



Unit III - Citizenship and American Government

Chapter 1 – Citizenship and Responsibility

Section 2 – The Role of Government



What You Will Learn to Do

Understand what it means to be a citizen of the United States, a representative democracy



Objectives

Discuss the role of government



Key Terms

- Providence -** The care, guardianship and control exercised by a deity
- Classical Republicanism -** A theory that holds that the best kind of government is one that promotes the common welfare instead of the interests of one class of citizens
- Civic virtue -** The dedication of citizens to the common good, even at the cost of their individual interests



Key Terms

Established Religion -

A religion supported by the state through tax money

Judeo-Christian -

Relating to beliefs and practices that have their historical roots in Judaism and Christianity

Private Morality -

The principles of virtue as expressed in Judeo-Christian teachings



Key Terms

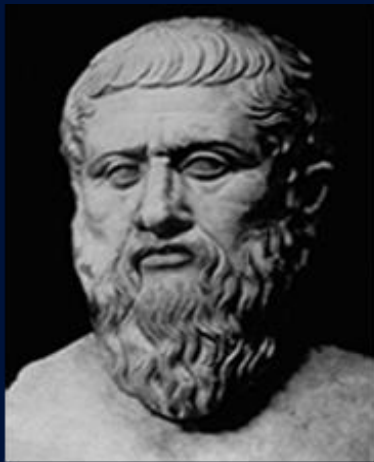
Separation of Powers -

The division of the government into executive, legislative and judicial branches

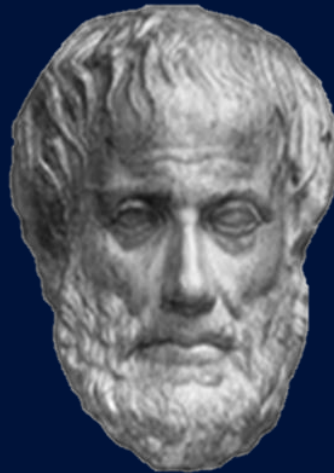


The Role of Government

- Our Founders were well versed in history.
- They drew from **Greek philosophers'** writings about government.



Plato



Aristotle



Socrates



The Role of Government

Greeks described three types of government:

Monarchy

Rule by One



Aristocracy

Rule by a Few



Democracy

Rule by Many





The Role of Government

Our founders were also familiar with their contemporary political thinkers.



During the European “Age of Enlightenment”, reason and science were celebrated and embraced.



The Role of Government

The Founders were also influenced by their **Judeo-Christian** religious tradition.

- Many different strands of religious thought, but took the Bible seriously and spoke of providence
- The constitutional system reflected these influences





The Role of Government

- The Founders turned to the Roman Republic (509 BC – 27 BC) as one of the models.
- It lasted 500 years (before the autocratic Roman Empire) and set the model for classical republicanism, citizens working together for the common good.





The Role of Government



Cincinnatus

Known for embodying the idea of civic virtue: a willingness to put public service ahead of making money or tending to family



The Role of Government



Cincinnatus

- Returned to his farm after service as a Roman consul
- George Washington was said to have followed the example of Cincinnatus' service ethic



Classical Republicanism

American view to making classical republicanism work:

- Civic virtue
- Moral education
- Small, uniform communities



Classical Republicanism

- Favored small uniform communities
 - _ Everyone knew everyone
 - _ No one was richer or poorer
 - _ Everyone shared a common religion
- Limitations
 - _ Americans didn't worship as Romans
 - _ Didn't want state or established religion



Classical Republicanism

First Amendment 1791:

“Congress will make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...”



Early Colonial America



- Embraced its diversity and uniqueness of individuals
- Sought economic opportunity in a vast country
- Wanted an expandable system of government



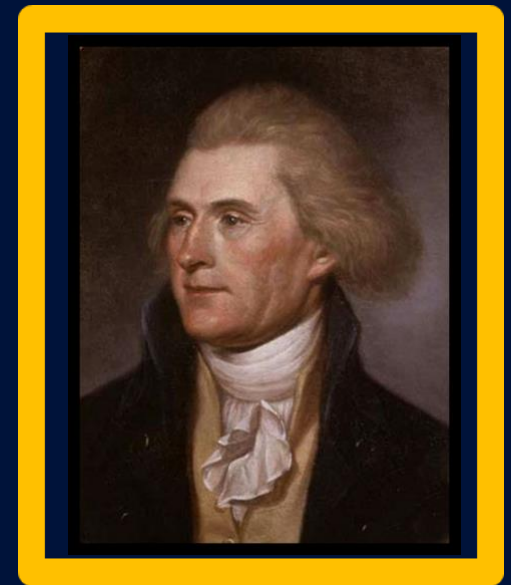
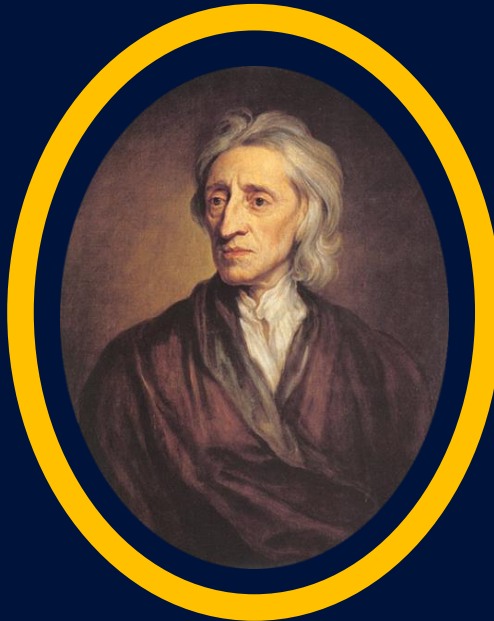
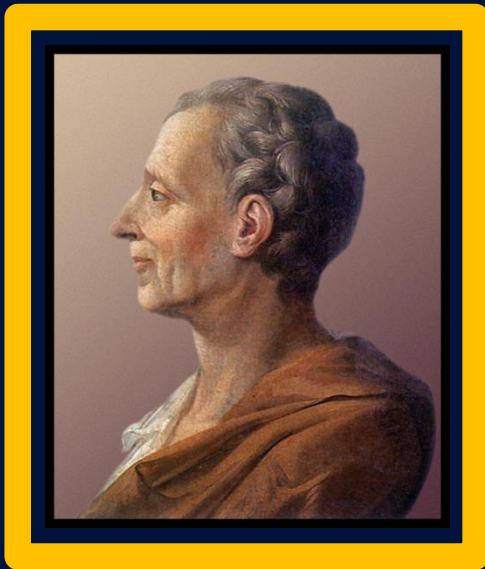


Judeo-Christian Heritage

- Greatly influenced Founders
- “Private morality” over “Public virtue”
- Recognizing each individual as having a soul, dignity, worth and personal rights



Contemporary Influencers



James Madison, Father of the Constitution
Baron de Montesquieu
Created concept including both a republic and
Proposed philosophy of "mixed government"
a democracy



Contemporary Influencers

Madison's Constitutional Republicanism

Combining...

Democracy

People administer government themselves, so it only works on a small scale

Republic

People's representatives administer government, so it works on a broader scale



Contemporary Influencers



**The Federal
Constitutional Republic**

A government deriving its power from the people through **elected representatives** while protecting the **rights of the people** with a series of **written restrictions**



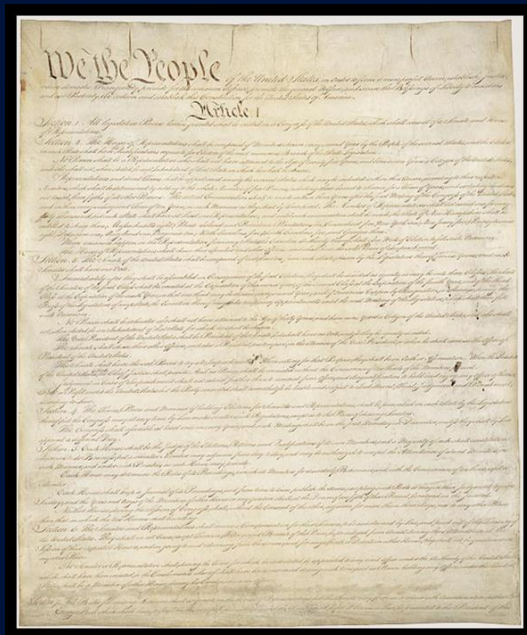
Constitutional Convention of 1787

- Madison urged governmental support of citizens' civic virtue.
- Introduced systems of checks and balances guaranteeing separation of powers.



Constitutional Convention of 1787

The result of various influences and schools of thought was our **United States Constitution**.



- As an heir to this Constitutional system, your rights are ensured.
- You have a responsibility to protect them for yourself and others.



Ordinary Citizens Defend the Country on 9/11

- Armed forces have a special responsibility for defending the United States, but not the sole responsibility.
- Occasionally , ordinary citizens step up to extraordinary challenges to protect the country.



Check On Learning Questions



CPS Lesson
Questions 5 - 6



Ordinary Citizens Defend the Country on 9/11



Terrorists hijacked four U.S. commercial aircraft and turn them into guided missiles.



Ordinary Citizens Defend the Country on 9/11



Two planes destroyed the World Trade Center.



A third plane hit the Pentagon. There were nearly 3,000 deaths.



Ordinary Citizens Defend the Country on 9/11



Passengers on passenger flights said it was impossible, if they didn't wait they would be in the World Trade Center for their lives. They decided to take action to stop the hijackers.



Ordinary Citizens Defend the Country on 9/11



United Flight 93

Sept. 11, 2001

Newark to
San Francisco

Timeline:

9:28am – Hijackers took over flight

9:32am – Hijackers announced there is a bomb on board (a lie to explain the course change)

No one knows the intended target of the plane.



Ordinary Citizens Defend the Country on 9/11



United Flight 93

Sept. 11, 2001
Newark to
San Francisco

Timeline:

9:57am – Passengers try to break through the cockpit door to take back the plane and were seconds away from success

Hijacker pilot rolls, climbs and dives plane to throw the passengers and crew off



Ordinary Citizens Defend the Country on 9/11



United Flight 93

Sept. 11, 2001

Newark to

San Francisco

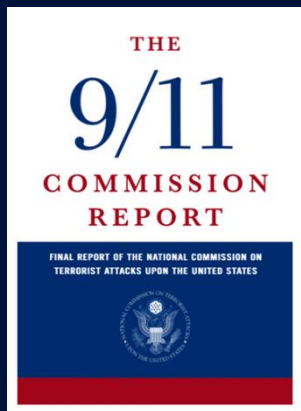
Timeline:

10:03am – Hijacker pilot nosedives and plane crashes into field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania





Ordinary Citizens Defend the Country on 9/11



Pilot's objective: "...crash his airliner into symbols of the American Public."

"He was defeated by the unarmed, alerted passengers of United 93."

"The nation owes a debt to the passengers of United 93. Their action saved the lives of countless others and may have saved either the U.S. Capitol or the White House."



Conclusion

Our federal constitutional republic was developed to encourage people to act as civic-minded good citizens. Inherent in citizenship are rights and responsibilities that should not be taken for granted.





Questions?

