or language.

**European Union (EU)**

Successor organization to the "European Community," itself successor to the European Economic Community (EEC), also known as the European "Common Market."

**excise taxes**

Taxes on the manufacture, sale, or consumption of a manufactured article within a country.

**exclusionary rule**

Judicial doctrine based on the Fourth Amendment's protection against illegal searches and seizures, which provides that evidence obtained illegally may not be used in a trial.

**executive power**

Power of the president to implement and enforce laws.

**federal judiciary**

Nine members of the U.S. Supreme Court and approximately five hundred judges appointed by the president and approved by the Senate for the federal courts created by Congress. The judges are divided among ninety-four district courts and twelve courts of appeal (the "constitutional courts") and a number of specialized courts, such as tax and military courts (the "legislative courts").

**federal supremacy clause**

Article VI of the Constitution providing that the Constitution and all federal laws and treaties shall be the "supreme Law of the Land." Therefore, all federal laws take precedence over state and local laws.

**federal system (or federalism)**

Form of political organization in which governmental power is divided between a central government and territorial subdivisions—in the United States, among the national, state, and local governments.

**federalists**

Advocates of a strong national government and supporters of adoption of the U.S. Constitution.

**feudalism**

Political and economic system in which a king or queen shared power with the nobility who required services from the common people in return for allowing them to use the noble's land.

**foreign policy**

Policies of the federal government directed to matters beyond U.S. borders, especially relations with other countries. Much domestic policy has foreign policy implications.

**Founders**

People who played important roles in the development of the national government of the United States.

**Framers**

Delegates to the Philadelphia Convention held in 1787 and those who wrote and ratified the Bill of Rights.

**franchise**

Right to vote.

**free exercise clause**

Clause in the First Amendment that says the government shall make no law prohibiting the free practice of religious beliefs.

**freedom of assembly**

Freedom of people to gather together in public.

**freedom of conscience**

Freedom of belief. Many consider freedom of conscience an absolute right, one that has no limitations.

**freedom of expression**

Refers to the freedoms of speech, press, assembly, and petition that are protected by the First Amendment.

**freedom of petition**

Freedom to present requests to the government without reprisal.

**freedom of the press**

Freedom to print or publish without government interference.

**freedom of religion**

Freedom to worship as one pleases.

**freedom of speech**

Freedom to express oneself, either verbally or non-verbally, that is, symbolically.

**fundamental rights**

Rights considered to be essential.

**general welfare**

Good of society as a whole; common or public good.

**general welfare clause**

Clause in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution that gives Congress power to provide for “the general welfare of the United States.”

**government**

Institutions and procedures through which a territory and its people are ruled.

***habeas corpus***

Court order demanding that the individual in custody be brought into court and shown the cause for detention. *Habeas corpus* is guaranteed by the Constitution and can be suspended only in cases of rebellion or invasion.

**“hate” speech**

Speech that is intentionally deeply offensive to a racial, ethnic, religious, or other group, seeking to condemn or dehumanize members of such a group.

**higher law**

In describing a legal system, refers to the superiority of one set of laws over another. For example, the Constitution is a higher law than any federal or state law. In natural rights philosophy, it means that natural law and divine law are superior to laws made by human beings.

**House of Commons**

One of two houses of the English Parliament; represents the common people.

**House of Lords**

One of two houses of the English Parliament; represents the nobility.

**ideology**

Combined doctrines, assertions, and intentions of a social or political group that justify its behavior.

**impeachment**

Power of Congress to remove the president, vice president, federal judges, and other federal officers from office.

**incorporation**

Process by which the Supreme Court interpreted the Fourteenth Amendment to extend the Bill of Rights to include protections against actions of the state governments.

**individual rights**

Rights possessed by individuals as opposed to those rights claimed by groups.

**institution (political)**

Organizations such as Congress, the presidency, and the court system that play a significant role in the making, carrying out, and enforcing laws and managing conflicts about them.

**interest group**

Organized body of individuals who share some goals and try to influence public policy to meet those goals.

**international law**

Customs, treaties, agreements, and rules that govern relations among nations.

**judicial power**

Power to manage conflicts about the interpretation and application of the law.

**judicial review**

Doctrine that permits the federal courts to declare unconstitutional, and thus null and void, acts of the Congress, the executive, and the states. The precedent for judicial review was established in the 1803 case of *Marbury v. Madison*.

**junta**

Group of persons controlling a government, especially after a revolutionary seizure of power.

**justice**

Fair distribution of benefits and burdens, fair correction of wrongs and injuries, or use of fair procedures in gathering information and making decisions.

**law of nature (or natural law)**

As used by natural rights philosophers—a moral rule discovered by the use of reason, which everyone should obey at all times and places.

**legislative power**

Power to make laws.

**legitimacy**

Acceptance as right and proper.

**loyal opposition**

Idea that opposition to a government is legitimate; organized opponents to the government of the day.

**Magna Carta**

Document signed by King John of England in 1215 A.D. that guaranteed certain basic rights. Considered the beginning of constitutional government in England.

**majority rule**

Rule by more than half of those participating in a decision.

***Marbury v. Madison* (1803)**

Case in which the Supreme Court held that it had the power of judicial review over acts of Congress.

**Marshall Plan**

U.S. foreign policy, named after Secretary of State, George C. Marshall, which gave substantial aid to Western European countries after World War II (1948–52) to rehabilitate their economies, ensuring the survival of democratic institutions.

**Mayflower Compact**

Document drawn up by the Pilgrims in 1620 while on *The Mayflower* before landing at Plymouth Rock. The Compact provided a legal basis for self-government.

**minority rights**

Rights of any group less than a majority.

**monarchy**

Government in which political power is exercised by a single ruler under the claim of divine or hereditary right.

**national security**

Condition of a nation's safety from threats, especially threats from external sources.

**natural rights**

Belief that individuals are naturally endowed with basic human rights; those rights that are so much a part of human nature that they cannot be taken away or given up, as opposed to rights conferred by law. The Declaration of Independence states that these natural rights include the rights to “Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

**Nineteenth Amendment**

Amendment to the Constitution, ratified in 1920, guaranteeing women the right to vote.

**Ninth Amendment**

This amendment states, in effect, that the Bill of Rights is only a partial listing of the people's rights.

**nobility**

Group of persons having legally recognized titles, usually of a hereditary nature, who compose the aristocracy in a society. In Great Britain, the nobility is represented in the House of Lords.

**OAS**

Organization of American States, an international governmental organization formed by the states of North and South America for the protection of mutual security and interests.

**political culture**

Fundamental beliefs and assumptions of a people about how government and politics should operate.

**political efficacy**

Belief that one can be effective and have an impact on public affairs.

**political ideology**

Organized, coherent set of attitudes about government and public policy.

**political party**

Any group, however loosely organized, that seeks to elect government officials under a given label.

**political philosophy**

Study of ideas about government and politics.

**political rights**

Rights to participate in the political process.

**preamble**

Introduction to a formal document that explains its purpose.

**principle**

Basic rule that guides or influences thought or action.

**private (or personal) domain**

Areas of an individual's life that are not subject to governmental control.

**private property**

Property belonging to a particular person or persons as opposed to the public or the government.

**public good**

See *common good*.

**public service**

Service to local, state, or national communities through appointed or elected office.

**Puritan ethic**

Belief in the primacy of religious duty, work, conscience, and self-restraint in the life of the individual. Traditionally associated with economic individualism.

**representative democracy**

Form of government in which power is held by the people and exercised indirectly through elected representatives who make decisions.

**republican government**

System of government in which power is held by the voters and is exercised by elected representatives responsible for promoting the common welfare.

**revolution**

Complete or drastic change of government and the rules by which government is conducted.

**Roman Republic**

Society whose origins were in Rome, dating from 509 B.C. to 27 B.C. Rome served as the model for the theory of classical republicanism.

**royalty**

Kings, queens, and members of their families. Royalty can also refer to that part of the government that represents the monarch.

**rule of law**

Principle that every member of a society, even a ruler, must follow the law.

**“rule of men”**

Ability of government officials and others to govern by their personal whim or desire. Opposed to the “rule of law.”

**separation of church and state**

Concept that religion and government should be separate; basis for the establishment clause of the First Amendment.

**separation of powers**

Division of governmental power among several institutions that must cooperate in decision making.

**social contract (compact)**

Agreement among all the people in a society to give up part of their freedom to a government in return for protection of their natural rights. A theory developed by Locke to explain the origin of legitimate government.

**social equality**

Absence of inherited or assigned titles of nobility or of a hierarchical caste or class social system.

**sovereignty**

Ultimate, supreme power in a state; in the United States, sovereignty rests with the people.

**suffrage**

Right to vote.

**supremacy clause**

Article VI, Section 2, of the Constitution, which states that the Constitution, laws passed by Congress, and treaties of the United States “shall be the supreme law of the land,” binding on the states.

**time, place, and manner restrictions**

Government regulations which place restrictions on free speech. These regulations, specifying when, where, and in what way speech is allowed, are applied when unrestricted free speech will conflict with the rights of others.

**treaty**

Formal agreement between sovereign nations to create or restrict rights and responsibilities. In the U.S. all treaties must be approved by a two-thirds vote in the Senate.

**“unalienable” (inalienable) rights**

Fundamental rights of the people that may not be taken away. A phrase used in the Virginia Declaration of Rights and the Declaration of Independence.

**unenumerated rights**

Rights which are not specifically listed in the Constitution or Bill of Rights, but which have been recognized and protected by the courts.

**unitary government**

A government system in which all governmental authority is vested in a central government from which regional and local governments derive their powers. Examples are Great Britain and France, as well as the American states within their spheres of authority.

**United Nations**

International organization comprising most of the nations of the world, formed in 1945 to promote peace, security, and economic development.

**Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

International declaration of rights adopted by the United Nations in 1948.

**veto**

Constitutional power of the president to refuse to sign a bill passed by Congress, thereby preventing it from becoming a law. The president’s veto may be overridden by a two-thirds vote of both the Senate and House of Representatives.

**World Court**

Court in The Hague, the Netherlands, set up by the United Nations Treaty to which nations may voluntarily submit disputes.

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The Center is also grateful for the many helpful comments and suggestions that have been received from the following persons who have reviewed the manuscript in its various developmental stages. The final product, however, is the responsibility of the Center and does not necessarily reflect the views of those who have contributed their thoughts and ideas.

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Index

**A**

- adversary system** 142, 232
- affirmative action** 126, 146, 238, 257
- aliens** *See* noncitizens
- American beliefs** 64, 116–18, 206–207
  - about government 54–55, 60, 222
  - about themselves 55
- American constitutional democracy** 89, 143, 262
  - (*see also* American ideals; American society; values and principles)
  - and importance of 124–25, 143
    - diversity 52–53, 61–62, 117–22, 125, 202–205, 209, 215
    - loyal opposition 172, 209
    - political and social participation 81–82, 87–92, 168–73, 266–67, 268–69
    - political leadership 92, 168–72, 267–70
    - public service 92, 164, 169–72, 261, 267–70
  - federalism and 216
  - functions of leadership in 169, 270
  - institutions of government in 199, 216
  - liberalism and 210–13
  - philosophical traditions of 210–11
  - republicanism and 210, 213–14
  - responsibilities of citizens in 162, 250–51, 259, 266–67
  - rights of citizens in 157, 161
  - role of knowledge in 171–73, 252
  - traits of public character necessary for 165–67, 262–64
- American ideals**
  - and founding of nation 66, 124
  - disparities between, and reality 127, 217
  - promotion of 39, 66, 69–73, 123, 215–16, 247
- American political system** 157, 253
  - foundations of 113–14

- opportunities for choice and participation in 143, 233, 236–37

- American political tradition** 151, 236
- American Revolution** 152, 243, 246
- American society** 62, 119, 140, 197, 200, 205, 229–30, 248
  - (*see also* American constitutional democracy)
  - characteristics of 55, 116–18, 201–203
  - frontier influence on 116–18, 201–203
  - role of citizens in 151, 211
- Amendment(s) to U.S. Constitution**
  - Bill of Rights *See* Bill of Rights
  - First 107
  - Tenth 220, 226
  - Fourteenth 189, 226, 231
  - Sixteenth 134, 224
  - Seventeenth 214
  - Nineteenth 107
- anarchy** 104
- Articles of Confederation** 112, 198
- associations and groups** 145–46, 237
  - (*see also* civil society; voluntary associations)
- authoritarian government** 103, 183
- authority, political**
  - definition of 37–38, 179
  - proper use of 99, 178
  - sources of 38

**B**

- Bill of Rights** 47, 53, 60, 113–15, 151–52, 158–59, 197–200, 207, 219, 226, 246–47, 254–56
- Bill of Rights of 1689 (English)** 198
- Brown v. Board of Education*** 140, 230

## C

- campaigns** 90–91, 143–45, 169, 171, 233, 235–36
- character**  
     traits of public and private 165–67, 178
- checks and balances** 115, 125, 216, 222, 254–56
- choice** 50, 61–62, 85, 119, 143–44, 233, 263
- church** 115, 125, 150, 216, 219, 241
- citizens** 29  
     participation of *See* civic participation  
     privacy of 50, 66, 161, 253–54, 258  
     responsibilities of 162–64  
     rights of 46, 50, 141, 157–60, 253–57  
         (*see also* rights)  
         economic 50, 85, 151, 157–60  
         personal 50, 85, 158, 253–54  
         political 50, 85, 159, 255  
         role of 116, 145, 154, 171–72, 203–204
- citizenship** (*see also* naturalization)  
     establishment of 81–83  
     meaning of 82, 155, 251  
     requirements of 157, 253
- city councils** 36, 64, 74, 91, 100, 135, 225
- civic culture** 120, 206 (*see also* political culture)
- civic dispositions** (public and private character traits) 87, 165, 262–65
- civic life** 25, 98, 168  
     relationship between, and private/personal life 98, 170, 177–78, 181, 214, 266–67
- civic participation** 76–77, 90–91, 139, 143–46, 164, 168–73, 211, 233–38, 262–70  
     distinction between social and political 170  
     forms of 90–91, 171–72, 269  
     opportunities for 90, 120–22, 128, 133, 143–46, 168–69, 185, 218–20, 233, 237, 266, 269
- civic responsibilities** 86, 162–64, 259–61
- civic mindedness/civic virtue** 87–88, 127, 210, 214, 262–65
- civil rights** 119–22, 127, 134, 145–46, 159, 208, 255
- Civil Rights Movement** 171, 189, 217, 269
- civil society** 25  
     definition of 102, 143, 182, 230  
     limited government and 185  
     political power and 268
- classical republicanism** 26–27, 151, 210, 213–14
- Cold War** 243
- common good** 162, 168, 171, 210, 259, 266  
     (*see also* classical republicanism; public good)  
     promotion of, by government 39, 46, 52–55, 65–70, 75, 79, 90, 101–107, 113, 119, 126–27, 139, 154, 181, 189, 198, 214–16, 219, 229–30
- common law** 184, 198, 256
- compelling government interest** 161, 258
- confederal system** 112, 194
- conflict** 42, 61–64, 69–72, 84, 98, 116, 119–22, 142, 147–53, 177–79, 184, 201, 205–209, 220, 239–41  
     (*see also* political conflict)  
     among values and principles 123–26, 146, 208, 214–16, 238, 253, 257–58  
     resolution 142, 232
- Congress** 70, 77, 100, 107, 110, 129–31, 138, 144, 149, 191, 214, 219, 230, 235, 244  
     House of Representatives 221  
     Senate 111, 129–30, 149, 221, 244  
     consent of the governed 37, 213
- constitution** 26, 47, 51, 60, 67–71, 83, 128–36, 149–52, 159, 220–22, 244  
     (*see also* U.S. Constitution, state constitutions)  
     and core values 189  
     as higher law 105–106, 114, 187, 199  
     as vehicle for change 189  
     concepts of 106, 188

- German 106, 188–90
  - Japanese 106, 188, 189
  - majority rule/minority rights and 53, 122, 199, 209
  - purposes of 113, 187–90
  - written 68, 113, 197, 199
  - constitutional democracy** 43, 123–26, 210–17
    - (*see also* American constitutional democracy)
    - and an independent judiciary 231, 254
    - citizenship in 154–56, 162, 165–73, 250, 259–70
  - constitutional government** 102, 106–107, 113, 125, 181–83, 187, 197–99, 215, 232, 255–56
    - alternative ways of organizing 109–110, 191–95
    - conditions necessary for 105, 108, 187–90
- D**
- Declaration of Independence** 51–53, 60, 113–14, 123–24, 151–52, 158–59, 198, 207–13, 246, 254–56
  - delegated or enumerated powers** 114
  - democratic institutions**
    - campaigns, elections, voting as 90–91, 143–45, 169, 171–72, 233, 236, 266
  - diplomacy** 80, 148–50, 240–41, 244–45
  - discrimination** 61–62, 70, 116, 201, 217
  - distribution of powers**
    - under U.S. Constitution 220
  - diversity** 52–54, 117, 125, 201–203
    - benefits of 61–62, 119, 205, 209, 215
    - conflict about 63–64, 120–22, 206–209
    - costs of 62
  - domestic policy** 223
  - due process**
    - of law 115, 141–42, 232, 254

**E**

- education** 44, 54, 71, 135, 144, 170, 201, 227, 237
  - importance of 57
  - universal public 118, 203, 209
- elections** 72, 81, 90, 143–45, 169, 171, 185, 193, 212, 227, 233, 236, 267 (*see also* representation, proportional)
- electoral systems** 192, 196
- English Bill of Rights (1689)** 198
- equal protection of the law** 56, 115, 229–30, 254
- equal rights** 81, 146, 155, 251, 269
- equality** 123–27, 211 (*see also* social equality)
  - of opportunity 52–56, 207–11, 216
- ethnic conflict** 119
- ethnicity** 60–63, 117–119, 149, 155, 196, 202, 206, 241, 247, 251
- executive branch of government** 70–72, 76, 129–31, 138, 230

**F**

- fascism** *See* authoritarian government
- federal courts** 130, 144, 149, 222, 232, 244
- federal system** 112, 131, 136, 194, 199, 220
  - sharing of power within 112, 131, 136, 194, 220
  - units of 221–22
- federalism** 125, 200, 216, 219–20
- Federalist, The*** 124, 207
- foreign policy** 223, 239–46 (*see also* world affairs)
  - making of U.S. 244
- Founders** 169, 263, 267
- freedom** (*see also* liberty; rights)
  - economic 50, 84–85, 151–52, 157–60, 180, 185–86, 253–57
  - of movement and residence 159, 254
  - of speech 55, 115, 159–61, 185, 255–58
  - limits on 115
  - of the press 54, 115, 144–45, 159–61, 186, 235, 255, 258

personal 50, 85, 158–61, 177–78, 253–58  
 political 49–50, 85, 90–94, 144–45, 159–61, 171–72, 182,  
 185–86, 213, 253–57, 268–69  
 religious (and conscience) 48–50, 62–63, 70, 117, 158,  
 165–67, 202, 254, 264–65

## G

**general welfare** 114–15  
**Gettysburg Address** 51, 121–24, 207  
**government** (*see also* federal system; limited government;  
 national government; state and local government;  
 unlimited government)  
   accountability of 48, 128  
   and rule of law 42, 53, 102–104, 125, 140, 181–84, 215,  
   229–31  
   authority for 38, 53, 67–68, 212  
   definition of 36–38, 47–50, 98, 103, 114, 177, 181, 187  
   evaluation of other nations' 102  
   financing of 72–75, 134–37, 223  
   formal institutions of 35, 143, 177, 179, 233  
   functions of 37, 39–42, 67–70, 128, 133–37, 154  
   influencing and monitoring by citizens 22, 85, 90–91, 102,  
   128, 143–46, 171, 178–85, 201, 218–20, 228, 233, 238,  
   268–69  
   necessity of 39, 101  
   organization of 67, 109–110, 131–32, 137, 199  
   participation in 67, 90–91, 168–73, 268–70  
   purposes of 40, 49, 55, 67–68, 84, 98–101, 113, 157, 177,  
   253  
   self 124, 215  
   systems of government 102, 109–112  
**global developments/concerns** *See* world affairs

## H

**habeas corpus** 115, 142, 232  
**higher law**  
   and the constitution 105–106, 114, 187–88, 199  
**human dignity** 87, 165, 262–63  
**human rights** *See* rights

## I

**ideals** *See* American ideals  
**identity** 59, 120–21  
   American 59, 116, 120–21, 201–207  
**immigration** 116–118, 134, 153, 201–203, 247  
**impeachment** 219, 222  
**income tax** *See* taxation  
**individual responsibilities** 86, 166, 263  
**individual rights** *See* rights  
**individualism** 118, 203  
**interest groups** 90–91, 144–45, 171, 202, 237, 244  
**international affairs** *See* world affairs  
**international law** *See* law  
**international organizations** 147–52, 241, 249  
**international political developments** 247  
   cultural 248  
   economic 248  
   environmental 249  
   technological 248  
**interstate commerce** 132, 220, 226

## J

**Judeo-Christian ethic** 117, 202  
**judicial branch of government** 70, 131, 222  
**judicial protections** 141–142, 231–32

access to 127  
**judicial review** 222, 232  
**justice** 39, 52, 86, 114, 124, 127, 215  
**juvenile justice system** 142

## L

**labor disputes** *See* political conflict  
**labor unions** 81, 98, 146, 160, 202, 256  
**law** (*see also* rule of law)  
 civil 139, 229–31  
 criminal 139, 229–31  
 constitutional 47, 67, 105, 113–15, 132–36, 139–40,  
 187–88, 199–200, 226–31  
 evaluating 45–46, 140–41  
 international 79–80, 148–50, 184, 240–41  
 role of 40–44, 69–73, 101, 130–31, 139–40, 184, 229–32  
 sources of 35–38, 43, 184  
**legal system**  
 American dependence on 139, 229  
 and conflict management 139, 229  
**legislative branch of government** (*see also* Congress) 67, 72, 77,  
 110–11, 129–30, 135–36, 192–94, 221, 227–28  
**legislative hearings** 142  
**liberal democracy** 211–13  
**liberalism** 26  
 Declaration of Independence and 210  
 The Enlightenment and 210–12  
**liberty** 40, 52–55, 79, 101, 113, 123–37, 139, 190, 198, 210–17,  
 220, 229–31, 269  
**limited government**  
 differences between, and unlimited government 47–48,  
 102–103, 181–83  
 essential characteristics of 47–48, 102–104, 181–83  
 importance of 49–50, 199

major forms of 104, 109–112, 183, 191–95  
 political and economic freedoms and 50, 182, 186  
**local government** *See* state and local government  
**loyalty** (*see also* patriotism)  
 to ethnic, religious, tribal, or linguistic groups 247  
 to the nation 82  
 to values and principles 89, 264  
 transnational 247

## M

**majority rule** 53, 122, 199, 209  
**Magna Carta** 198  
*Marbury v. Madison* 140, 230  
**market economy** 118, 203  
**media** (press, radio, television) 90, 142–43, 232–34, 243  
**military**  
 and foreign policy 78–79, 146–49, 238–40, 246  
 and unlimited governments 99  
 civilian control of 124, 215, 218  
 service 43  
**minority rights** *See* rights  
**moral character** *See* character

## N

**nation-states** 77, 146–47, 238–39, 246  
 breakdown of order in 148, 240  
 consequences of conflict in 146, 148, 246  
 definition of 77  
 interaction among 79, 147–48, 239–40  
 multiplication of 246  
**national government** (*see also* government)  
 distributing, sharing, and limiting power in 127–31,

193–99, 218, 225–26  
 organization and responsibilities of 34, 69, 132–33, 198–223  
 representation in 75, 85, 90, 137, 217, 220–21  
**national identity** *See* identity  
**national security** 160, 222, 244, 257  
**Native American(s)** 115, 200  
   rights of 118  
**natural law** 183  
**natural rights philosophy** 150, 197  
**naturalization** 82  
   criteria for 82, 155, 251  
**necessary and proper clause** 114  
**nobility**  
   absence of, in American background 115–16, 200–201  
**noncitizens** 82, 155, 251

## P

**parliamentary system** 108, 190  
   characteristics of 191  
**participation** *See* civic participation  
**patriotism** 51, 88, 124, 166, 214, 263–64  
**personal responsibilities** 85, 162, 259  
**political action**  
   role of, in American democracy 122, 126, 132,  
   167, 216, 265  
   committees (PACs) 236  
   means of 114, 142–45, 232–36  
**political authority** 124, 178, 214  
**political communication** 143, 234  
**political conflict** 119, 205–206  
   character of American 119, 205–207  
**political culture** 119, 205–206  
**political institutions** 209, 233  
**political leadership** 91, 168–71, 266–69

  selection of 92–93, 170–71  
**political movements** 122, 210  
**political organizations** 236  
**political parties** 89–90, 142–44, 168, 170, 232, 235, 268  
   (*see also* two party system, third parties)  
**political persuasion** 234  
**political process** 89, 132, 138, 142–45, 168, 228–32, 266–68  
**political rights** 49  
**political values and principles** *See* values and principles  
**politics** 89, 97, 119, 142–44, 150, 167–71, 176, 211, 233–37, 241,  
 265  
   definition of 27, 97–99, 178–79  
   individual and public goals and 54, 100, 141, 178, 267  
   international 78–79, 243–44  
   necessity and purposes of 178, 80  
**popular culture** 208  
**popular sovereignty** 124, 127, 198, 214–15, 217  
**poverty** 256  
**power** 43–47, 51, 66–67, 72, 78, 92, 98, 104–11, 113, 121, 124,  
 128–31, 142, 146, 177–78, 181–82, 185, 186–89, 198,  
 206–208, 221, 231, 235, 238, 243  
   (*see also* limited government; shared powers system)  
   abuse of 99–100, 193–94, 218  
   aggregation and dispersal of 218  
   definition of 37  
   civil society as locus of 101, 181  
   limitations on 112, 156, 219  
**press** (*see also* media)  
   freedom of 114, 143, 158, 185, 234, 257  
   influence of 143, 234  
**principles** 38, 50–52, 58–61, 99, 125, 141, 145, 162, 198, 207,  
 215, 237, 241, 258–60  
   (*see also* values and principles)  
**private life** 267  
   relationship between, and civic life 98, 176

**property** 39–43, 49–54, 97–100, 123, 136–38, 160, 176, 188–91, 195–97, 209, 214, 219, 227–30, 255–57  
ownership of 84, 115–16, 159, 200–201

**proportional systems** 195

**proportional voting** 254

**Protestant Reformation** 211

**public agenda** 142, 232–33

**public debate** 233

**public education** 43, 56, 70, 117, 121, 202, 208

**public good** 123, 163, 260 (*see also* common good)

**public issues** 65, 89–90, 143, 156, 163, 170, 252, 260

**public life** 97, 120, 123–26, 138, 176 (*see also* civic life)

**public opinion** 142, 232–33

**public policy** 232  
forming and carrying out of 145, 237, 268  
influencing and monitoring of 90, 142–45, 170, 227, 232, 237, 268

**public service** 91, 163, 168–71, 260, 266–69

**Puritan ethic** 202

## R

**race riots** *See* political conflict

**religion** 43, 49, 53–54, 69, 84, 100, 106, 114–20, 148, 157, 184, 191, 195, 201, 205, 240, 250 (*see also* freedom)  
role of, in public life 207

**representation**  
alternative forms of 194  
bases of 194–95  
basis of 191  
issues concerning 221  
nature of 194  
proportional 191  
theories of 195

**republic**  
definition of 212

**republican government** 197

**republicanism** 25–26, 150, 209, 212–13

**responsibility/responsibilities** 203  
assignment of, by laws and rules 43, 183  
of those in authority 48, 66, 189  
of state government 70, 134–36  
of local government 73–74, 134–36  
of elected officials 75, 92  
of citizens 80–85, 107, 153, 161–63, 164–65, 189, 249, 256, 258–60, 262  
of branches of government in shared powers systems 109, 190, 191  
distribution of, under U.S. Constitution 68, 127, 133, 217–227

**rights** 83 (*see also* freedom)  
and privileges of citizens 153–60, 252  
and responsibilities 65, 83–85, 161, 249  
and limited government 47, 102, 180–82  
conflicts between 125, 160, 252, 256  
documentary sources of 157–59  
due process 140–41, 231  
economic 49, 84, 159, 255  
equality of 55, 80, 123, 145, 154, 159, 165, 214  
guarantees of 67, 104, 186, 213, 262  
human rights 133, 150, 244, 246  
judicial protection of 140–41, 230–31  
limits on 83, 156  
natural, philosophy 151, 187  
of association 157, 253, 256, 265  
of individuals 38, 84  
of noncitizens 80  
of the minority 208  
personal 49, 84, 157–58, 252–53

- political 49, 84, 158, 254
- promotion of 170
- property 50–55, 85, 101–113, 116, 124, 139, 160–61, 186, 189, 210, 215, 220, 228–31, 256–58
- protection of 44, 55, 65–70
- respect for, of others 88, 164
- scope and limits of 161, 258
- “unalienable” 213
- voting 70
- rule of law** 102, 139–40, 184, 229
  - absence of 104, 231
  - and government 43
  - importance of 104
- rule of men** 104, 184
- rules and laws** 35 (*see also* government)
  - absence of 40
  - evaluation of 45–46
  - purposes of 43–44

## S

- school board** 36, 91, 100
- school prayer** 85, 158, 254
- separation of church and state** 115, 125, 216, 219
- separation of powers** 222
- shared powers system** 28, 125, 191–93, 219
  - and parliamentary systems 110
  - definition of 109
- slavery** 116, 123, 189, 201, 211, 220
- social equality** 116–18, 201
- social welfare** 116, 201, 203, 237
- sovereignty** 147 (*see also* popular sovereignty)
- state and local governments**
  - accessibility of 135, 225–27
  - and concurrent powers 227

- and reserved powers 226
- communication with 138
- functions of 135–38, 225
- organization of 71–73, 135–37, 225–28
- powers of 112, 194–95, 226–27
- relationship with national government 226–27
- responsibilities of 71–75, 137, 226–28
- revenue for 75, 137
- Tenth Amendment and 220
- state constitutions** 71, 135, 158–59, 198, 225, 254–56
- suffrage**
  - and Native Americans 119
  - denial of, to women and minority groups 127, 220
  - movement 124, 171, 217, 269
- Supreme Court** 70, 109–111, 129–31, 144, 191, 209, 222, 230–31

## T

- taxation** 44, 82, 91, 114, 132, 137–38, 221
  - as a shared power 132, 194, 227
  - as an enumerated power 44
  - civic responsibility 86, 164, 261
  - financing of government by 134–37, 223, 257
  - sources of 73, 137, 224, 228
  - uses of 74–75, 224
- third parties**
  - role of 236
- totalitarian government** 102–103, 154, 181–85, 250
- treaties** 79–80, 114, 129, 132, 148–50, 226, 240, 244
- two party system** 236

## U

- United States Constitution** 53, 60, 71, 107, 115, 121–24, 128–30, 149, 158–60, 242, 246–47 (*see also* rule of law; rights)  
 and citizenship 83  
 definition and importance of 67–68  
 distribution of power in 219  
 Framers of 197  
 in a diverse society 207  
 influence of republican ideas on 198, 214  
 provision for taxation in 134, 223–24  
 reserved policies and 226  
 state constitutions and 136
- U.S. v. Nixon** 140, 230
- unitary systems** 109, 112, 191–95
- unlimited government** 187  
 essential characteristics of 47–48, 102–104, 181–83  
 major forms of 103
- United Nations** 79, 152, 241

## V

- values** 84, 102, 123, 157, 172, 181, 210, 253, 259, 268–69  
 (*see also* values and principles)
- values and principles** 105, 162, 189  
 and American identity 59–60, 121  
 and citizenship 157  
 and diversity 64, 205  
 as political culture 120  
 conflicts about *See* conflict; political conflict  
 conflict among 126, 211  
 definition of 51–53, 59–60  
 embodied in the Constitution 105, 108, 113, 152  
 fundamental 47, 51–53, 123–25  
 leadership and 93

- of American democracy 51–53, 65–66, 89, 123–25, 213–16  
 on other nations 152  
 political 121, 206–207
- veto** 130–31, 193, 219, 222
- violence** 120–22, 126, 206
- virtue** *See* civic mindedness
- voluntary associations** 102, 182, 185, 237 (*see also* civil society)  
 education and social welfare as functions of 116, 201–204
- voluntarism** 203–204  
 American tradition of 54–58, 116–18, 201–204

## W

- war** 121, 132, 208
- women's political rights** 189, 220
- world affairs** 78–79, 239–41  
 international politics 245  
 political organization of 147, 239  
 relationship of american politics and government to  
 149–50, 242  
 role of international organizations in 147–52, 241, 249  
 role of the United States in 147, 151, 239, 245
- world economy**  
 interdependency of 248
- World War I** 243
- World War II** 80, 189, 243

