

Political Science 1 - Government of the U.S. and California

Midterm Review Notes

Students should know the meaning and application of these terms, as well as the relationship to other terms:

Politics

Suffrage

Natural law

Majority rule

Voter initiative, recalls, referendums

Democracy

- Direct and representative
- Constitutional

Republic

Other forms of government

- Monarchy
- Oligarchy
- Theocracy
- Anarchy

Distribution of power:

- Federalism
- Centralism (Unitary)

Separation of Powers

Checks and Balances

Judicial Review – Marbury vs. Madison

Articles of Confederation

Shay's Rebellion

Constitutional Convention

- Virginia Plan
- New Jersey Plan
- Bicameralism
- Connecticut Compromise
- North-South Compromise (three-fifths)
- Great Compromise

Popular sovereignty

Federalists and Anti-federalists

Outline of Constitution

- Article I (Legislature)
- Article II (Executive)
- Article III (Judicial)
- Article IV (States)
 - o Full faith & Credit
 - o Extradition
 - o Interstate compact
- Article V, VI, VII

Sections and clauses

- Commerce
- Supremacy
- War Powers
- Tax and Spend (borrow)
- "necessary and proper"

Express Powers

Implied Powers

Inherent Powers

Concurrent Powers

Reserved Powers

State Rights – McCulloch vs. Maryland

Federal Grants

- Block grants
- Project grants
- Categorical Formula grants

Federal Mandates

Bill of Rights

Amendments XI to XXVII

Electoral College

Civil Liberties

- Freedom of expression – Political Rights
- First Amendment freedoms
 - o Religion
 - Free exercise
 - Establishment
 - o Speech
 - Clear and present danger
 - Bad tendency test
 - Preferred position doctrine
 - Protected & nonprotected speech
 - Libel
 - Seditious libel
 - Slander
 - Obscenity
 - Fighting words (hate speech)
 - o Press
 - Libel
 - o Assembly
 - o Petition
- Habeas Corpus
- Ex Post Facto law
- Bill of attainder

Civil Rights – Equal Protection

- Due Process
- Fifth and 14th Amendments
- Substantive
- Procedural

Civil disobedience

Selective Incorporation

Equal Protection Clause

Citizenship rights

Naturalization
Dual citizenship
Property rights

- Contract clause
- Police powers
- Eminent domain
- Regulatory taking

Equality of Access (opportunity)
Equality of Results
Equality of starting condition
Equality between groups

- Gender gap

Exclusionary rule
Search warrants
Miranda Warning
Double jeopardy
De jure segregation

- Jim Crow laws
- Poll tax, literacy tests
- White primaries
- Restrictive covenants

De facto segregation
Racial gerrymandering
Affirmative action
Political ideology
Political Culture
Political Socialization
Liberals
Conservatives
Social Conservatives
Libertarians
Socialists
Public Opinion

- Attentive Public
- Latency
- Saliency

Public Opinion polling
Political Participation
Social movements
Interest groups (factions)

- Types: Economic
 - o Business, Trade, professional associations
 - o Labor
 - Open shop
 - Closed shop
 - Free riders
 - o Ideological or Single issue
 - o Public interest groups
 - o Other interest groups

Federal Register
Amicus Curiae

Lobbying

- Quid pro quo
- Iron triangle

Political Action Committees (PAC)
Issue Advocacy
527 organization
Civic duty
Voter registration

- National Voter Registration Act (1993)

Voter turnout

- Demographic & geographic factors
- Compulsory voting & automatic registration

Party identification
Political Party

- Winner-take-all system
- Single-member district
- Proportional representation
- National party convention
- Minor parties
 - o Ideological
 - o Protest
 - o Single Issue
 - o Splinter
 - o Libertarian
 - o Green
 - o Reform

Primaries

- Direct
- Open
- Closed

Caucus
Party realignment

- Gerrymandering
- Malapportionment

Campaign financing
Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act (BCRA 2002)

- Hard money
- Soft money
- Bundling
- Independent expenditure

Federal Election Commission (FEC)
Incumbency

- Safe seats
- Coattail effect
- Candidate appeal

Mass Media – newspaper, radio, TV, internet

- “Objective journalism”
- Investigatory journalism
- Agenda setting
- Issue framing

Here are possible short response questions. Students should be able to answer these in a minimum of one 4 to 5 sentence paragraph.

1. Identify four continuing problems with campaign finance.
2. What are three factors that limit media influence on public opinion?
3. Identify and discuss three reasons why voter turnout in the United States is lower than in other democracies.
4. Identify and discuss three institutional characteristics of political parties.
5. Should corporations and unions be unlimited in funding political parties and running ads? Why or why not? What is the Supreme Court's position on this issue?
6. Define the term political culture and explain how families are a significant source for political learning.