CONGRESS

**CONGRESSIONAL POWERS**

**EXPRESSED (SOMETIMES CALLED ENUMERATED)**
- Examples: tax, spend, declare war, naturalization laws, regulate trade

**IMPLIED POWERS**
- Powers implied to belong to Congress in order to carry out expressed powers.
- *McCulloch v. Maryland* ruled Congress has implied powers.
- Examples: Draft Americans, Establish minimum wage

**NONLEGISLATIVE POWERS**
- Power found in Constitution that do not relate to making laws.
- Examples: Investigative (force people to testify before committees which use this to become informed in order to make the best policy that they can). Impeachment (firing an official). Confirming appointments (Senate must approve presidential appointments).

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

- **STATE REPRESENTATION**
  - 435 members, # divided out to States based on their population (census counts every 10 years)
  
- **MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS & TERMS**
  - 25 years old, Citizen for 7 years, State Resident
  - 2 year term (no term limits)

- **ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES**
  - Always directly elected by citizens in their district

- **EXCLUSIVE ONLY IN HOUSE**
  - Initiates revenue bills
  - Impeachment: charges (or indicts) someone with a crime.
  - House Rules Committee sets strict limits on debate times (this gives the Speaker of House a lot of power when they implement rules)

**SENATE**

- **STATE REPRESENTATION**
  - 100 members based on State equality (2 per state)

- **MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS & TERMS**
  - 30 years old, Citizen for 9 years, State Resident
  - 6-year term (Continuous body; ⅓ of Senate up for re-election every two years)

- **ELECTION OF SENATORS**
  - Originally selected by State Legislatures
  - 17th Amendment changed to direct election.

- **EXCLUSIVE ONLY IN SENATE**
  - Approves presidential appointments and treaties
  - Votes to convict or fire official
  - Filibuster: nonstop talking to delay action on a bill. Cloture: stops a filibuster (16 sign petition, then ⅔ of Senate vote to invoke cloture.

**HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW**

**COMMITTEES**

- **COMMITTEE ACTION**
  - Recommendation: recommend to full body of Congress to vote this bill into law.
  - Amend: Change bill more to your liking
  - Reject: Deny bill
  - Substitute: Replace a bill with your version
  - Pigeonhole: ignore a bill

- **HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE**
  - Determines rules for floor action (debate time & ability to add amendments)

- **APPROPRIATION COMMITTEES**
  - Creates spending bills

- **Standing Committees**
  - Permanent committees. Most members of congress are on 2-3 standing committees.

- **Conference Committee**
  - Reconciles differences between two different versions of a bill

- **Select Committee**
  - Handles investigations (Watergate, Benghazi, Steroids in Baseball, etc.)

**CONGRESSIONAL VOTING**

- **Representational (delegate):** Voting to please their constituents.

- **Organizational (partisan):** Voting to please members of Congress.

- **Attitudinal (trustee):** Voting based on their own judgment.

*Representational vote is only likely if citizens views are known to congress members

**VOTING THEORIES**

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**INFLUENCING CONGRESS**

- Political parties, Constituents, Lobbyists, Staff Members

**OVERVIEW**

- Both houses must approve a bill before President can sign it.

**THE BASICS**

- Any House member can propose a bill in the House.
- Any Senator can propose a bill in Senate.
- **Committee Action:** They craft bills to their likings
- **Floor Action:** Debate & Vote. (bill goes to the other house)
- **Conference Committee:** Member of both houses join to create a compromise bill (reconcile differences).
- Both houses vote again (it’s now considered a new bill)
- **Presidential Action:** Sign into law or veto. (10 days in/out)
- President veto can be overridden with ⅔ of vote of both houses.

**Supreme Court Cases**

- **Baker v. Carr (1961)** - “One Man One Vote” Congressional districts need to be as close to equal as possible. The courts can intervene when this does not take place.

- **Shaw v. Reno (1993)** - Redistricting based on race must be held to a strict standard because of the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. Race cannot be the predominant factor in creating districts.

Units:

- **Unit 4: The Legislative Branch and Domestic Policy**
- **Unit 5: The Executive Branch**
- **Unit 6: Judicial Branch**
- **Unit 7: Presidential Policy-Making**

- **AP U.S. Government**
- **One Page**
### DOMESTIC POLICY

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<td>- Congress passes laws</td>
<td>- A group who tries to win elections so they can control the government (policy).</td>
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<td><strong>PRESIDENT</strong></td>
<td><strong>INTEREST GROUPS</strong></td>
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<td>- The president issues executive orders.</td>
<td>- Use propaganda (to get people actively involved)</td>
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<td><strong>BUREAUCRACY</strong></td>
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<td><strong>COST/BENEFITS OF POLICY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- The agencies set regulations (rulemaking)</td>
<td>- Use PACs to influence elections of future policy makers.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>JUDICIAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Majoritarian: all pay, all get---social security</td>
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<tr>
<td>- The Court sets precedents by ruling on a case (some ruling require governments to spend money in remedies)</td>
<td>- Entrepreneurial: some pay, all get--limit carbon emissions</td>
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<tr>
<td>*All government institutions create policy in some way.</td>
<td>- Client politics: all pay, some get--food stamps</td>
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<td><strong>MEDIA</strong></td>
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<td>- Interest group: some pay, some get--60 day notice layoffs</td>
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<td>- The media selects which stories to cover. (gatekeeper)</td>
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### MONETARY POLICY VERSUS FISCAL POLICY

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<th><strong>REVENUE &amp; EXPENDITURES</strong></th>
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<td>- Gov manages money supply and the value of currency.</td>
<td><strong>EXECUTIVE ROLE</strong></td>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- The Federal Reserve Board (The Fed) is an independent regulatory agency that sets monetary policy by:</td>
<td>- Agencies submit desired funding to OMB.</td>
<td>- Income Taxes (biggest hunk). <strong>Progressive tax</strong>: the more you make the more you pay.</td>
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<td>1) setting bond rates (interest on bonds)</td>
<td>- Office of Management &amp; Budget finalizes budget proposal under Presidents leadership.</td>
<td>- Flat tax: everyone pays the same rate (done at State level with sales tax).</td>
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<td>2) setting discount rates (interest on loans)</td>
<td><strong>LEGISLATIVE ROLE</strong></td>
<td><strong>SPENDING</strong></td>
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<td>3) setting the reserve requirements (money banks must keep on hand)</td>
<td>- Congress sets overall levels of revenue &amp; expenditures</td>
<td>- Mandatory Spending make up ⅔ of budget. <strong>Entitlement program</strong>: citizens receive a benefit by law if they meet certain requirements. Examples: Social Security, Food Stamps, Medicare</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FISCAL POLICY</strong></td>
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<td>- Discretionary spending makes up ⅓ of budget. <strong>Debt</strong>: the total amount of money that the U.S. owes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>-The amount Congress decides to tax (revenue) and spend (expenditures).</td>
<td>- <strong>appropiation bills</strong>: spending bills.</td>
<td>- <strong>Deficit</strong>: when the government spends more than it makes.</td>
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<td>-Federal taxes: Income, Estate, Corporate, Excise.</td>
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<td>- <strong>Surplus</strong>: when the government spends less than it makes.</td>
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<td>-State taxes: Sales, Property, Licenses, Income</td>
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*The U.S. taxes and spends around 4 trillion dollars every year. (Deficit usually)*