



Constitutional Foundations and Principles of Government

Featured Resources

The Constitution and Constitutional Foundations

[Constitution Clips](#): Make the U.S. Constitution come alive with video clips from C-SPAN's Video Library of the Constitution in action.

- On This Day: [Constitution Day](#) (5 Clips)
- Video Clip: [How to Read the Constitution](#) (2:39)
- Lesson Plan: [The Influence of the Declaration of Independence on the Constitution](#) (6 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [The Constitutional Convention](#) (8 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Constitution Scavenger Hunt](#) (1 Clip with activities)
- Lesson Plan: [The Purposes of Government](#) (5 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Enumerated and Implied Powers of Congress](#) (1 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Predecessors to the Bill of Rights](#) (6 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Thomas Paine and Common Sense](#) (1:37)
- Lesson Plan: [The Bill of Rights in Modern Times](#) (2 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [How Should the Constitution be Interpreted?](#) (6 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [The Federalist Papers](#) (3 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Federalist 10](#) (3 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Federalist 51](#) (6 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Federalist 70](#) (2 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Federalist 78](#) (1 Clip)
- Video Clip: [Judge Kavanaugh on the Federalist Papers](#) (2:45)
- Video Clip: [The Great Compromise](#) (3:01)
- Video Clip: [Origins for the idea of Separation of Powers](#) (:58)
- Video Clip: [The Evolution of the Presidential Office](#) (4:44)
- Bell Ringer: [Justice Elena Kagan on Constitutional Interpretation](#) (4:45)
- Bell Ringer: [The Articles of Confederation: Overview and Power](#) (3:01)
- Bell Ringer: [The Articles of Confederation and Foreign Policy](#) (3:37)
- Bell Ringer: [Benjamin Franklin: His Ideas and Contributions](#) (16:12)
- Bell Ringer: [We the People](#) (1:50)
- Bell Ringer: [Philosopher John Locke](#) (3:38)
- Bell Ringer: [Philosopher David Hume](#) (4:23)
- Bell Ringer: [Adam Smith and the Wealth of Nations](#) (2:28)
- Bell Ringer: [Montesquieu](#) (4:17)
- Bell Ringer: [Philosophers Edmund Burke and Thomas Paine](#) (2:59)

- Bell Ringer: [Thomas Paine's Common Sense](#) (4:10)
- Bell Ringer: [The Struggle between Individual Liberty and the Common Good](#) (5:21)
- Bell Ringer: [Ways to Change the Constitution](#) (2:04)
- Bell Ringer: [Direct Democracy, Populism and the Constitution](#) (1:53)
- Bell Ringer: [The Writ of Habeas Corpus and the Constitution](#) (2 Clips)
- Bell Ringer: [The Bill of Rights](#) (7:11)

Principles of Democracy

- Lesson Plan: [Introduction to the Principles of Democracy](#) (7 Clips)
- Lesson Plan: [Federalism in the United States](#) (8 Clips)
- Bell Ringer: [The Benefits of Federalist Systems of Government](#) (4:52)
- Lesson Plan: [Checks and Balances](#) (10 Clips)
 - Lesson Plan: [Presidential Pardons](#) (11 Clips)
 - Lesson Plan: [Congress' Power of Impeachment](#) (9 Clips)
 - Lesson Plan: [Congressional Oversight of the Executive Branch](#) (7 Clips)
 - Bell Ringer: [The Constitutional Foundation for Presidential Appointments](#) (5:22)
 - Bell Ringer: [The Senate's Power to Ratify Treaties](#) (5:27)
 - Bell Ringer: [Supreme Court Nomination Process](#) (3:27)
 - Bell Ringer: [Judicial Review and Federalist 78](#) (4:36)
- Lesson Plan: [Landmark Supreme Court Case: Marbury v Madison](#) (4 Clips)
- Bell Ringer: [Separation of Powers and Individual Liberties](#) (3:19)
- Video Clip: [Separation of Powers and the Constitution](#) (4:30)
- Bell Ringer: [Federalism and Separation of Powers](#) (2:03)
- Lesson Plan: [The Expansion of Voting in the United States](#) (10 Clips)
- Bell Ringer: [Ensuring the Rule of Law](#) (3:46)
- Bell Ringer: [Criminal Prosecution and the Rule of Law](#) (3:31)
- Bell Ringer: [Rule of Law, Equal Protection and Rights](#) (2:40)
- Bell Ringer: [Supreme Court Justices on the Rule of Law](#) (8:14)
- Bell Ringer: [Justice Ginsburg and the Expansion of Equal Protection](#) (1:44)
- Lesson Plan: [Students' Rights](#) (7 Clips)
- Bell Ringer: [Minority Rights & Majority Rule](#) (8:42)
- Lesson Plan: [Senate Debate Analysis- Due Process Rights](#) (3 Clips)
- Bell Ringer: [Due Process Protections and Imprisonment](#) (3:18)
- Lesson Plan: [Rights of the Accused](#) (3:34)

Additional Constitutional resources can be found under the [Constitutional Foundations topic](#) on the C-SPAN Classroom website.