

Resources for Influence of the Constitution on Political Conversation

A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation. Library of Congress. Collection of primary source materials from the first 100 years.

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html>

This site may be easier to use: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/federalist.html>

National Archives – America’s Founding Documents

<http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/charters.html>

Primary source materials on Colonial and Revolutionary Era America

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/modsbook12.asp>

Federalist Papers Written by John Jay, James Madison and Alexander Hamilton, these were a series of essays in support of ratifying the newly created Constitution. It would become law when 9 states ratified.

<https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1404/1404-h/1404-h.htm>

Anti-Federalist Papers <http://resources.utulsa.edu/law/classes/rice/Constitutional/AntiFederalist/antifed.htm>

Annenberg Classroom Video shown in workshop is here [First part of “Key Constitutional Concepts”]

<http://www.annenbergclassroom.org/page/teaching-the-constitution>

Interactive Constitution Interesting approach; discusses different aspects of Amendments and then has two views of each from legal experts.

https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution?gclid=EAlaIqobChMllbq7hNy42gIVLrvtCh0qsgMnEAAAYASAAEgKAHfD_BwE

Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance

<http://www.idea.int> Online publications include A Practical Guide to Constitution Building; Constitutional Reform Processes and Political Parties; Electoral Systems; New International IDEA Handbook et al.

Constitutions of the World

<https://www.constituteproject.org/>

Democracy Is for Amateurs: Why We Need More Citizen Citizens. Eric Liu May, 2012

<http://www.theatlantic.com/politics/print/2012/05/democracy-is-for-amateurs-why-we-need-more-citizen-citizens/256818/>

Constitutional Principles: Representative Government Makes the case for a republic over direct democracy; oriented Libertarian; raises some considerations to ponder.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bVD0bZ5H4MY&list=UUEaVYnwbWa6Jzu1xfqk3RQg&index=5&feature=pp_video

Books

The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution by Joseph Ellis. 2015. Great book.

Fighting over the Founders: How we remember the American Revolution

Andrew M. Schocket. 2015.

How Democratic is the American Constitution? By Robert Dahl. 2001.

The Jefferson Rule: How the Founding Fathers Became Infallible and Our Politics Inflexible by David Sehat 2015

American Nations: A History of the Eleven Rival Regional Cultures of North America by Colin Woodard. 2011. [Also, many articles about this book.]

Bill of Rights

Rights in the Modern Era: Applying the Bill of Rights to the States Wermiel. 1992

Discusses the “incorporation” of the Bill of Rights to apply to the states

<http://scholarship.law.wm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1554&context=wmborj>

Bill of Rights “Incorporation” [applying the federal Bill of Rights to the states]. Lists the key Supreme Court cases which led to the incorporation of specific Amendments.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Incorporation_of_the_Bill_of_Rights

James Madison on having a Bill of Rights [and some other things]

<https://founders.archives.gov/documents/Madison/01-11-02-0218>

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

<http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/>

Government Printing Office

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/>

Search for federal government documents

“Perspectives on the Constitution: A Republic, If You Can Keep It” by Richard R. Beeman, PhD.

National Constitution Center <http://constitutioncenter.org/learn/educational-resources/historical-documents/perspectives-on-the-constitution-a-republic-if-you-can-keep-it>

“our Constitution is neither a self-actuating nor a self-correcting document. It requires the constant attention and devotion of all citizens”

Supreme Court

Landmark Cases C-Span. Series of programs focused on the most important Supreme Court cases. Includes some discussed in the workshop.

<http://landmarkcases.c-span.org/default.aspx>

Misc.

Virginia Statute on Religious Freedom. Thomas Jefferson. The precursor to the 1st Amendment.

“The Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom is a statement about both freedom of conscience and the principle of separation of church and state. Written by Thomas Jefferson and passed by the Virginia General Assembly on January 16, 1786, it is the forerunner of the first amendment protections for religious freedom...”

<https://www.virginiahistory.org/collections-and-resources/virginia-history-explorer/thomas-jefferson>

Of the Liberty of Thought and Discussion John Stuart Mill 1869. The classic essay on freedom of speech.

<http://www.bartleby.com/130/2.html>

You Can’t Take It With You Oct 14th 2010 [free registration]. Concern about concentrated wealth.

<https://www.economist.com/lexingtons-notebook/2010/10/14/you-cant-take-it-with-you>

Gun Law History in the United States and Second Amendment Rights Spitzer. Duke U. Law School. 2017

<https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4825&context=lcp>

Full issue on the Second Amendment <https://scholarship.law.duke.edu/lcp/vol80/iss2/>

Major dates in the founding era:

Revolutionary War. 1775-1783.

1776 - Declaration of Independence.

1777 - Articles of Confederation.

1787 - Constitutional Convention, ostensibly to revise the Articles of Confederation.

1789 - Constitution ratified.

1791 - Bill of Rights amended to Constitution