

Guiding Principles of the Constitution

The limited government envisioned in the Constitution is based upon six guiding principles.



Popular Sovereignty

Because the government is created by and for the people, power resides not with the government or its leaders but with the people. In a representative democracy, the people vote to elect leaders to represent their interests.



Rule of Law

The people and their government must abide by a set of laws, rather than by arbitrary rules set down by any individual or group. The Constitution sets limits to governmental power and establishes how leaders who overstep their power can be removed.



Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances

Powers and responsibilities are divided among three government branches to prevent any one person or group from having too much power. A system of checks and balances allows each branch to monitor and check the power of the others to prevent any abuse of government power.



Federalism

Power is divided between the central government and the individual state and local governments.



Independent Judiciary

The judicial branch is established as an independent entity, free of pressures and influences from the other two branches. The Supreme Court is the highest authority in the federal court system.



Individual Rights

Individual rights and liberties are protected against government encroachment.

Constitutional Law 2 Cards

<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article IV, Section 2, Clause 1</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article II, Section 2, Clause 2</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article I, Section 7, Clause 2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tenth Amendment</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article I, Section 2, Clause 1</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article I, Section 8, Clause 3</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Preamble</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 8</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article VI, Clause 2</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 9</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article IV, Section 4</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2L</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Card 10</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Article III, Section 1</p>

Constitutional Law 2 Matrix

Card	Principle or Principles Exemplified	Explanation of How These Principles Are Exemplified
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
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10		