

Exam Review Guide, PS200 Section 002 Exam #1

Bardes et al.

Congress

- bicameralism: Why do we have it?
- The Houses
 - Elections, requirements to serve, length in office
- differences between the chambers
- Leaders in the chambers, their duties (don't need specific names)
- 4 types of committees
 - how are members chosen?
- 16 powers of congress
 - which ones were big/controversial changes?
 - Why have an elastic clause?
- The functions of Congress (why they are there)
 - How does a bill become a law?
 - Models of representation

The Courts

- The Common Law tradition
 - What is it to be a precedent?
 - Stare decisis
- The 3 sources of American Law
- Judicial Review
 - Marbury v. Madison. How did Marshall manage this?
- Judicial activism vs. judicial restraint
- The checks on the power of the courts
- The various levels of Federal Courts
 - The selection of judges at the various levels
 - Jurisdiction of federal courts
 - Appellate vs. trial courts
- The Supreme Court
 - The decision to hear cases
 - Writ of certiorari
 - Types of findings and opinions

The Executive

- dilemma over what the President was going to be like
- requirements for running
- the election process and constituencies
- the 6 roles of the president
- special uses of presidential power
 - abuses of that power
- Executive organization
- The Vice-President

Federalist Papers

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- 2-year terms discussed: are they safe? Are they necessary? Why?

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- The five things that will keep election to the House (or government in general) from becoming a sort of elected aristocracy

62&63

- Publius' 4 responses to the objections to the qualifications of senators, as well as the number of senators and their term of office

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- support from the Anti-Federalists for the election mode of the President and the objection to the Vice-President

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- The real character of the Presidency: What two officers does he compare the president to? Know a couple of those points of comparison

70

- Publius' argument for energy in the executive: What is energy? What are the components that he lays out? Why is energy important? How do you protect the people from that energy?

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- Publius's response to the objections to the President as Commander-in-Chief and the President's power to pardon (especially in cases of treason)

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- Be able to explain the argument made for judicial review: not being able to do "this would be to affirm that the servant is above his master"
- life terms for judges as protection for both the Courts and the people themselves

81

- Publius' responses to these Anti-Federalist objections
 - The Court will mold the laws to whatever it sees fit
 - Life terms are opposed to the idea that they should serve the people
 - Congress shouldn't establish lower courts

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- Publius' responses to Anti-Federalist objections that trial by jury is not guaranteed by the new Constitution