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American Government

99/00



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3. Process of American Politics

Facing overview—AP/Wide World photo by Wilfredo Lee.

4. "Products" of American Politics

Facing overview—Photo of B-1-B bomber courtesy of United States Air Force.

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Twenty-Ninth Edition

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Members of the Advisory Board are instrumental in the final selection of articles for each edition of ANNUAL EDITIONS. Their review of articles for content, level, currentness, and appropriateness provides critical direction to the editor and staff. We think that you will find their careful consideration well reflected in this volume.

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In publishing ANNUAL EDITIONS we recognize the enormous role played by the magazines, newspapers, and journals of the public press in providing current, first-rate educational information in a broad spectrum of interest areas. Many of these articles are appropriate for students, researchers, and professionals seeking accurate, current material to help bridge the gap between principles and theories and the real world. These articles, however, become more useful for study when those of lasting value are carefully collected, organized, indexed, and reproduced in a low-cost format, which provides easy and permanent access when the material is needed. That is the role played by ANNUAL EDITIONS.

New to ANNUAL EDITIONS is the inclusion of related World Wide Web sites. These sites have been selected by our editorial staff to represent some of the best resources found on the World Wide Web today. Through our carefully developed topic guide, we have linked these Web resources to the articles covered in this ANNUAL EDITIONS reader. We think that you will find this volume useful, and we hope that you will take a moment to visit us on the Web at <http://www.dushkin.com> to tell us what you think.

Annual Editions: American Government 99/00 is the twenty-ninth edition of a book that has become a mainstay in many introductory courses on American politics. The educational goal is to provide a readable collection of up-to-date articles that are informative, interesting, and stimulating to students beginning their study of the American political system.

The past year has been quite a year in American politics. In January 1998, a sex scandal involving President Bill Clinton and a White House intern named Monica Lewinsky first came to the public's attention. For 8 months, the president publicly denied any sexual wrongdoing with her, even as evidence to the contrary leaked into the public domain. In August testimony before a grand jury, Clinton changed his story and admitted sexual wrongdoing and a subsequent cover-up. Then, independent counsel Kenneth Starr made a lengthy referral to the House of Representatives recommending that the president be impeached.

The Clinton scandal and the Starr referral were expected to harm the candidacies of Democrats in the November congressional elections. To the contrary, Democrats narrowed the Republican margin in the House by five seats and lost no seats in the Republican-controlled Senate. A few days after these surprising election results, Republican Speaker Newt Gingrich announced that he was going to step down from the Speakership and resign from the House of Representatives.

The 1998 November election results seemed to spell the end of any serious impeachment effort, but that perception turned out to be wrong. In December, the House of Representatives passed two articles of impeachment against the president by a nearly straight party-line vote, one for perjury and one for obstruction of justice. For only the second time in U.S. history, a president had been impeached in the House. In a dramatic development during the House floor debate on the articles of impeachment, Congressman Bob Livingston of Louisiana, whom House Republicans had chosen to succeed Gingrich as speaker, announced his withdrawal because of recent revelations about past marital infidelity.

In January 1999, the president's impeachment trial began in the Senate amidst clear indications that fewer than the constitutionally required two-thirds of the Senate would vote to convict. This time expectations have been fulfilled. As I already suggested, it has been quite a year in American politics since the previous edition of this book went to press in early 1998!

The systems approach provides a rough organizational framework for this book. The first unit focuses on ideological and constitutional underpinnings of American politics, from both historical and contemporary perspectives. The second unit treats the major institutions of the national government. The third covers the "input" or "linkage" mechanisms of the system: political parties, elections, interest groups, and media. The fourth and concluding unit shifts the focus to policy choices that confront the government in Washington and resulting "outputs" of the political system. Also included in this book are *World Wide Web* sites that can be used to explore topics in American politics. These sites are cross-referenced by number in the *topic guide*.

Each year thousands of articles about American politics are published, and deciding which to reprint in a collection of readings such as this is not always easy. Since no position on the political spectrum has a monopoly on truth, articles are chosen with an eye toward providing viewpoints from left, right, and center. About half of the selections in this book are new to this year's edition.

Next year will bring another opportunity for change, and you, the reader, are invited to participate in the process. Please complete and return the *postpaid article rating form* on the last page of the book and let us know your reactions and your suggestions for improvement.



Bruce Stinebrickner
Editor

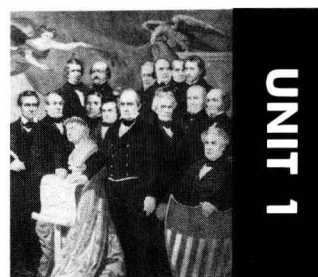
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Selected World Wide Web Sites	4
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A. BASIC DOCUMENTS

1. The Declaration of Independence, 1776	8
This document formally announces that 13 former British colonies have become the free and independent United States of America. It eloquently identifies certain historic principles on which their claim to independence rests.	
2. The Constitution of the United States, 1787	10
The Constitution provides an organizational blueprint for the national government and for the federal relationship between the national government and the states. In addition, the first 10 amendments, commonly known as the Bill of Rights , spell out limits on what the government can do. A commentary accompanying the actual document provides a brief account of the writing of the Constitution and also notes some of its significant features.	
3. The Size and Variety of the Union as a Check on Faction, James Madison, <i>The Federalist Papers</i> , No. 10, 1787.	21
James Madison argues in support of the union of the 13 states under the new Constitution . According to Madison, a system of representative democracy governing a large territory and many people will help control the undesirable effects of "faction."	
4. Checks and Balances, James Madison, <i>The Federalist Papers</i> , No. 51, 1787.	25
According to James Madison, both the separation of powers among three branches of government and the division of powers between the states and the central government will help preserve representative democracy under the new Constitution .	
5. The Judiciary, Alexander Hamilton, <i>The Federalist Papers</i> , No. 78, 1787.	27
Alexander Hamilton discusses the federal judiciary to be established under the new Constitution . He emphasizes the crucial role of the courts in a system of limited government with a written constitution.	

B. CONTEMPORARY VIEWS AND VALUES

6. What Good Is Government? William J. Bennett and John J. Dilulio Jr., <i>Commentary</i> , November 1997.	30
The authors assess the state of big government in the United States today and conclude that the era of big government is far from over. They also analyze two currently popular alternatives to the status quo: devolution of power from Washington to the states and greater dependence on voluntary organizations and institutions to do what needs to be done.	
7. Chomp! Jim Hightower, <i>Utne Reader</i> , March/April 1998.	38
Jim Hightower identifies corporatism as a dangerous ism that undermines American democracy. He explains how large corporations have adversely affected citizens' lives and suggests ways to remedy the situation.	



Foundations of American Politics

The fifteen selections in this unit outline the foundations of American politics. In addition to primary documents, there are discussions of contemporary political ideals and viewpoints as well as recent commentaries on constitutional issues.

8. **What's Wrong with America: Open Season on Uncle Sam**, John Carlin, *World Press Review*, September 1998. 42

In the first part of this essay, John Carlin provides an unflattering—and revealing—portrait of Americans' **values** and **self-perceptions**. In addition, several shorter accompanying pieces highlight what other foreign observers see as peculiarities of American life.

9. **When Naptime Is Over**, Robert B. Reich, *New York Times Magazine*, January 25, 1998. 49

Robert Reich makes the case that, despite Wall Street's much-publicized gains, the gap between **rich and poor** in the United States has been widening in the 1990s. He argues for "**a new nationalism founded on shared prosperity**" and proposes several ways to help close the gap between rich and poor.

C. CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

10. **Race and the Constitution**, Thurgood Marshall, *Social Policy*, Summer 1987. 52

In this 1987 article, Thurgood Marshall, the first African American to serve on the Supreme Court, argues that the 1787 **Constitution** contained many defects, including several provisions that supported the continuation of slavery. He suggests that the Constitution has evolved in desirable ways since originally written, but he notes that there is room for more progress in certain spheres.

11. **Vigilante Justices**, Antonin Scalia, *National Review*, February 10, 1997. 54

Supreme Court justice Antonin Scalia evaluates the approach to **constitutional interpretation** known as "The Living Constitution." He argues that such an evolutionary approach in the long run renders the **Constitution** useless and irrelevant in the American political system.

12. **Breaking Thurgood Marshall's Promise**, A. Leon Higginbotham Jr., *New York Times Magazine*, January 18, 1998. 58

A. Leon Higginbotham criticizes a 1996 federal court decision undermining **affirmative action** admission policies at the University of Texas Law School. He argues that that decision and the implementation of other anti-affirmative action policies being implemented will rob the country of **trained minority leadership** in the future.

13. **More than Sex: Why the Courts Are Missing the Point**, Ellen Yaroshefsky, Ms., May/June 1998. 61

In this interview with Vicki Schultz, she argues that **courts** have been interpreting **sexual harassment** as necessarily having an explicit sexual component, while overlooking other forms of harassment based on gender. Schultz contends that this narrow construction of sexual harassment has left **women in the workplace** unprotected in important ways.

14. **The Case for Impeachment**, Stuart Taylor Jr., *National Journal*, September 14, 1998. 66

On the basis of evidence provided in the **Kenneth Starr referral**, Stuart Taylor argues in **favor of impeaching President Clinton** and removing him from office.

15. **The Case against Impeachment**, Kirk Victor, *National Journal*, September 14, 1998. 71

On the basis of the evidence provided in the **Kenneth Starr referral**, Kirk Victor argues **against impeaching President Clinton** and removing him from office.

Overview

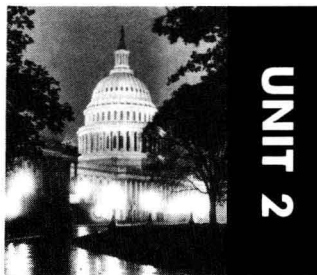
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A. THE PRESIDENCY

16. **The Separated System**, Charles O. Jones, *Society*, September/October 1996. 76
Charles Jones explores the implications of the **separation of powers** for **presidential accountability**, the expectations that people hold for a president, and the realities of governing.
17. **Hooked on Polls**, Carl M. Cannon, *National Journal*, October 17, 1998. 81
Carl Cannon chronicles the way that past and present **presidents** have used **public opinion polls** to determine their courses of action. He laments the increasing influence of polls on what presidents do.
18. **The Governor-President, Bill Clinton**, Jacob Weisberg, *New York Times Magazine*, January 17, 1999. 85
Jacob Weisberg argues that **President Bill Clinton** has altered the **office of the presidency** in significant ways. He has recast the office to be more like a state governorship and helped change the public's expectations about the importance of the president's role as a moral exemplar.
19. **There He Goes Again: The Alternating Political Style of Bill Clinton**, Fred I. Greenstein, *PS: Political Science & Politics*, June 1998. 94
Fred Greenstein concludes that **President Clinton** alternates between two very different **political styles**. He identifies nine traits of Clinton that contribute to his oscillation between an "anything goes" approach and a more "measured" leadership style.
20. **Beyond Monica: The Future of Clinton's Past**, Robert B. Reich, *The Nation*, September 7/14, 1998. 97
Robert Reich provides a sobering assessment of the likely legacy of the **Clinton presidency** in the aftermath of the events stemming from disclosure of the president's involvement with White House intern **Monica Lewinsky**.

B. CONGRESS

21. **Imperial Congress**, Joseph A. Califano Jr., *New York Times Magazine*, January 23, 1994. 99
Joseph Califano argues that **Congress** is now more powerful than the **presidency** and has become the dominant government branch in the American political system. He explains that this change has taken place since the presidency of Lyndon Johnson in the 1960s and suggests some ways to **redress the current imbalance**.
22. **The Town That Ate Itself**, Joe Klein, *The New Yorker*, November 23, 1998. 102
Joe Klein explains how politics in Washington and especially in **Congress** has changed in the past two decades. He notes the extent to which **Newt Gingrich** contributed to the rise of what he calls a **"culture of personal assault,"** and he treats other factors such as changes in the American party system and a variety of government reforms.
23. **In the Money: A Congressman's Story**, Dan Hamburg, *Harper's*, July 1997. 110
Former congressman Dan Hamburg reports the centrality of **money** in his career on Capitol Hill. He details how the pursuit of **campaign funds** shaped his day-to-day activities as a **congressman** and affected his position on questions of public policy.



Structures of American Politics

The fifteen articles in this unit examine the structure and present status of the American presidency, Congress, judiciary, and bureaucracy.

24. **Few in Congress Grieve as Justices Give Line-Item Veto the Ax**, Andrew Taylor, *CQ Weekly*, June 27, 1998. 112

Andrew Taylor reports reactions on Capitol Hill to the **Supreme Court's** decision that the 1996 **line-item veto law** was unconstitutional. According to Taylor, the law had not worked well in practice and many members of **Congress** who had originally supported the bill were relieved that it was now declared unconstitutional.

C. JUDICIARY

25. **The Rehnquist Reins**, David J. Garrow, *New York Times Magazine*, October 6, 1996. 115

David Garrow discusses the **dynamics of the U.S. Supreme Court** during the 10 years in which **William Rehnquist** has served as **chief justice**. He emphasizes the key roles of Rehnquist and Associate Justice **Anthony Kennedy** and the important decisions made on questions of **federalism**.

26. **Indicting the Courts: Congress' Feud with Judges**, Dan Carney, *CQ Weekly*, June 20, 1998. 124

Dan Carney identifies three broad areas of current confrontation between **Congress** and the **federal courts**. He also notes the dangers that such confrontation poses for the **independence of the judicial branch**.

27. **A Judge Speaks Out**, H. Lee Sarokin, *The Nation*, October 13, 1997. 130

H. Lee Sarokin, a former federal judge, argues that the recent **politicization of the judiciary** by politicians and **news media** alike is undermining the **rule of law** in the United States. He explains why he thinks it is crucially important for judges to uphold various controversial provisions of the **Bill of Rights**.

28. **Gaveling Back the Imperial Presidency**, Joan Biskupic, *Washington Post National Weekly Edition*, June 9, 1997. 133

Joan Biskupic compares two landmark cases involving twentieth-century **U.S. presidents: U.S. v. Nixon** and **Jones v. Clinton**. In both cases, the Supreme Court issued rulings contrary to the president's position and the **U.S. v. Nixon** decision led to President Nixon's resignation in 1974.

D. BUREAUCRACY

29. **Census: A Political Calculation**, Charles Pope, *CQ Weekly*, July 11, 1998. 135

Charles Pope recounts the current controversy over how one agency of the national government, the **Bureau of the Census**, goes about its work.

30. **Why I Do What I Do: Howard Smith, I.R.S. Agent**, Michael Winerip, *New York Times Magazine*, April 12, 1998. 140

Michael Winerip describes the work of revenue officers, one group of employees in the **Internal Revenue Service**. The life and concerns of one particular revenue officer seem a far cry from what one might expect.

Overview

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A. POLITICIANS, PARTIES, AND VOTERS

31. **Running Scared**, Anthony King, *The Atlantic Monthly*, January 1997. 144

Anthony King argues that the American political system is anchored in what he considers to be a **permanent election campaign**. In turn, according to King, American politicians are "hyper-responsive" and American government suffers accordingly.

32. **Lost Opportunity Society**, Richard Lowry, *National Review*, December 7, 1998. 155

Richard Lowry recalls the tremendous splash with which Republican **Newt Gingrich** led his party to majority control of the House of Representatives in 1994 and became **Speaker of the House**. He then identifies the missteps and lost opportunities that led to Gingrich's departure from the Speakership and the House 4 years later.

B. THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

33. **Democracy v. Dollar**, Paul Starr, *The American Prospect*, March/April 1997. 159

Paul Starr explores the role of **money** in recent **congressional elections**. He suggests that, in effect, two competitions are held: one a competition for dollars and the second a competition for votes.

34. **Campaign Financing: Four Views**, Michael Walzer, Joanne Barkan, Michael Merrill, and James B. Rule, *Dissent*, Summer 1997. 163

Four political observers identify what they see as the central **problems in campaign financing** in the United States and the **reforms** they see as likely to improve the situation. All agree that the problems are serious, but there is little consensus on what ought to be done.

35. **Alice Doesn't Vote Here Any More**, Michael Lind, *Mother Jones*, March/April 1998. 169

Michael Lind humorously caricatures the **single-member-district plurality** voting system used to elect the House of Representatives and other legislative bodies in the United States. He explains the advantages of different voting systems used elsewhere as well as the obstacles to and likely consequences of their adoption in the United States.

36. **March Madness: How the Primary Schedule Favors the Rich**, Walter Shapiro, *The Washington Monthly*, June 1998. 174

Walter Shapiro explains how the increasingly frontloaded schedule for **presidential primaries** in 2000 will favor wealthy, well-known candidates and disadvantage underfunded underdogs.

C. INTEREST GROUPS

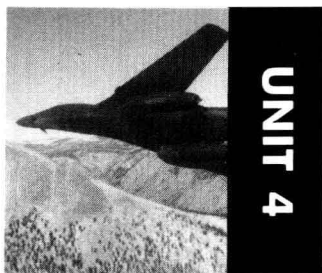
37. **Demosclerosis**, Jonathan Rauch, *The New Democrat*, June/July 1994. 176

Jonathan Rauch identifies the important connection between **interest groups** and the shortcomings of government in Washington. He documents the connection and explains why any solution will be difficult to put into effect.



Process of American Politics

Eleven articles in this unit review how political parties, voters, election processes, interest groups, and the media work in the process of American politics.



"Products" of American Politics

The six selections in this unit examine the domestic, economic, foreign, and defense policies that American government produces.

- 38. Q: Are Ethnic and Gender-Based Special-Interest Groups Good for America?** Anita Perez Ferguson and Ward Connerly, *Insight*, July 7–14, 1997. 180
Anita Perez Ferguson and Ward Connerly argue the pros and cons of interest groups based on so-called **identity politics**. Ferguson believes that such interest groups are beneficial, while Connerly suggests that identity politics undermines **American democracy**.
- 39. Trying Times**, Louis Jacobson, *National Journal*, April 18, 1998. 184
Louis Jacobson discusses the Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA), noting both its effectiveness as a powerful **interest group** and the current difficulties it faces.

D. MEDIA

- 40. Did You Have a Good Week?** James Fallows, *The Atlantic Monthly*, December 1994. 188
James Fallows identifies and laments the tendency of **news media** to exaggerate the critical and especially the emergency nature of a variety of public policy issues. According to him, the **negative consequences** include making "the week" the fundamental unit of political evaluation and treating political news in the same manner as sports.
- 41. The 'New' Media and Politics: What Does the Future Hold?** Doris A. Graber, *PS: Political Science and Politics*, March 1996. 190
Doris Graber explains how "**new**" **media** can empower individual citizens in significant ways. She discusses political implications and possible directions of future change.

Overview

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A. DOMESTIC AND ECONOMIC POLICY

- 42. The Entitlement Time Bomb**, John Attarian, *The World & I*, November 1996. 196
John Attarian describes the steep increase in spending on entitlements over the past three decades as well as the even steeper increase that will occur in the near future. He discusses the causes and the dangers of **entitlement spending trends**.
- 43. The Sham of Saving Social Security First**, Robert B. Reich, *Harper's*, June 1998. 201
Robert Reich argues that current **budget surpluses** should **not** be devoted to "saving" **Social Security**, as is often suggested. He believes that the Social Security system is in better shape than most people assume, and he identifies other good uses to which budget surpluses can be put.

44. **Do It Yourself**, Julie Kosterlitz, *National Journal*, November 23, 1996. 203
Julie Kosterlitz reports that Americans are at a crossroads between a collective approach to **health care and retirement benefits** or more self-reliance in these spheres. She discusses the likely consequences of each alternative.

45. **Ten Essential Observations on Guns in America**, 208
James D. Wright, *Society*, March/April 1995.
James Wright identifies what he considers to be 10 fundamental truths about guns and gun violence and then discusses their implications for **American public policy**.

B. FOREIGN AND DEFENSE POLICY

46. **Clinton's Foreign Policy: A Victim of Globalization?** 213
Moisés Naím, *Foreign Policy*, Winter 1997-98.
Moisés Naím reports the widespread perception that President Clinton's **foreign policy** suffers from the lack of a coherent strategy or vision.

47. **The New American Consensus: Our Hollow Hegemony**, Fareed Zakaria, *New York Times Magazine*, November 1, 1998. 220
Fareed Zakaria notes Americans' **lack of interest in world affairs**, yet argues for the United States to pursue long-term and often expensive policies to stabilize global politics.

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American Government

Twenty-Ninth Edition



EDITOR

Bruce Stinebrickner

DePauw University

Professor Bruce Stinebrickner teaches American politics in the Department of Political Science at DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana. He has also taught American politics at Lehman College of the City University of New York, at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia, and in a DePauw program for Argentine students in Buenos Aires. He received his Ph.D. from Yale University in 1974. In his courses and publications on American politics, Professor Stinebrickner brings to bear valuable insights gained from living, teaching, and lecturing abroad.

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Topic Guide

This topic guide suggests how the selections and World Wide Web sites found in the next section of this book relate to topics of traditional concern to students and professionals involved with the study of American politics. It is useful for locating interrelated articles and Web sites for reading and research. The guide is arranged alphabetically according to topic.

The relevant Web sites, which are numbered and annotated on pages 4 and 5, are easily identified by the Web icon (Ⓢ) under the topic articles. By linking the articles and the Web sites by topic, this ANNUAL EDITIONS reader becomes a powerful learning and research tool.

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		Supreme Court	11. Vigilante Justices 24. Few in Congress Grieve as Justices Give Line-Item Veto the Ax 25. Rehnquist Reins 28. Gaveling Back the Imperial Presidency • 1, 3, 4, 13

● AE: American Government

The following World Wide Web sites have been carefully researched and selected to support the articles found in this reader. If you are interested in learning more about specific topics found in this book, these Web sites are a good place to start. The sites are cross-referenced by number and appear in the topic guide on the previous two pages. Also, you can link to these Web sites through our DUSHKIN ONLINE support site at <http://www.dushkin.com/online/>.

The following sites were available at the time of publication. Visit our Web site—we update DUSHKIN ONLINE regularly to reflect any changes.

General Sources

1. The Federal Web Locator

<http://www.law.vill.edu/Fed-Agency/fedwebloc.html>

Use this handy site as a launching pad for the Web sites of U.S. federal agencies, departments, and organizations. It is well organized and easy to use for informational and research purposes.

2. John F. Kennedy School of Government

<http://www.ksg.harvard.edu>

Starting from Harvard University's KSG page, you will be able to click on a huge variety of links to information about American politics and government, ranging from political party and campaign data to debates of enduring issues.

3. Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov>

Examine this Web site to learn about the extensive resource tools, library services/resources, exhibitions, and databases available through the Library of Congress in many different subfields of government studies.

Foundations of American Politics

4. American Studies Web

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asw/>

This eclectic site provides links to a wealth of Internet resources for research in American studies, including agriculture and rural development, government, and race and ethnicity.

5. Federalism: Relationship between Local and National Governments

<http://www.infidels.org/~nap/index.federalism.html>

Federalism versus states' rights has always been a spirited debate in American government. Visit this George Mason University site for links to many articles and reports on the subject.

6. Opinion, Inc.: The Site for Conservative Opinion on the Web

<http://www.opinioninc.com>

Open this site for access to political, cultural, and Web commentary on a number of issues from a conservative political viewpoint. The site is updated frequently.

7. Scanned Originals of Early American Documents

<http://www.law.emory.edu/FEDERAL/>

Through this Emory University site you can view scanned originals of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. The transcribed texts are also available, as are *The Federalist* papers.

8. Smithsonian Institution

<http://www.si.edu>

This site provides access to the enormous resources of the Smithsonian, which holds some 140 million artifacts and speci-

mens in its trust for "the increase and diffusion of knowledge." Here you can learn about American social, cultural, economic, and political history, from a variety of viewpoints.

9. The Written Word

<http://www.mdle.com/WrittenWord/>

This is an online journal of economic, political, and social commentary, primarily from a center or left-of-center viewpoint. The site provides links to governmental and political Web resources.

Structures of American Politics

10. Department of State

<http://www.state.gov>

View this site for understanding into the workings of a major U.S. executive branch department. Links explain exactly what the Department does, what services it provides, and what it says about U.S. interests around the world, and they also provide much more information.

11. Federal Reserve System

<http://woodrow.mpls.frb.fed.us/info/sys/index.html>

Consult this page to learn the answers to FAQs about the Fed, the structure of the Federal Reserve system, monetary policy, and more. It provides links to speeches and interviews as well as essays and articles presenting different views on the Fed.

12. Policy Digest Archives

<http://www.public-policy.org/~ncpa/pd/pdindex.html>

Through this site of the National Center for Policy Analysis, access discussions on an array of topics that are of major interest in the study of American government, from regulatory policy and privatization to economy and income.

13. Supreme Court/Legal Information Institute

<http://supct.law.cornell.edu/supct/index.html>

Open this site for current and historical information about the Supreme Court. The LLI archive contains many opinions issued since May 1990 as well as a collection of nearly 600 of the most historical decisions of the Court.

14. United States House of Representatives

<http://www.house.gov>

This Web page of the House of Representatives will lead you to information about current and past House members and agendas, the legislative process, and so on. You can learn about events on the House floor as they happen.

15. United States Senate

<http://www.senate.gov>

This Web page of the U.S. Senate will lead you to information about current and past Senate members and agendas, legislative activities, committees, and so on.

16. The White House

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/WelCome.html>

Visit the White House home page for direct access to information about commonly requested federal services, the

White House Briefing Room, and the presidents and vice presidents. The Virtual Library allows you to search White House documents, listen to speeches, and view photos.

Process of American Politics

17. The Henry L. Stimson Center

<http://www.stimson.org>

Stimson, a nonprofit and (self-described) nonpartisan organization, focuses on issues where policy, technology, and politics intersect. Use this site to find assessments of U.S. foreign and domestic policy and other topics.

18. Marketplace of Political Ideas/University of Houston Library

<http://info.lib.uh.edu/politics/markind.htm>

Here is a collection of links to campaign, conservative/liberal perspectives, and political party sites. There are General Political Sites, Democratic Sites, Republican Sites, Third Party Sites, and much more.

19. National Journal's Cloakroom

<http://www.Cloakroom.com>

This is a major site for information on American government and politics. There are reportage and discussion of campaigns, congressional calendar, a news archive, and more for politicians and policy makers. Membership is required, however, to access much of the information.

20. Political Pages

<http://montego.ais.org/~paxton/other.html>

Dean Paxton's site will point you to a number of resources for domestic and international political and governmental news, including the LSU Political Science WWW Server, which is maintained by a dedicated group of professionals.

21. Poynter Online

<http://www.poynter.org/research/research.htm>

This research site of the Poynter Institute for Media Studies provides extensive links to information and resources about the media, including media ethics and reportage techniques. Many bibliographies and Web sites are included.

22. RAND

<http://www.rand.org>

RAND is a nonprofit institution that works to improve public policy through research and analysis. Links offered on this home page provide for keyword searches of certain topics and descriptions of RAND activities and major research areas.

23. Social Influence

<http://www.public.asu.edu/~kelton>

This site focuses on the nature of persuasion, compliance, and propaganda, with many practical examples and applications. Students of such topics as the roles of public opinion and media influence in policy making may find these discussions of interest.

"Products" of American Politics

24. American Diplomacy

<http://www.unc.edu/depts/diplomat/>

American Diplomacy is an intriguing online journal of commentary, analysis, and research on U.S. foreign policy and its results around the world.

25. Cato Institute

http://www.cato.org/research/ss_prjct.html

The Cato Institute presents this page to discuss its Project on Social Security Privatization. The site and its links begin from the belief that privatization of the U.S. Social Security system is a positive goal that will empower workers.

26. Clinton Foreign Policy Page

<http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/8514/>

For a change of pace from the sites of journals, think tanks, and government organizations, check out Eddie Robert's personal home page. Roberts, an individual who is very critical of President Bill Clinton's foreign policy, provides space for you to respond to his opinions.

27. Foreign Affairs

<http://www.foreignaffairs.org>

This home page of the well-respected foreign policy journal is a valuable research tool. It allows users to search the journal's archives and provides indexed access to the field's leading publications, documents, online resources, and so on. Links to dozens of other related Web sites are possible from here.

28. The Gallup Organization

<http://www.gallup.com>

Open this Gallup Organization home page for links to an extensive archive of public opinion poll results and special reports on a variety of topics related to American society, politics, and government.

29. Tax Foundation

<http://www.taxfoundation.org/index.html>

Ever wonder where your taxes go? Consult the site of this self-described "nonprofit, nonpartisan policy research organization" to learn the history of "Tax Freedom Day," tax burdens around the United States, and other information about your tax bill or taxes in general.

30. STAT-USA

<http://www.stat-usa.gov/stat-usa.html>

This essential site, a service of the Department of Commerce, contains daily economic news, frequently requested statistical releases, information on export and international trade, domestic economic news and statistical series, and databases.

31. U.S. Information Agency

<http://www.usia.gov/usis.html>

This wide-ranging page of the USIA provides definitions, related documentation, and a discussion of topics of concern to students of American government. It addresses today's Hot Topics as well as ongoing issues that form the foundation of the field. Many Web links are provided.

We highly recommend that you review our Web site for expanded information and our other product lines. We are continually updating and adding links to our Web site in order to offer you the most usable and useful information that will support and expand the value of your Annual Editions. You can reach us at:
<http://www.dushkin.com/annualeditions/>.

Unit Selections

Basic Documents

Contemporary Views and Values

Constitutional and Legal Matters

1. **The Declaration of Independence, 1776**
2. **The Constitution of the United States, 1787**
3. **The Size and Variety of the Union as a Check on Faction**, James Madison
4. **Checks and Balances**, James Madison
5. **The Judiciary**, Alexander Hamilton
6. **What Good Is Government?** William J. Bennett and John J. Dilulio Jr.
7. **Chomp!** Jim Hightower
8. **What's Wrong with America: Open Season on Uncle Sam**, John Carlin
9. **When Naptime Is Over**, Robert B. Reich
10. **Race and the Constitution**, Thurgood Marshall
11. **Vigilante Justices**, Antonin Scalia
12. **Breaking Thurgood Marshall's Promise**, A. Leon Higginbotham Jr.
13. **More than Sex: Why the Courts Are Missing the Point**, Ellen Yaroshefsky
14. **The Case for Impeachment**, Stuart Taylor Jr.
15. **The Case against Impeachment**, Kirk Victor

Key Points to Consider

- ❖ What do you think would surprise the Founders most about the values and ideals held by Americans today?
- ❖ Which ideals, ideas, and values seem likely to remain central to American politics, and which seem likely to erode and gradually disappear?
- ❖ To what rights do you think all Americans are entitled? Do all Americans have these rights now? If not, why not?
- ❖ What provisions of the U.S. Constitution do you think are particularly wise and desirable? Which provisions, including ones that have been superseded by amendments, seem unwise and undesirable?
- ❖ What makes constitutional interpretation and reinterpretation necessary in the American political system? Why, at the same time, do the very words of the Constitution remain a respected foundation of the entire system of government? What groups seem most likely to become visible, active forces on the American political scene in the way that African Americans and women have in the recent past? Why?
- ❖ Do you consider yourself a conservative, a liberal, a socialist, a reactionary, or what? Why?



Links

www.dushkin.com/online/

4. **American Studies Web**
<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asw/>
5. **Federalism: Relationship between Local and National Governments**
<http://www.infidels.org/~nap/index.federalism.html>
6. **Opinion, Inc.: The Site for Conservative Opinion on the Web**
<http://www.opinioninc.com>
7. **Scanned Originals of Early American Documents**
<http://www.law.emory.edu/FEDERAL/>
8. **Smithsonian Institution**
<http://www.si.edu>
9. **The Written Word**
<http://www.mdle.com/WrittenWord/>

These sites are annotated on pages 4 and 5.