THE FEDERALISTS: A SEMINAR

INSTITUTE FOR RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP

W. B. ALLEN
Lecturer and Tutor

SYLLABUS

Required Texts:\n
- **James Madison**, Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787
  **Contributor**: Adrienne Koch (Introduction by)
  **Publication Date**: March 1987
  **Publisher**: W. W. Norton & Company, Incorporated

- **Harry V. Jaffa**, A New Birth of Freedom: Abraham Lincoln and the Coming of the Civil War
  **Publication Date**: April 2004
  **Publisher**: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Incorporated

- Alexander Hamilton, et. Al., The Federalist
  **Contributor**: Jacob E. Cooke (Editor), **Publication Date**: July 1982
  **Publisher**: Wesleyan University Press

In this seminar we aim to understand American federalism as it was originally articulated and in the context of the confutations that characterized the first decade under the Constitution. Through the discussion of primary sources, with reference to a few secondary materials, we should discover the principal concerns of the founders and the peculiar expressions that shaped the American experience.

The readings and activities for the course are set forth below on a SESSION-by-SESSION schedule. Each participant in the course is individually responsible for fulfilling the requirements of the course as they are set out. Each must affirm to perform all assignments as required and that all work submitted in response to assignments is one’s own

Requirements:

1. Attendance on each class session in the course.
2. Advance reading of lesson assignments.
3. Paper: Each class participant must submit an essay, concentrating on some aspect of federalism, the Constitutional Convention or slavery, in relation to the Constitution as articulated at the founding or on some related question arising from discussion. The topic must be discussed with the instructor in advance. The paper must reflect on the express discussions of the seminar. It should not exceed 3,000 words nor be fewer than 1,500 words.

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1 N.B. The required texts generally contain extensive bibliography and footnote listings that introduce further primary and secondary reading material. Class participants should pursue judicious selections among these materials for further reading. They may be referenced in the course of discussions.
### SEMINAR SCHEDULE:

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>June 4</td>
<td>SESSION ONE</td>
<td><em>Federalist</em> #1, 84 &amp; 85</td>
<td>Why Read <em>The Federalist Papers</em>? An Overview A “Bill of Rights” Political Goodness</td>
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<td>June 6</td>
<td>SESSION TWO</td>
<td>Notes: May 25 – June 4</td>
<td>Opening the Constitutional Convention <em>E Pluribus Unum</em></td>
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<td>June 9</td>
<td>SESSION THREE</td>
<td>Jaffa, chaps 1-2</td>
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<td>June 11</td>
<td>SESSION FOUR</td>
<td><em>Federalist</em> #10 &amp; 14-17; 22 23, 26-27, 31, 35</td>
<td>An Improved Science of Politics Democracy at Large Power and Purpose</td>
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<td>June 13</td>
<td>SESSION FIVE</td>
<td>Notes: June 5 – July 5</td>
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<td>June 16</td>
<td>SESSION SIX</td>
<td>Jaffa, chaps 4-5</td>
<td>Debating Slavery, Debating the Constitution</td>
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<td><em>Federalist</em>; # 37, 39; 40-45, 47, 51</td>
<td>The Just Majority A Government Wholly Popular</td>
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<td>June 20</td>
<td>SESSION EIGHT</td>
<td><em>Federalist</em>; # 57; 62, 63; 67,69, 72, 78, 84</td>
<td>The House of Representatives The Senate The Executive and the Judiciary</td>
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<td>SESSION NINE</td>
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<td>June 25</td>
<td>SESSION TEN</td>
<td>Notes: August 8 – September 17</td>
<td>Compromise or Revolution?</td>
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<td>June 27</td>
<td>SESSION ELEVEN</td>
<td>Jaffa, chaps 6-7 and Appendix</td>
<td>Union or slavery?</td>
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<td>June 29</td>
<td>SESSION TWELVE</td>
<td>Review/Closing Dinner</td>
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Recommended Readings:


Alan Bloom, *Confronting the Constitution* (American Enterprise Institute)


Conley & Kaminski, *The Constitution and the States* (Madison House)


Kaminski & Leffler, *Federalist and Antifederalists* (Madison House)


Further Reading

W. B. Allen, *Let the Advice Be Good: A Defense of Madison’s Democratic Nationalism* (UPA)

W. B. Allen, “Montesquieu and America,” in *Uncertain Legacy*, ed. by Edward McLean (ISI)


Barlow, Mahoney, & West, edd., *The New Federalist Papers* (UPA)

Joseph J. Ellis, *Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation* (Alfred A. Knopf)


Albert Furtwangler, *The Authority of Publius: A Reading of the Federalist Papers* (Cornell University Press)

Gillespie & Lienesch, *Ratifying the Constitution* (University Press of Kansas)

Ralph Ketcham, *The Anti-Federalist Papers & the Constitutional Convention Debates* (NAL)


Donald S. Lutz, *A Preface to American Political Theory* (University Press of Kansas)

Edward B. McLean, ed., *Derailing the Constitution: The Undermining of American Federalism* (ISI)
McWilliams & Gibbons, edd., *The Federalists, the Antifederalists & the American Political Tradition* (Greenwood Publishing Group)
Manley & Dolbeare, edd., *The Case Against the Constitution from the Antifederalist to the Present* (M. E. Sharpe Inc.)
Mosteller & Wallace, *Applied Bayesian & Classical Inference: The Case of the Federalist Papers* (Springer-Verlag)
Peter S. Onuf, ed., *Federalists & Republicans* (Garland Publishing)
John J. Patrick, ed., *James Madison & the Federalist Papers* (Indiana University, Social Studies Development Center)

**GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY** (from *Essential Antifederalist, revised edition*):
