

# Launching a New Government Structured Class Notes

Mr. Zindman's Class

Please study your slides

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- 🌐 George Washington was inaugurated as the first President of the United States in 1789.
  - 🌐 Washington set a **precedent** of only holding the office as President for two terms, or eight years.
  - 🌐 Congress set up 5 executive departments; state, treasury, war, general, and postmaster general.
  - 🌐 Alexander Hamilton, the Secretary of Treasury, founded the first Bank of the United States.
  - 🌐 The Constitution called for a supreme court.
  - 🌐 Congress passed the Judiciary Act.
  - 🌐 Hamilton sold bonds to raise money for the government and to help the economy and pay the national debt.
  - 🌐 Washington, D.C. became the new capital of the United States.
  - 🌐 The USA established the Bank of the United States to store collected tax money.
  - 🌐 To raise money, the Treasury passed a Whiskey Tax. The people rebelled against the tax. President Washington used force to stop the Whiskey Rebellion.
  - 🌐 America supported the French Revolution.
  - 🌐 John Jay was sent to try to work out a deal to free American ships from the British-John Jay Treaty.
  - 🌐 Many Americans **distusted** political parties because
    - They had seen how they worked in Britain and didn't like how party members were more interested in personal gain and not the public good;
    - They saw parties as a threat to American unity.
  - 🌐 Despite Washington's warnings against political parties, they developed around two of his advisors: **Alexander Hamilton** and **Thomas Jefferson**.

	<b>Alexander Hamilton</b>	<b>Thomas Jefferson</b>
Manufacturing or Farming?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Wanted to model US on Britain.</li> <li>✓ <b>Wanted gov't to encourage trade and manufacturing.</b></li> <li>✓ Favored growth of cities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Feared that manufacturing would corrupt the US.</b></li> <li>✓ Believed farmers were the backbone of the new nation.</li> </ul>
Federal or state government?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Believed <b>federal government</b> should have <b>MORE</b> power than the states.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Feared a strong national gov't taking power away from the states.</li> </ul>
Strict or Loose Interpretation of the Constitution?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Read the Constitution <b>LOOSELY</b> – The Constitution gave the federal government the power to make laws that were “necessary and proper” (<i>The Elastic Clause!</i>) which meant that the federal government could stretch its powers if needed!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Read the Constitution <b>STRICTLY</b> – If the Constitution doesn't specifically say it, the power then goes to the state!</li> </ul>
Britain or France?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Wanted to form close ties with <b>Britain</b> for trading purposes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Favored <b>France</b>, the first ally of the US!</li> </ul>
Party Name	<b>Federalists!</b>	<b>Democratic-Republicans!</b>
What types of people followed them?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Had support of merchants and manufacturers.</li> <li>✓ Believed that the wealthy and educated should lead the nation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Included small farmers, crafts workers and some wealthy planters.</li> <li>✓ People (no matter their education or wealth) should have power!</li> </ul>

 **The Election of 1796**

- ✓ Republicans: Thomas Jefferson for President; Aaron Burr for VP.
- ✓ Federalists: John Adams for President; Thomas Pinckney for VP.

 Under the Constitution, the person with most electoral votes became President and the person with the second most electoral votes became VP.

 **John Adams, a Federalist, became President and Thomas Jefferson, a Republican, became VP!**

### **The XYZ Affair**

- 1797: France ships in the West Indies began to seize American ships.
- President Adams sent diplomats to France, but they wanted money (a bribe!) before they would negotiate with the US!
- Adams refused to ask Congress for war but began a **major military build up** which convinced France to stop attacking US ships.

### Many Federalist (including Hamilton!) did not agree with Adams' peace policy which caused a split in the Federalist Party.

- Hamilton and his supporters were called **High Federalists**.

### **The Alien Act**

- Allowed the President to remove any alien (foreigner) thought to be dangerous to the country;
- Made it more difficult to become an American citizen.

### **The Sedition (Stirring up a rebellion against a government) Act**

- Citizens could be fined or jailed if they criticized the government or its officials.
- Republicans protested the law saying it violated the First Amendment!

### **The Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions**

- Claimed that each state has the right to judge for itself if a law is constitutional.
- If the state found the law unconstitutional, they could nullify (cancel) it within their borders.
- The resolutions were in reaction to the Alien and Sedition Acts!!

### **The Election of 1800**

- Republicans: Thomas Jefferson for President; Aaron Burr for VP
- Federalists: John Adams!!
- **The Republicans won but Jefferson and Burr got the same number of votes!!**
- The Constitution stated that the House of Representatives would vote if there was a tie, but they voted and tied 35 different times!
- In the end, **Hamilton cast the deciding vote for Jefferson** (even though he hated Jefferson, he loathed and detested Burr much more!!)
- **Jefferson's election marked an end to the Federalist era!**