

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (Fall 2008) -- Exam #1 Study Guide



Your exam will be on **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2**. The exam will be drawn from all lectures and assigned reading to date (*Logic*, Chapter 1-3, 6-7 [including the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and Federalist 10 and 51] and *The Logic of Politics under Divided Government*. The exam will consist of various objective questions (i.e., multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer, true-false, etc.) as well as an essay. The following list offers significant guidance in studying for this exam. Keep in mind that this is a *guide*, not an exhaustive list, although I have tried to be thorough. For each you should understand both what the term/concept is and why it is significant.

Collective Action	Prisoners' Dilemma	Tragedy of the Commons
Transaction Costs	Public Goods	Externalities
Free-Rider Problem	Principal-Agents	Direct Democracy
Representative Democracy (Republic)	Unitary, Confederal, Federal	Constitution (General Definition)
Seven Years (French & Indian) War	Articles of Confederation	Shays's Rebellion
Virginia and New Jersey Plans	Key Compromises of Constitutional Convention	Key Principles of US Constitution
Article I, Section 8	Necessary and Proper (Elastic) Clause	Commerce Clause
Federalists and Anti-Federalists	Constitutional Amendment Process	Informal Means of Amendment
Bill of Rights	27 th Amendment	<i>Marbury v. Madison</i>
Logrolling	Exclusive, Reserved, and Concurrent Powers	Full Faith and Credit Clause
Dual Federalism	Cooperative Federalism	<i>McCulloch v. Maryland</i>
<i>Dred Scott v. Sandford</i>	<i>Plessey v. Ferguson</i>	Federal (Unfunded) Mandates
Categorical and Block Grants	Functions of Congress	Tenth Amendment
Constitutional Differences (House & Senate)	Operational Differences (House & Senate)	Key Leaders in the House and Senate ¹
Open, Closed, Restrictive Rule (House)	Filibuster and Cloture	Advice and Consent
Standing Committee	Conference Committee	Joint Committee
Select or Special Committee	Process of Bill Becoming a Law	Riders
Mark Up	Influences on Members Voting Behavior	Delegate v. Trustee
Unanimous Consent	Congressional Support Organizations	Gerrymandering
Discharge Petition	Veto and Override	Pocket Veto
Ticket-Splitting	Authorization and Appropriations	Constitutional Powers of President
Executive Order	Reasons for Rise of Presidential Power	War Powers Act (1973)
Executive Office of the President	(Non-Constitutional) Sources of Presidential Power	Cabinet
Executive Privilege	"Going Public"	Roles of the President
Signing Statements	"Coattails"	"Take Care" Clause

ESSAY: You will be required to answer ONE essay question on the exam. You will have limited choice among questions. The questions will be both objective and analytical in focus (i.e., to explain a particular topic and to offer a reasoned opinion on that topic). An example of a likely essay question would be:

SAMPLE QUESTION: The Framers of the Constitution sought to balance order with liberty. How did they shape the new institutions of government to achieve this end? Did they successfully achieve their goals, or were there shortcomings in their constitutional structure?