

End of Course Exam Study Checklist

Citizenship

1. How is a resident alien different from an immigrant?
2. What is the difference between law of blood & law of soil?
3. What is the Selective Service System?
4. How does the 14th amendment define a U.S. citizen?
5. What is the difference between an obligation/duty & a responsibility?
6. What are the five obligations/duties of a US citizen?
7. What are the two main responsibilities of a US citizen?
8. Why is it important for citizens to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities of citizenship?
9. Why is it important to be an active participant in society and government?
10. What is the process of becoming a US citizen called?
11. Describe the legal process it takes to become a naturalized citizen?
12. Why is it important for naturalized citizens to go through the legal process?

Forms and Systems of Government

13. What is a Prime Minister?
Explain the structure and/or philosophies of the following forms of government:

14. Direct Democracy
15. Representative Democracy/Republic
16. Socialism
17. Communism
18. Absolute Monarchy
19. Limited Monarchy
20. Oligarchy
21. Autocracy

Explain the organizational structure of the following systems of government:

22. Parliamentary
23. Federal
24. Confederal
25. Unitary

Foundations of American Democracy

Define the following vocabulary words:

26. Self-Government
27. Assent
28. Oppression
29. Self-evident
30. Tyranny
31. Social Contract
32. Explain John Locke's theory of natural rights/law.
33. What does the phrase "natural rights" mean?
34. Describe Montesquieu's theory of separation of powers.
35. How did Montesquieu's idea of separation of powers influence our founding fathers?
36. Compare Locke's natural law theory with that of Jefferson's natural rights listed in the D.O.I.

37. What are the important ideas within the Magna Carta and how did they impact our founding fathers' idea of government?

38. Explain the significance of the English Bill of Rights and how it impacted the Constitution.

39. What impact did the Mayflower Compact have on our founding fathers idea of government?

40. What was Common Sense and what impact did it have on our founding fathers?

41. What was the main reason the colonists become increasingly unhappy with the British Government? (Hint: "no taxation without representation!")

42. How did the British government respond when colonists in Boston became rebellious to their policies?

43. What does it mean in the D.O.I. by "People are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights?"

44. What does it mean in the D.O.I when it says "Governments are instituted among men to secure these rights?"

45. What does it mean in the D.O.I when it says "Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed?"

46. What does it mean in the D.O.I when it says "Whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it?"

47. What is the "rule of law"?

Explain why the following complaints are listed in the Declaration of Independence.

48. Imposing taxes without their assent

49. Suspending trial by jury

50. Limiting the power of the judges

51. Quartering soldiers

52. Dissolving legislatures (representative houses)

The United States Constitution

Articles of Confederation

53. There are six main weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation. What are they?

54. What occurred during Shay's Rebellion?

55. Why did the Articles of Confederation need to be replaced?

Federalists and Anti-Federalists

56. Who were the Federalists and what was their viewpoint on ratifying the Constitution?

57. Who were the Anti-Federalists and what was their viewpoint on ratifying the Constitution?

58. What was to be added for the Anti-Federalists to ratify the Constitution? Why did they want this added?

59. What are the Federalist Papers?

60. What are the Anti-Federalist Papers?

Preamble to the Constitution

61. What is the purpose of the Preamble to the Constitution?

62. What is the significance of "We the People?"

63. Which goal of the Preamble to U.S. Constitution states that the government should be a better union of states than the one created under the Articles of Confederation?

64. Which goal of the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution states that the government should work to protect the freedoms of the people and keep things fair?
65. Which goal of the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution states that the government should work to protect the country from its enemies?
66. Which goal of the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution states that the government should preserve peace within the country?
67. Which goal in the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution states that the freedom should be protected now and for future generations?
68. Which goal in the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution states that government should work to make things better for everyone in the U.S.?
69. What does the word ordain mean?

The Constitution

70. How did the Constitution fix some of the weaknesses in the articles of Confederation?
71. What is the first step to amend the U.S. Constitution?
72. What is the second step to amend the U.S. Constitution?
73. What is the Supremacy Clause?
74. Why did the founding fathers make it difficult to amend the Constitution?

The Bill of Rights and Amendments

Bill of Rights

75. What are the Bill of Rights?
76. What are the five freedoms protected by the First Amendment?
77. What does protection from cruel and unusual punishment mean? Give an example of each.
78. What is eminent domain?
79. When someone says they are “pleading the fifth”, what do they mean?
80. What does the “right to bear arms” mean?
81. What does it mean when it says you have the “right to legal counsel”?
82. What does it mean that citizens are protected from unreasonable “searches and seizures”?
83. What does it mean that citizens have the right to a “trial by jury”?
84. The 9th amendment talks about “unenumerated rights.” What does that mean?
85. What is due process?
86. What is double jeopardy?
87. What was the purpose of the 10th amendment?

Other Amendments

88. What does the 14th amendment mean when we say “equal protection under the law”?
89. How did the 14th amendment affect “states’ rights”?
90. What are Civil Rights?
91. What does suffrage mean?
92. What rights are outlined in the 13th and 15th amendment and who gained those rights?

93. What rights are outlined in the 19th amendment and who gained those rights?
94. What rights are outlined in the 24th amendment and who gained those rights?
95. What rights are outlined in the 26th amendment and who gained those rights?
96. All of the “other amendments” (13, 14, 15, 19, 24, and 26) were made for specific reasons. What do they all have in common?
97. What is one way these “other amendments” (13, 14, 15, 19, 24, and 26) have had an impact on social movements?
98. What is one way these “other amendments” (13, 14, 15, 19, 24, and 26) have had an impact on participation in the political process?

Legislative Branch

99. What is the structure of the Legislative Branch according to Article I of the Constitution?
100. What does bi-cameral mean?
101. What is the main role/responsibility of Congress? What are these also known as?
102. Who is the leader of the House of Representatives?
103. What are the requirements to run for the House of Representatives?
104. How many members are in the House of Representatives? How often are they elected?
105. Who is the leader of the Senate who breaks tie votes?
106. What is the President Pro Tempore?
107. How many members are in the Senate? How often are they elected?
108. What are the requirements to run for the Senate?
109. What makes someone a “majority” leader in Congress?
110. What makes someone a “minority” leader in Congress?
111. What is a standing committee?
112. What is a special committee?
113. What is a conference committee?
114. What are the four different factors that decide what committee a congressman will join?
115. Define enumerated powers. What’s another name for enumerated powers?
116. What is the elastic clause? What is it also known as?
117. Define implied powers.
118. List all of the powers of Congress. (Make sure you know what coin money and the word “regulate” means)
119. What is a majority vote?
120. After a Congressman drafts (writes) a bill and introduces it to Congress, what happens to the bill next?
121. After a bill passes in the House **OR** Senate, it then goes where?
122. What are the two main things the president can do with a bill?
123. If a president vetoes a bill, what can be done to overrule that veto into a law?

124. Explain the two step process for impeaching a government official.

125. What are checks and balances?

Executive Branch

126. How is the executive branch structured according to Article II of the Constitution?

127. What is the main role/responsibility of the executive branch? (Hint: there are three different ways to say it)

128. What are the three qualifications to run for office of the president? How often is the president elected?

129. What are the different powers the president has, according to Article II of the Constitution?

130. How are presidential appointments approved?

131. How are treaties the president makes approved?

132. What is the president's cabinet? Who appoints members to the cabinet?

133. What are the two main roles of the president's cabinet?

134. Explain the president's power of executive order?

135. Explain the president's power to pardon?

Judicial Branch

136. Who appoints Supreme Court Justices? Who approves the appointment?

137. What is the title for the leader of the Supreme Court?

138. What is the only court Article III of the U.S. Constitution creates?

139. Who has the power to create all courts lower than the Supreme Court?

140. According to Article III of the Constitution, what are the types of cases the Supreme Court has the power to take?

141. Diagram the 3 courts at the **federal** level from lowest to highest.

142. Diagram the 4 courts at the **state (Florida)** level from lowest to highest.

143. What are the three categories of cases the **federal** court system can take?

144. What are the three categories of cases the **state** court system can take?

145. What is the purpose of a trial court?

146. What is the purpose of the appellate court system?

147. Explain the Supreme Court power of writ of certiorari.

148. What is the Supreme Court power of judicial review?

149. What is a summary judgment?

150. What is a court order?

151. Explain jurisdiction.

152. What is 'precedent'?

153. Why are juries important in the trial court?

Supreme Court Cases

154. What does segregation mean?

155. What does it mean by "rights of the accused"?

Explain the significance and outcome of the following landmark U.S. Supreme Court Cases:

156. Marbury v. Madison

157. Plessy v. Ferguson

158. Brown v. Board of Education

159. Gideon v. Wainwright

160. Miranda v. Arizona

161. Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier

162. In re gault

163. Tinker v. Des Moines

164. U.S. v Nixon

165. Bush v. Gore

166. DC. v. Heller

American Law

Types of Law

167. What is civil law?

168. What is criminal law?

169. What is military law?

170. What is juvenile law?

171. What type of law is meant to protect citizens?

Sources of Law

172. What is a source of law?

173. Explain Constitutional Law.

174. Explain Statutory Law.

175. Explain Case Law. (Also known as judicial precedent or Common Law).

176. What is the difference between misdemeanors and felonies?

177. What is "habeas corpus"?

178. What is "ex post facto"?

Florida and Local Government

179. What is the same about both the U.S. and Florida Constitutions?

180. What is the position in charge of the Florida executive branch?

181. What group makes up the Legislative branch in Florida?

182. What is the Florida Declaration of Rights?

183. What does the 10th amendment say about state powers?

184. What is federalism?

185. How does federalism limit government power?

186. What are the three federal government powers called?

187. What are implied powers and what are they also known as?

188. What are expressed [*also known as enumerated*] powers? (Give 5 examples)

189. What are reserved powers? (Give 5 examples)

190. What are concurrent powers? (Give 5 examples)

191. What is the Supreme Law of the Land?

192. What services do the local level of government provide?

193. Who is the executive leader of the local government?

194. What is an ordinance?

195. What is a city council?

196. Who are county commissioners?

197. What is the purpose of a school board?

198. What are the requirements to run for the Governor of Florida?

199. What are the requirements to run for the State House of Representatives and State Senate?
200. What are the ways an amendment can be **proposed** to the Florida Constitution?
201. What is the only way an amendment can be **ratified** to the Florida Constitution?

Political Parties

202. What are the two major political parties in the U.S.?
203. Republicans and Democrats most differ on their ideas of....?
204. What are basic beliefs of the Democratic Party?
205. What are basic beliefs of the Republican Party?
206. How do 3rd parties affect elections?
207. What is the Libertarian Party?
208. What is the Communist Party?
209. What is the Socialist Party?
210. What impact do political parties have on society and government?
211. What is a party platform?
212. How does someone's **experience** affect their chance of winning an election?
213. How does someone's **platform** affect their chance of winning an election?
214. How do someone's **political advertisements** affect their chance of winning an election?
215. How do **debates** affect their chance of winning an election?

Public Policy & Problem Solving

216. What is the "Public agenda"?
217. What is "Public opinion"?
218. What are public opinion polls?
219. What is public policy?
220. How is public policy influenced?
221. What is a 'public policy solution'?
222. What can you do if a problem cannot be solved using a 'public policy solution'?
223. What is a 'private community service solution'?
224. What types of problems can the local government resolve?
225. What types of problems can the state government resolve?
226. What types of problems can the federal government resolve?
227. What does the word 'perspective' mean?
228. What does it mean to have multiple perspectives on an issue?

Propaganda, the Media, and Interest Groups

229. How does the media act as a watchdog?
230. How does the media acting as a watchdog influence the government?
231. What is an interest group?
232. What is a lobbyist?
233. What is a political action committee (PAC)
The following three questions are ways interest groups influence the government. Explain each one of them:
234. Lobbying:

235. Endorsing Candidates:
236. Raising Money:
237. Give 2 examples of how citizens can influence the government?
238. What is bias?
239. How can bias influence public opinion?
240. What is propaganda?
241. How can propaganda influence public opinion?
242. What is symbolism?
243. How can symbolism influence public opinion?

Foreign Policy

244. What is the difference between domestic & foreign policy?
245. What are the goals of US foreign policy?
246. What's another way to refer to foreign policy?
247. What is an embassy?
248. What is an alliance?
249. What is an ambassador?
250. What is the purpose of diplomacy?
251. What is a diplomat?
252. What is a doctrine?
253. What is important about international relations?
254. What is a treaty? Who has the power to pass treaties?
255. What is the U.S. State department?
256. What are non-governmental organizations?
257. What is the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)?

Explain each international organization and label which ones are located in the U.S.

258. World Trade Organization (WTO)
259. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
260. World Court
261. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
262. United Nations (UN)
263. International Red Cross/Red Crescent
264. Describe how the United States responded to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.
265. What are non-governmental organizations?
266. What are the different methods the U.S. can take to deal with international conflict?
267. What is usually the first step the U.S. takes with international conflict?
Explain why the U.S. became involved in the following international conflicts:
268. Bay of Pigs
269. Cuban Missile Crisis
270. Gulf Wars I and II
271. Iran Hostage Crisis
272. Korean War
273. Vietnam War
274. World War I
275. World War II