



AMENDMENTS

BILL OF RIGHTS

The first 10 amendments to the Constitution which guarantee certain protections and liberties to the people

13TH AMENDMENT

Slavery was abolished permanently in the United States

14TH AMENDMENT

States were prohibited from denying equal rights under the law to any American

15TH AMENDMENT

Voting rights were guaranteed regardless of race (to former slaves)

17TH AMENDMENT

Provided for the direct election of senators to reduce corruption

18th AMENDMENT

Prohibition

19TH AMENDMENT

Gave women the right to vote



Laws and Policies

MAYFLOWER COMPACT

Established the "covenant community" in the New England colonies and was a basic plan of democratic government

PROCLAMATION OF 1763

British law which upset colonists as it prohibited settlement west of Appalachian Mts. after the French/Indian War

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

Justified the right of American Colonists to break from England and outlined the principles of the Social Contract.

TREATY OF ALLIANCE W/ FRANCE

Negotiated by Ben Franklin, this gave Americans the assistance they needed to win the Revolutionary War.

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION

The first plan of Government for the U.S., it proved to be too weak to handle the needs of the nation.

VIRGINIA PLAN

Written by James Madison, this type of government would give states power in the government based on population.

CONSTITUTION

A written plan of government

VIRGINIA DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

Written by George Mason, this outlined basic rights of people in Virginia and served as a model for the Bill of Rights

VIRGINIA STATUTE OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

This effectively separated church and state, and became a basic part of the 1st amendment

THE NATIONAL BANK

Established to assist the government with economic issues and encourage economic growth - this issue helped political parties to develop

JAY'S TREATY

Treaty between the U.S. and Britain where British agreed to withdraw troops, but continue to occupy trading posts and fish in American waters after the Revolutionary War

MONROE DOCTRINE

No more colonization in Americas, U.S. would be neutral in Europe, and Europe was "different" than Americas.

MISSOURI COMPROMISE

Temporarily solved the problem of slavery by drawing a slave line through the territories and balancing slave and free states.

TARIFF OF 1832

Led to the Nullification Crisis as South Carolina threatened to nullify the tariff or secede from the Union.

COMPROMISE OF 1850

California entered as a free state, popular sovereignty in western territories and strict fugitive slave laws

FUGITIVE SLAVE ACT

Provided for the hunting down and capture of escaped slaves, even in the North

SENECA FALLS DECLARATION

Statement of women's rights movement before the Civil War that demanded equality and the right to vote

KANSAS-NEBRASKA ACT

Repealed the Missouri Compromise by granting popular sovereignty in certain territories

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

Issued by Lincoln, this freed the slaves only in the areas of rebellion during the Civil War.

GETTYSBURG ADDRESS

Lincoln's statement that the Civil War was about keeping the Union together, it was one nation.

COMPROMISE OF 1877

Ending the Reconstruction Period, Republicans dropped reconstruction laws to gain the presidency for Hayes.

HOMESTEAD ACT

Encouraged westward migration by offering free public land for those who would live and farm that land

CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT

This law prohibited people from China from immigrating to the United States which shows anti-immigrant feelings.

IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION ACT OF 1921

This law ended the greatest period of U.S. Immigration.

JIM CROW LAWS

Segregation laws in the South.

SQUARE DEAL

Theodore Roosevelt's programs for progressive reforms

NEW FREEDOM

Woodrow Wilson's programs for progressive reforms

SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST ACT

This law prevents any business structure that restrains trade (monopolies)

CLAYTON ANTI-TRUST ACT

This expanded the Sherman Act and outlawed price fixing and exempted unions

OPEN DOOR POLICY

Demanded that all nations be given equal trading rights in China, to end the spheres of influence

DOLLAR DIPLOMACY

Taft's plan to urge banks and business to invest in Latin America, then to use force to keep them safe

FOURTEEN POINTS

Wilson's plan for a lasting peace after World War I, which included mandates and a League of Nations

TREATY OF VERSAILLES

This ended WW1 by punishing Germany, redrawing national boundaries and creating a League of Nations

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

A key element of Wilson's 14 Points as a means of peaceful diplomacy rather than war where member nations could share grievances and work to a solution

HAWLEY-SMOOT TARIFF

Designed to protect American business, this law actually hurt exports as other nations retaliated, strangling world trade.

NEW DEAL

This set of programs worked to help Americans during the Great Depression, under FDR it expanded the power of government

MARSHALL PLAN

This economic program offered aid to rebuild Europe after WW2 and was a way to contain communism

TRUMAN DOCTRINE

This made containment of communism the guiding principle of American policies after WW2

NATO

A collective security agreement to prevent the spread of communism in Europe

WARSAW PACT

A collective security agreement of the Soviet Union to provide a buffer zone with the West

VIETNAMIZATION

Nixon's plan to return the fighting of the Vietnam War to the people of Vietnam so we could withdraw

ARMS RACE

The active building of more weapons to become more powerful

MASSIVE RETALIATION

The threat of a counter-attack so severe as to deter the thought of attacking

CONTAINMENT

U.S. policy to stop the spread of communism, rather than attack and push it back

CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

This law attempted to end discrimination in many areas of society, including jobs.

VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

This law attempted to extend suffrage by making it more difficult to discriminate during voter registration

REAGAN REVOLUTION

Rise of conservative ideals such as tax cuts, transfer of responsibilities to state governments, appointment of judges/justices who exercised "judicial restraint" and reduction in the number and scope of government programs and regulations

FEDERAL RESERVE

Monetary policy decisions control the supply of money and credit to expand or contract economic growth

NAFTA

Eliminated trade restrictions between U.S., Canada and Mexico

PATRIOT ACT

Law that allows the U.S. Government to aggressively locate suspected terrorists within the United States



COURT CASES



DRED SCOTT DECISION

Court decision ruled that black men, free or slave, were not citizens and that slavery could exist in "free" areas

MARBURY V. MADISON

Court decision which established federal court power to declare laws unconstitutional (judicial review)

MCCULLOCH V. MARYLAND

Court decision which prohibited states from taxing agencies of the federal government (implied powers)

GIBBONS V. OGDEN

Court decision that established foundation for Supreme Court to decide disputes between states or levels of government (commerce clause)

PLESSY V. FERGUSON

Court decision which stated "separate but equal" did NOT violate 14th amendment and upheld Jim Crow Laws

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION

Court decision that segregated schools are unequal and must integrate