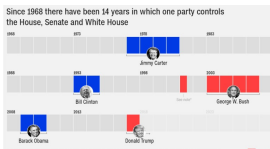


AP GOV THE PRESIDENCY REVIEWED!

Government in America (Pearson) Chapter 12
American Government: (Wilson) Chapter 14
Institutions & Policies

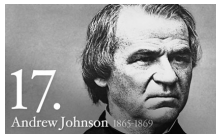
THE PRESIDENCY

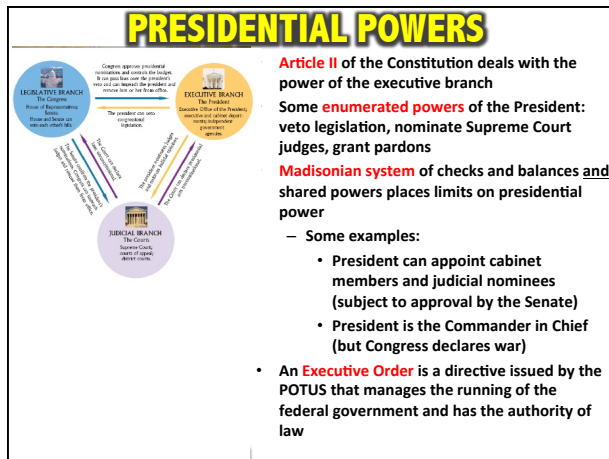
- The **president** holds the most powerful position in the world
 - Role/responsibilities of the **executive branch** increased dramatically in the 20th century
 - Still needs the support of Congress and the public to get things done
 - Hard in **divided government**: different parties control the executive and legislative branch
- Federalist No. 70** argued in favor of a single executive
- Basic requirements to become president:
 - Age 35 or older
 - Natural-born citizen
 - Lived in the U.S. for previous 14 years
- Who has been president?
 - All Protestant until Kennedy
 - All white until Obama
 - All dudes

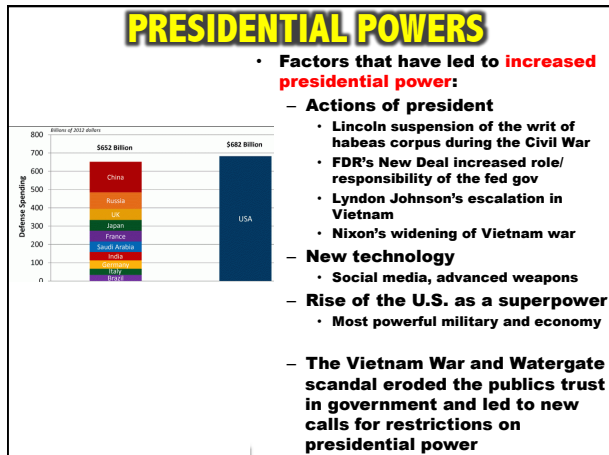


BECOMING PRESIDENT HOW THEY GOT THERE

- Must win the **electoral vote**
 - 4 year term
 - Limited to two terms
 - 22nd Amendment** (1951) after FDR
- The **Vice President** is the next in line for the office
 - 25th Amendment** (1967) created the process of selecting a new VP & procedure for dealing with presidential disabilities
- Impeachment** is when charges are brought against a government official
 - House of Representatives** votes for impeachment (does not mean the president is removed from office)
 - Can be impeached for "treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors"
 - Senate** conducts a trial
 - 2/3 vote in the Senate to remove the president







RUNNING THE GOVERNMENT: THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

- Executive branch:** VP, Cabinet, Executive Office, White House Staff, First Lady, etc.
- Previously the **Vice Presidency** was a largely ceremonial position
 - Oftentimes a VP was selected to help **balance the ticket** and to attract potential voters
 - Increasing role of the VP in policy and advocacy
 - Under Bush, VP Cheney influential in foreign policy
 - Under Obama, VP Biden vast experience in government
- The Cabinet** is not mentioned in the Constitution but has existed as a group of advisors since George Washington
 - Group of advisors who head federal agencies and executive departments
 - The Senate confirms presidential nominees for cabinet head

Department	Year Created	Functions
State	1789	Manages foreign policy, including treaty negotiations
Treasury	1789	Manages the government's financial affairs
Defense	1800	Manages the government's military and the Navy
Justice	1800	Manages the government's judicial system, headed by the Supreme Court
Interior	1849	Manages the nation's natural resources, including federal land and water
Agriculture	1889	Administers farm and food stamp programs and other farm-related issues
Commerce	1903	Administers and conducts the U.S. foreign trade policy
Labor	1913	Administers the Department of Labor, including the National Labor Relations Board
Health and Human Services	1953	Administers the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Created as a separate department in 1980 and Social Security in 1995
Housing and Urban Development	1949	Responsible for housing and urban development programs
Transportation	1966	Responsible for mass transportation and highway programs
Energy	1977	Responsible for energy policy and research, including atomic energy
Education	1979	Responsible for the federal government's education programs
Science and Technology	1980	Responsible for programs aiding science and technology
Environment	1970	Responsible for environmental protection and conservation programs

RUNNING THE GOVERNMENT: THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

- The **Executive Office** was created in 1939 by FDR to help oversee the growing government bureaucracy
 - National Security Council (NSC)**: advice on national security, foreign policy
 - Council of Economic Advisers (CEA)**: advice on economic policy
 - Office of Management & Budget (OMB)**: prepares the president's annual budget
- Around 600 people make up the **White House staff**
 - Chief of Staff**: who president meets with, provides info to president, etc.
 - Press Secretary**: messaging of the president to the media
- Although there is no formal Constitutional role for the **First Lady** (or first hubby), many have influenced their husbands and taken on various campaigns
 - Abigail Adams: "remember the ladies"
 - Edith Wilson: ran stuff when hubby had a stroke
 - Eleanor Roosevelt: advocated for various causes
 - Hillary Clinton: health care reform
 - Michelle Obama: healthy eating and exercise
 - Melania Trump: "be best"



THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS

- The President is required to address Congress annually in the **State of the Union Address**
 - Lays out his/her legislative agenda = "**Chief Legislator**"
- The **veto** is the presidential power of rejecting a law passed by Congress
 - Threat** of a veto to influence legislative process
 - Two-thirds** vote in Congress can override a presidential veto
 - Pocket veto**: President does not sign a law for 10 days and Congress adjourns- bill dead
 - Line-item veto**: reject certain parts of a bill without vetoing the entire bill
 - President **CAN'T** do this
- The President also serves the role of **party leader**
 - Party loyalty in Congress is not absolute
 - President can support party members during campaigns
 - "Presidential coattails"
 - Midterm elections

President	Regular Vetoes	Vetoes Overridden	Percentage of Vetoes Overridden	Pocket Vetoes	Total Vetoes
Cleveland	12	0	0	10	22
McKinley	12	0	0	8	20
Roosevelt	14	0	0	12	26
Taft	24	7	29	37	68
Wilson	28	12	30	32	72
Carter	14	7	33	34	55
Nixon	28	9	32	34	71
Lyndon B. Johnson	24	1	4	35	60
Richard M. Nixon	27	2	7	1	30
Gerald R. Ford	12	2	16	2	16
Jimmy Carter	2	0	0	0	2

THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS

- Amount of influence a president has over the legislative process is also determined by popularity and level of **public support** for the president
 - Electoral mandate** is when a candidate wins by a large margin which often means they have the support to implement their policy agenda
 - Limits of public support**: unlikely to sway members of Congress with ideological differences
- Legislative bargaining skills** also play a key role in the success or failure of a presidential agenda
 - Bargaining** and **persuasion** are **informal** powers that enable the president to secure congressional action
 - First 100 days



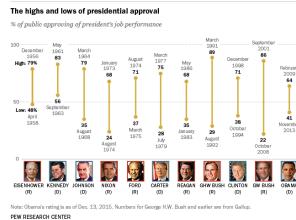
THE PRESIDENT AND NATIONAL SECURITY

- The President serves various roles in the realm of foreign policy & national security
- Chief Diplomat:**
 - Diplomatic recognition
 - Treaty negotiation
 - Informal power: **executive agreement**
 - Personal diplomacy
- Commander in Chief:**
 - Deploy armed forces
 - Congress declares war and appropriates money
- War power has shifted to the executive branch
 - Last declared war? World War II
 - War Powers Resolution** requires the President to seek Congressional approval prior to deploying troops
 - Presidential power expands during a time of a national crisis
 - NSA wiretapping
 - Use of drones
- Crisis Manager**



POWER FROM THE PEOPLE: THE PUBLIC PRESIDENCY

- Presidential approval ratings tend to fluctuate
 - Economic prosperity is great for approval rating
- The President will often attempt to win over public support for their agenda by **"going public"**
- The office of the presidency offers its holder a **"bully pulpit"**
 - Position in which to mobilize public opinion
- Signing statements:** statement signed by the President that informs Congress and the public of their interpretation of a law passed by Congress
- Limited success of swaying public opinion
 - Lack of interest in politics
 - Ideologically set beliefs



THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRESS

- The **press** plays a critical role in the information the public gets about the presidency
 - Daily press briefings conducted by the **Press Secretary**
- Challenges:**
 - 24 hour media coverage means facts are not always verified
 - Rise of **ideologically biased programming**



UNDERSTANDING THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY

- “Different perspectives on the presidential role, ranging from a limited to a more expansive interpretation and use of power, continue to be debated in the context of contemporary events.”
 - Historical fear of government power
 - Constitutional safeguards: checks and balances
 - Desire for a strong president during a crisis **OR** when the president shares their policy beliefs
- Divided government: Presidency is controlled by one party and Congress is controlled by the other
- The President’s longest lasting influence is in their judicial appointments to the Supreme Court

