

Unit 2 Readings: Creating an American System

1. Creating an American Government, part I: Articles of Confederation – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 259-267 “America Under the Confederation,” all sections

Articles of Confederation	Northwest Ordinance of 1787	James Madison
Land Ordinance of 1785	Shays’s Rebellion	Alexander Hamilton

- What powers did the national Congress have (and not have) under the Articles of Confederation?
- What were the pros and cons of the Articles of Confederation?
- What challenges did the new territory present after the Revolutionary War? How did Congress deal with these challenges?
- Why did the ‘founding fathers’ decide to amend (and ultimately scrap) the Articles of Confederation?

2. Creating an American Government, part II: the U.S. Constitution – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 267-272 “A New Constitution,” all sections except “The Final Document”

Constitutional Convention	New Jersey Plan	federalism	separation of powers
Virginia Plan	electoral college	checks and balances	three-fifths compromise

- What kinds of men served as delegates to the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787?
- To what extent did the Constitution change the national government? (In other words, how different was the new government from the old one under the Articles? What changes were made? What stayed the same?)
- The Constitution is made up of compromises. Describe all of the compromises discussed in your reading. Be sure to note: What was the issue dividing the states? Which states/regions/classes were on which side? What was the final compromise?
- Explain federalism, checks & balances, separation of powers. Why were these ‘protections’ included in the Constitution?

3. Ratifying the Constitution: Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 273-282 “The Ratification Debate and the Origin of the Bill of Rights,” all sections

<i>The Federalist</i> papers	Anti-Federalists	English Bill of Rights (1689)
<i>Federalist</i> nos. 10 and 51	Bill of Rights	

- What methods & arguments did the Federalists use to convince the states to ratify the Constitution?
- What methods & arguments did the Anti-Federalists use to attempt to convince the states not to ratify?
- Why were the Federalists ultimately successful?
- Why was the Bill of Rights created and what is its purpose?

4. The Early Republic: Washington’s Administration & the Birth of Political Parties – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 295-301 “Politics in an Age of Passion” intro through “The Republican Party”

Hamilton’s financial program	“strict constructionists”	Neutrality Proclamation (1793)	Jay’s Treaty (1794)
Bank of the United States	Washington, D.C.	impressment	political parties
Federalists vs. Republicans (a.k.a. Democratic-Republicans)			Whiskey Rebellion (1794)

- Who was Alexander Hamilton and what were the five parts of his financial program for the nation?
- Why did Jefferson and Madison oppose Hamilton’s financial program? Which parts were the most contentious?
- How and why did the war between Britain and France divide American politicians?
- How and why did Washington’s actions in the Whiskey Rebellion divide American politicians?

- How and why were the first American political parties (Federalists and Republicans) formed? Who belonged to each party (both specific leaders and general followers)?

5. The Early Republic: Adams’s Administration & the Growth of Political Parties – DUE: _____
Give Me Liberty! – pp. 305-308 “The Adams Presidency” intro through “The Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions”

Farewell Address	quasi-war	Virginia & Kentucky Resolutions
XYZ Affair	Alien & Sedition Acts	

- What precedents did Washington set as he left office in 1797?
- How did foreign policy in the Adams administration influence domestic policy and contribute to the growth of political parties in the U.S.?

6. The Early Republic: Jefferson’s Administration & the Maturity of Political Parties – DUE: _____
Give Me Liberty! – p. 311 “Jefferson in Power” intro and pp. 312-314 “The Louisiana Purchase” and p. 317 “The Embargo”

Louisiana Purchase (1803)	the Embargo	Non-Intercourse Act
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- Jefferson was the first Republican president - how did he handle the transfer of power from the Federalists to Republicans?
- Why did Jefferson question his purchase of Louisiana - and why did he do it anyway, despite his misgivings?
- How did foreign affairs influence domestic policy in the Jefferson administration?

7. The Second War of Independence: Madison’s Administration & the War of 1812 – DUE: _____
Give Me Liberty! – pp. 317-318 “Madison and Pressure for War” and pp. 319-324 “Tecumseh’s Vision” through “The End of the Federalist Party”

Macon’s Bill No. 2	Tecumseh & Tenskwatawa	The Star-Spangled Banner	Battle of New Orleans
War Hawks	War of 1812	Treaty of Ghent	Hartford Convention

- How and why did the U.S. end up in another war with Great Britain in 1812?
- What were the effects of the war?
- What role did the War of 1812 play in the death of the Federalist party?

8. Work, Exchange, & Technology: the Market Revolution – DUE: _____
Give Me Liberty! – pp. 331-340 “A New Economy” all sections and pp. 340-350 “Market Society” intro through “The Rise of Nativism” and pp. 360-366 “The Limits of Prosperity” all sections

market revolution	Adams-Onís Treaty (1819)	Samuel Slater	“self-made man”
National Road	Cotton Kingdom	“outwork” system	“cult of domesticity”
steamboat, Robert Fulton	cotton gin, Eli Whitney	Lowell system	Workingmen’s Parties
Erie Canal	steel plow, John Deere	interchangeable parts	
telegraph, Samuel F.B. Morse	reaper, Cyrus McCormick	nativism, nativists	

- What was the market revolution? What were its causes and effects?
- How did transportation improvements influence the development of the American economy?
- How did communication improvements influence the development of the American economy?
- How did economic factors influence the desire and/or need for territorial expansion?
- How did new technology change work & production both in agriculture and in industry?
- Why did immigration increase in the 1840s-1850s? Who were these immigrants? What push/pull factors encouraged their migration?
- How did native-born Americans respond to this wave of immigration?

- How did Americans (of all races, genders, and classes) react to the economic changes of the early 19th century?

9. The Era of Good Feelings...and Some Bad Ones, Too – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 378-383 “Nationalism and Its Discontents” all sections and pp. 383-386 “The U.S. and the Latin American Wars of Independence” through “The Monroe Doctrine”

War of 1812	Second Bank of the United States	Era of Good Feelings
American System, Henry Clay	Panic of 1819	Missouri Compromise
tariff of 1816	<i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i>	Monroe Doctrine

- How did the nationalism inspired by the War of 1812 influence domestic policy?
- Why was a second Bank of the United States created, and what was its purpose?
- What were the causes & effects of the Panic of 1819?
- Why is Monroe’s time in office called the “Era of Good Feelings?”
- How and why did sectional tension replace party tension during the Era of Good Feelings?
- How and why did the Monroe Doctrine become central to American foreign policy?

10. The Marshall Court: The Last Breath of the Federalist Party – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – p. 312 “Judicial Review” and p. 351 “The Transformation of Law” and pp. 380-381 “The Politics of the Panic”

John Marshall	<i>Fletcher v. Peck</i>	<i>Commonwealth v. Hunt</i>
<i>Marbury v. Madison</i>	<i>Dartmouth College v. Woodward</i>	<i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i>
judicial review	<i>Gibbons v. Ogden</i>	“necessary and proper” clause

- What is judicial review and how did the *Marbury v. Madison* case establish this principle?
- How did *Fletcher v. Peck* extend the principle of judicial review?
- Explain the significance of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*.
- Explain the significance of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Gibbons v. Ogden*.
- Explain the significance of the Massachusetts Supreme Court’s decision in *Commonwealth v. Hunt*.
- Explain the significance of the Supreme Court’s decision in *McCulloch v. Maryland*.
- How did these decisions of the Marshall Court (all of the above except *Commonwealth v. Hunt*) influence the balance of power between the states and the federal government?

11. Creating a Mass Democracy – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 373-378 “The Triumph of Democracy” all sections except “The Dorr War”

Alexis de Tocqueville	<i>Democracy in America</i>	“penny press”	minstrel shows
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- How did property requirements for political participation change in the early 19th century?
- Who was Alexis de Tocqueville? What observations did he make about American politics and society?
- How did the “penny press” influence the expansion of the public sphere and political participation?
- What groups benefited from this expansion of democracy, and what groups were left out?
- How and why were certain groups purposely excluded from political participation?

12. The Age of Jackson: the Rise of the Common Man – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 387-388 “The Election of 1824” and pp. 390-391 “The Election of 1828” and pp. 391-404 “The Age of Jackson” all sections and “The Bank War and After” through “The Panic of 1837”

the “corrupt bargain”	nullification	Compromise Tariff of 1833	Jackson’s bank veto
the Democrat Party	<i>Exposition and Protest</i> , Calhoun	Indian Removal Act of 1830	“soft money” vs. “hard money”
the Whig Party		<i>Johnson v. M’Intosh</i>	
party machines	Webster-Hayne debates	<i>Cherokee Nation v. Georgia</i>	“pet banks”
“spoils system”	the Nullification Crisis	<i>Worcester v. Georgia</i>	Specie Circular

"tariff of abominations"	Force Bill	Trail of Tears	Panic of 1837
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- Why did Jackson supporters accuse Adams and Clay of making a "corrupt bargain" in 1824?
- Describe the growth and the characteristics of the Democratic and Whig parties. Who were their leaders? What was their position on the major issues of the period? What types of people (and what regions) tended to support each party? (Making a t-chart in your notes might be useful...)
- How and why did the Democrat party build "political machines?"
- What was the purpose of Jackson's "rotation in office" system?
- Why did South Carolina oppose the tariffs of 1828 and 1832?
- Explain the doctrine of nullification and the Nullification Crisis of 1833. How was the crisis resolved?
- How and why did Jackson remove native tribes from most territory east of the Mississippi River?
- Why did Jackson veto the renewal of the Bank of the United States?
- What is the difference between "hard money" and "soft money?" Who was likely to support each?
- How did Jackson's domestic policies contribute to the causes of the Panic of 1837?

13. Creating an American Identity: Individualism – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 351-360 "The Free Individual" all sections

"manifest destiny"	Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The American Scholar"	the Second Great Awakening
transcendentalists	Henry David Thoreau, <i>Walden</i>	Charles Grandison Finney

- How did westward migration, urban development, and early industrialization contribute to the creation of American individualism?
- Who were the transcendentalists and how did they interpret this idea of individualism?
- Explain Emerson and Thoreau's main contributions to transcendentalism and individualism.
- What were the causes & effects of the Second Great Awakening?

14. Creating a Perfect America: Antebellum Reform – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 455-465 "The Reform Impulse" all sections and pp.

the Shakers, Mother Ann Lee	eugenics	Second Great Awakening	American Temperance Society
the Mormons, Joseph Smith	Brook Farm, transcendentalists	"perfectionism"	common schools
Oneida, John Humphrey Noyes	New Harmony, Robert Owen	"burned-over districts"	Horace Mann

- What caused this spirit of reform in the 19th century?
- Why did some Americans attempt to create utopian societies?
- Describe the origins and characteristics of the utopian societies discussed. What common characteristics did many of these societies share?
- How did the Second Great Awakening influence the reform movements of the 19th century?
- Why did some Americans oppose the reform spirit of the 19th century?
- Explain the purpose of the movement to establish common schools and evaluate its success.

15. Creating a Female Identity: the Origins of American Feminism – DUE: _____

Give Me Liberty! – pp. 476-486 "The Origins of Feminism" all sections

Dorothea Dix	Elizabeth Cady Stanton	Seneca Falls Convention of 1848	Sojourner Truth
Angelina & Sarah Grimké	Lucretia Mott	Declaration of Sentiments	Susan B. Anthony

- How did the Second Great Awakening and the reform movements of the 19th century open the public sphere to women?
- How did the abolitionist movement contribute to the creation of a women's movement?
- What were the goals of the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848 and its Declaration of Sentiments?
- Note the different elements of feminism: political/legal equality, social equality, economic equality - how did women differ in their goals for each of these elements?

16. Creating an American Identity: American Exceptionalism

Give Me Liberty! – p. 204 “An Asylum for Mankind” and pp. 282-287 “National Identity” through “Blacks and the Republic” and p. 288 “Principles of Freedom”

American exceptionalism	assimilation	<i>Letters from an American Farmer</i> , Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur
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- What is American exceptionalism? What events and ideologies have contributed to this idea?
- When the Constitution began with “We the People” - who was included in this collective “we?”
- Who was not included in “We the People?” How and why were they excluded?
- How did Crèvecoeur describe “the American” in his *Letters from an American Farmer*?
- How and why did the concept of race evolve throughout the 17th, 18th, and early 19th centuries?