

## Unit 1 Constitutional Underpinnings

### Learning Objectives (taken from the AP College Board Course Description):

1. What kind of government was established by the Constitution?
2. Explain federalism, separation of powers, and checks and balances.
3. What was the historical situation at the time of the Constitutional Convention?
4. Why did Madison fear factions?
5. What were the reasons for swift adoption of the Bill of Rights?
6. Know the court cases associated with federalism, separation of powers, and checks and balances.  
(*Distributed throughout readings, videos, Oyez, and recollection from US History*)
7. Explain democratic theory, theories of representative government, pluralism, and elitism.

### Required Reading:

- Chapter 1 Freedom, Order, or Equality
- Chapter 2 Majoritarian or Pluralist Democracy?
- Chapter 3 The Constitution
- Chapter 4 Federalism

### Lecture/Videos:

(<http://www.hippocampus.org/HippoCampus/History%20%26%20Government;jsessionid=DCC7A930D0E11538COD40997FDCB6B3E>)

- The Nature of Governments (1.1)
- Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" (1.3)
- Declaration of Independence (1.3)
- Articles of Confederation (1.3)
- State Constitutions (1.3)
- US Constitution (1.3)
- Constitutional Principles (1.1-2)
- Structure of the Constitution (1.1-2)
- Purpose & Intent of the Founders (1.3-5)
- Bill of Rights (1.5)
- Amendments After the Bill of Rights (1.1)
- Defining Federalism (1.2)
- Separation of National & State Governments (1.2)
- Cooperative Federalism (1.2)
- Fiscal Federalism (1.2)

### Primary/Expository Reading:

- *Federalist #10* (1.4)
- *US Constitution* (1.1-2)
- *McCulloch v. Maryland* Case Study (1.6)

**Vocabulary to Know:** available on class website

**Unit Exam: January 24. Exam will include multiple choice, current event, and a FRQ. Exam may also contain additional component(s).**