

Crash Course #8:

1. **Articles of Confederation**

- a. First constitution of the US
- b. Poor in its abilities
  - i. Required 9/13 states approval to make decisions
    - 1. Essentially impossible to do anything
  - ii. Congress limited in its abilities
    - 1. They could declare war, conduct foreign affairs, and make treaties
  - iii. The congress could collect money but not taxes
  - iv. They could be amended but 13/13 approval
  - v. It was poor to avoid tyranny
- c. The colonists did win under the Articles of Confederation

2. The Claiming of **Ohio**

- a. They took the land from the native Indians
  - i. Many treaties lead the Indians giving the Americans the land North of the Ohio river
- b. **Northwest ordinance of 1787** started process to create 5 new states
  - i. Acknowledged that American Indians had the land
  - ii. Ordinance outlawed slavery in the new states

3. Articles of Confederation replaced and rethought

- a. **Shays Rebellion** caused people to rethink the poor tax collecting congress
- b. People with government bonds were afraid that they wouldn't get their money back
- c. Meeting in **Annapolis in 1786** trying to improve national trade
  - i. Only 6 states showed
  - ii. Agreed to meet next year in Philadelphia to revise Articles
  - iii. Rewrote the Articles, now was the **Constitution**

4. The Constitution of the United States

- a. It was agreed that the government should have executive, judicial, and legislative power
- b. Should be Republican with representatives
- c. Wanted a middle ground of Democracy and government
- d. 2 plans for how states should be represented
  - i. **Virginia Plan** proposed the idea that each state should have 2 houses and be represented based on their population
  - ii. **The New Jersey Plan** called for single house and equal representation for each state
- e. Compromise made between the two plans
  - i. 2 houses created

- ii. **First House of Representatives** with representation proportional to each state's population
  - iii. The other house, called the **Senate** with two members from each state
- 5. Slaves and the Constitution
  - a. The slaves at the time made the House of Representatives be challenged
    - i. People who had many slaves wanted them to count towards their population
    - ii. People without wanted it to not be counted
  - b. Solved with the **3/5ths Compromise** having population be all whites plus  $\frac{3}{5}$  everything else
  - c. Escaped slaves must be returned to their masters
- 6. Tyranny Protection
  - a. Checks and balances established to make it so that the executive, judicial, and legislative branches all have the upper and lower hand
  - b. **Federalism** is the idea that governmental authority rests in the national and state governments
  - c. Also they wanted to protect against too much Democracy
    - i. The idea that the poor would vote someone too radical
    - ii. This instituted the idea of senators
- 7. The Fight for the Constitution
  - a. 9/13 states were required to approve of the constitution
    - i. 85 essays were written for the fight for the constitution
      - 1. Called the **Federalist Papers**
    - ii. Proved why a strong national government is good and not tyrannical
- 8. **Anti-Federalists**
  - a. Common people didn't want a government controlled by the wealthy
  - b. State governments were more appealing to the common because they were more responsive

- 1. Supporters of a Strong National Government (160-161)
  - a. **Confederates** wanted Revolutionary War to separate them from tyranny
    - i. Now they want power to the states
  - b. Wealthy calling for a more controlling government to deal with problems
  - c. Some of the problems that were being faced were:
    - i. Manufactures want a universal tax on goods
    - ii. Merchants want uniform policies as well
    - iii. Land speculators want Indians out
    - iv. People wanted the inflation to stop
    - v. Property owners wanted mob protection *Etc...*
  - d. Deep sense of rights or safety
- 2. **Alexander Hamilton** (161)

- a. Conflicts between liberty and order increasing
  - b. Universal need for change in Confederation
    - i. Most really want increase in taxing power
  - c. Alexander Hamilton upset with articles
    - i. Wants the Articles out
    - ii. Aggress with other States to have a convention in Philadelphia over fixing the articles
  - d. Shays rebellion causes Washington to go to convention, bringing more attention
3. **The Founding Fathers** (162)
- a. The 55 men that attended meetings in Philadelphia over the Articles were the Founding Fathers
    - i. Represented the interests of the country
  - b. Washington watched over the meetings
  - c. Agreed that each state to have single vote
    - i. Majority over unanimity
4. **The Virginia Plan** (162)
- a. Took **James Madison's** idea of national government
  - b. The premise was a national legislature consisting of 2 houses
    - i. Lower house had representatives put in based on state population
    - ii. Upper house elected by the lower house and the representation didn't matter
  - c. The **New Jersey Plan** was proposed by **William Patterson**
    - i. One house legislature
    - ii. Each state would have equal representation
    - iii. Ultimately rid but still kept in mind
5. **The Great Compromise** (163)
- a. Solved the problem of representation
    - i. Lower house determined by population plus  $\frac{3}{5}$  slave and other population
    - ii. Upper house equally represented with 2 delegates per state
  - b. Legislature could not tax exports
  - c. 10\$ a head per slave no matter what
  - d. These were used to win the south in favor of the new constitution
6. **The Question of Sovereignty** (163-166)
- a. The Question was if the states and the central government sovereign all, who had the ultimate power?
  - b. Answer was that neither had true sovereignty because the people had that
  - c. Government was to have the power to tax, regulate commerce, control the currency, and to pass laws
  - d. Also they solved the problem of a strong government
    - i. The people believed to rid tyranny, they must keep the government close
7. **Separation of Powers** (166)
- a. Idea of each branch being able to check each other
    - i. **Checks and Balances**

- b. The checks and balances along with the federal system of power in both the state and the nation allowed for the idea of tyranny to be less likely
  - c. It also protected against tyranny from the people
- 8. **The Federalist Papers** (167)
  - a. Franklin and Washington were on the federal side
    - i. Coined themselves "**The Federalists**"
  - b. Writers such as Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, and John Jay wrote many essays promoting the constitution
- 9. **The Antifederalists** (167)
  - a. Critics of the Federalist Papers
  - b. Thought this would only bring chaos
  - c. Didn't like idea of strong central government
  - d. Saw that the Constitution lacked **Bill of Rights**
- 10. Debating the Constitution (167)
  - a. Federalists afraid of disorder which was common to the Articles
  - b. Antifederalists afraid of concentrated power in a central government
  - c. Constitution eventually won over the Articles
    - i. Succeeded 9 out of 13 and so it was theoretically possible
  - d. They needed New York and Virginia
    - i. Eventually they joined too
- 11. **The Bill of Rights** (168)
  - a. Needed a bill of rights
    - i. Was made by making 10 amendments to the constitution
    - ii. First 9 preventing congress from interfering with basic rights
    - iii. 10th gave the states all the powers that weren't already held
- 12. The Cabinet (168)
  - a. First congress created the departments for the **state, treasury, and war**
  - b. Also they created the attorney general and postmaster general
  - c. These new cabinets solved initial issues and had made somewhat peace
- 13. Assuming the Debt (169)
  - a. Alexander Hamilton believed that the government needed a happy ruling class
    - i. Needed the support of the rich
    - ii. Wanted to give them possible riches to make them support him
  - b. Took public debt and made it so that the states would pay it
  - c. Also he wanted to create a national bank
- 14. Hamilton's Report on Manufacturing (169)
  - a. Proposed 2 new kinds of taxes
    - i. Tax on distillers
    - ii. Tax on imports
  - b. Protect manufacturing industry
- 15. Bank of the United States (170)
  - a. Alexander's idea to build a national bank went against the constitution
    - i. It was finally agreed upon after debate

- b. The bank began in 1791
    - i. Restored public credit
  - c. Most people benefited from the banks
    - i. Small farmers didn't find it appealing because they paid more taxes
- 16. Establishment of the **Federalist Party** (1790)
  - a. Madison believed that federalists had created the worst possible party
  - b. Trying only to benefit themselves through others
- 17. The formation of the **Republican Party** (1791)
  - a. Opposers of Federalist party wanted to form their own party
    - i. Called themselves the Republican Party
  - b. Were going above and beyond to support their ideas
    - i. Believed that this was in the best interests of the people
- 18. Differences over the **French Revolution** (1792)
  - a. Federalists were horrified
  - b. Republicans were understanding
  - c. Federalists were more powerful in the Northeast
    - i. Republicans more powerful in the South
- 19. **Whiskey Rebellion** (1794)
  - a. West not tied with government too well
    - i. Farmers are upset over taxes and want to revolt
  - b. In 1794, farmers in western Philadelphia refused to pay the Whiskey tax
    - i. Much like the Stamp Act, they harassed the tax collectors
  - c. Washington called upon 15,000 troops and marched them into Pittsburg
    - i. This destroyed the rebellion
- 20. Indians and the Constitution (1792)
  - a. Indians in the Northwest and Southwest were causing problems
    - i. Fighting back against Republican land claims
  - b. Question of who should control the west offered
  - c. The problem that the Indians weren't involved in the Constitution a big deal
  - d. Indian tribes not represented in the governmental system
- 21. Citizen Genet (1793)
  - a. **Edmond Genet** wanted to have America manufacture French warships
    - i. This was going against the Neutrality Act
  - b. Washington demanded that he leave
  - c. The second test was when Britain was taking their trading ships
    - i. Canada was also said to have given a war speech to the Indians
- 22. **Jay's Treaty** (1794)
  - a. Promoted to commissioner to England
  - b. Instructed to get compensation and to create a new treaty
  - c. His treaty prevented a war and justified America's hold on the northwest
    - i. Still, there was more to be done to improve it
- 23. **Pinckney's Treaty** (1794)
  - a. Jay's Treaty made a treaty with Spain possible

- i. Spain was afraid that Britain and the US would join to claim North America
    - b. He managed to get a lot from the Spanish
      - i. He got across the idea that the Americans had the right to the Mississippi
      - ii. He re negotiated the northern boundary of Florida
      - iii. He also managed to make Spanish authorities have to check the Indians so they couldn't launch raids across the border
24. Washington's Farewell address (175)
- a. George Washington wanted to retire from office in 1797
  - b. Showed his feelings for the Republicans
  - c. Hamilton could not be the one to run for presidency
    - i. He had created too many enemies in his time
    - ii. Instead they chose **John Adams**
  - d. He fought against Thomas Jefferson and won
25. Divided Federalists
- a. Republicans did not like John Adams
  - b. Hamilton still remained the most prominent figure
26. The **XYZ Affair** (176)
- a. When American officials arrived in Paris, a fee was forced
  - b. Adams sent a message to congress about the insults
    - i. This escalated into a declaration for war
  - c. The names of the three officials were changed to x, y, and z
27. The **Quasi War** (176)
- a. Adams cut off all trade with France
  - b. New navy was created to help seize French ships
  - c. Another commission was sent in 1800 and it was successful
    - i. New treaty established
    - ii. Called the Quasi War
28. **Alien and Sedition Acts** (176)
- a. The Alien Act made Aliens have a harder time becoming citizens
  - b. The Sedition Act allowed the government to prosecute those who engaged in sedition against the government
    - i. The definition of sedition was various and so this allowed for the government to prosecute most people
  - c. Republicans saw this as the federalists trying to destroy them
29. Virginia and Kentucky resolutions (177)
- a. Republicans placed their opinions on the state legislatures
  - b. They argued that the states could not pass this
    - i. They didn't win popular support and it was ignored by other states
  - c. By the 1790's, the Republicans and the Federalists were in deep dispute
30. The **Election of 1800** (177)
- a. One of the worst elections in history
  - b. Same representatives but the supporters were ferral

- i. Called Jefferson dangerous and called his followers wild men
    - ii. The Republicans called Adams a tyrant and accused the federalists of trying to enslave the people
  - c. Ultimately, Jefferson won
- 31. The **Judiciary Act** of 1801
  - a. This act reduced the amount of supreme court justices by 1
    - i. Increased the amount of judges in general
  - b. Republicans finally happy
    - i. Believed they saved the nation from tyranny