

- What is Government?
 - Ex. Washington’s Farewell Address
 - Defined
 - Purpose
 - In US
 - In MA
 - Gov’t acts thru Laws
 - Defined
 - Purpose
 - NOTE: *“Nation of laws, not of men”*
 - Gov’t vs. social institutions
 - Reason = “authority”
 - Laws “supersede” rules
 - Authority from legitimacy
 - Defined
 - Use of Force?
 - People “check” gov’t

- NOTE: Dec of Ind
- NOTE: Preamble of MA Con

- Type of gov't?
 - Democracy?
 - *Demos - kratos*
 - Direct democracy
 - Framers' view
 - Federalist No.10
 - Adams' view
 - Reality
 - Plato's *Politeia*
 - *Res Publica*
 - US gov't = Republic
 - Leaders get “authority” via elections
 - Framers' view
 - Federalist No. 10
 - Today's view

- Republic = “Federal” Union
 - NOTE: MA = Commonwealth
- Republic functions via “constitutionalism”
 - Constitution = rules for gov’t
 - NOTE: Art IV, Sec 4
- Basic tasks of gov’t
 - On national level
 - On state/local level
 - Limitations = capacity
 - Defined
 - National vs. state/local
 - NOTE: MA
- How gov’t decides what to do?
 - “Politics”
 - Defined
 - Politics arise from political culture
 - Defined

- Linked to history/religion
- It = “unwritten” constitution
- It ≠ political behavior
- In US, basis = Judeo-Christian traditions
 - Individualism
 - Contribution to society
 - People must obey law
 - Trust of authorities
 - War/violence
 - Hope/conviction
- Politics can trigger bloodshed
- In US = widespread acceptance of core
 - “Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness” = “unalienable
 - Four core beliefs:
 - » Personal liberty
 - » Respect for individual

» Equality of opportunity

» Popular Consent

– NOTE: Values in Conflict / “political combat”