

Federalism: Federal, State, and Local Government

I. Federalism:

- a. Federalism: division of power between federal and state government
 - i. Enumerated Powers: the powers granted to the federal government by Article I, Section 8
 - 1. Examples- power to declare war, power to coin money
 - ii. Reserved Powers: powers left to the states (10th Amendment)
 - 1. Examples: establish local government, provide public education
 - iii. Concurrent Powers: powers shared by the federal government and state governments
 - 1. Examples: the power to tax, borrow money
 - iv. Supremacy Clause (Article VI)- when conflict between federal and state law, federal law is supreme
- b. Federal Government- meets national needs
 - i. i.e. defense, and foreign policy
- c. State Government- meets statewide needs
 - i. i.e. educational requirements
- d. Local Government- meet local concerns
 - i. i.e. running a school district

II. The U.S. Constitution versus the Florida Constitution:

- a. each state has its own constitution or plan for government
 - i. power is divided amongst 3 separate branches
- b. The U.S. Constitution”
 - i. Preamble- goals of government
 - ii. 3 branches of government:
 - 1. Legislative Branch- Congress
 - a. Senate= 100 members
 - b. House of Representatives= 435 members
 - 2. Executive Branch- President, VP, and **appointed** cabinet
 - 3. Judicial Branch- 3 levels of courts
 - a. District/Trial, Appellate, and Supreme Court
 - iii. Bill of Rights (Amendments 1-10)
 - iv. Broad framework of government (encompasses the entire nation)
 - 1. Approximately 7k words, and amended 27 times
- c. State of Florida Constitution:
 - i. Preamble- goals of the state government
 - ii. Florida Declaration of Rights (like Bill of Rights)
 - iii. 3 branches of government:
 - 1. Executive Branch- Governor, Lt. Governor, and **elected** cabinet
 - 2. Legislative Branch- Florida State Legislator:
 - a. Senate= 40 members
 - b. House of Representatives= 120 members
 - 3. Judicial Branch= 4 levels of courts
 - iv. Narrow framework of government (encompasses just Florida)
 - 1. Approximately 57k words, and amended over 100 times

- d. Major Differences:
 - i. English is the official language in Florida
 - ii. Florida's Constitution is easier to amend
 - 1. 5 ways to propose amendment
 - 2. 60% of voters must approve/ratify/adopt
 - iii. Passing laws in Florida similar to Congress, but no pocket veto

III. The Constitution of Florida:

- a. Current constitution has been in effect for 40+ years
- b. Article I- list of guaranteed rights to all citizens
 - i. All people are equal before law
 - 1. Many similar rights to Bill of Rights, and many additional rights
- c. Article II- General Provisions
 - i. Defines state boundaries, location of state gov't, official language
- d. Article III- V- establishes the 3 branches of government
- e. Article VI-