**9 Washington, Hamilton and Adams**

Demographics of the New Nation

* Native population in the early republic doubled about every 25 years
* Philadelphia, Boston, New York City, Charleston, Baltimore were major cities
* 90 % rural, 10% urban
* Westward expansion to Kentucky, Tennessee Ohio; Vermont 14th State

Washington’s administration

* Unanimously chosen by Electoral College (won all of the states outright – “winner takes all”)
* Oath of Office on Apr. 30th, 1789 (before new Constitution went into effect: 1790 R.I. ratifies)
	+ John Adams, Vice-president
		- Won second most votes, but no states outright
* Created a ‘Cabinet’ w/
	+ Hamilton (Sec. of Treasury)
	+ Thomas Jefferson (Sec. of State)
	+ John Knox (Sec. of War)
	+ Edmund Randoph (attorney general)
* Judiciary Act of 1789
	+ One of the first acts of the new congress
	+ Creates other courts inferior to the Supreme Court and defines the number of justices in the Supreme Court

Bill of Rights

* In order to ratify the Constitution ¾ (9/13) of states required (DE, PA,NJ,GA,CT, MA, MD, SC, NH)
* To get NY, VA, NC, RI -a Bill of Rights had to be added
* James Madison, wrote & ushered these through Congress
	+ 1st ten amendments: primarily protect individual civil liberties and offer protections from the government

Hamilton vs. Jefferson

**Hamilton: Big Government. Big Ideas.**

* **Loose constructionist:**
	+ Constitution should be interpreted loosely as it was purposefully written as a vague document
		- “Necessary and Proper” clause allows for gov’t to “stretch” its power
* ‘Funding at Par’ –federal gov’t paid of Rev War debt at face value + accrued interest
* ‘the assumption’ of state debt (should be a national obligation)
* Raise customs duties **(tariffs)**
	+ Excise tax on whiskey
* Created the National Bank (w/20 year charter)
* Pro-British

**Jefferson: Small Government: Home Grown and Sweet.**

* **Strict constructionist**
	+ Constitution should be understood as is. The wording of the constitution says what it means and doesn’t allow for interpretation.
* Hated state debt plan, as VA had little debt
* Wanted the prestige of having the capital next to VA (Washington, D.C. is later chosen)
* Advocated for “states’ rights”
	+ More power for states, less for federal government
* Pro-French: supported the French Rev. as the French supported the Americans

Rise of ‘Factions’

* Origins of political parties in Federalist/Anti-federalist debates -Only temporarily resolved by B of R
* **Sectionalism** emerges :
	+ Northern business (aided by gov’t) vs Southern/western agrarian culture (infringed upon by gov’t)
* Hamiltonian **(Federalist**) policies of:
	+ national bank, excise tax, suppression of the Whiskey Rebellion created new divisions
* Jefferson & Madison **(Democratic-Republicans)** raise opposition to Hamilton –beginning **two–party system**
	+ **“Loyal opposition”:** term for party out of power

**Neutrality (Washington Administration cont…)**

* French Revolution spread to naval conflict w/Britain
* Federalists outraged at violence
* **Jeffersonians aka Democratic-Republicans** considered it an extension of their own struggle for liberty
* Washington issues: **Neutrality Proclamation of 1793**
	+ **Leads to isolationist tradition**
	+ **Gives the nation time to become more secure economically & strategically**
	+ Jefferson resigns from Cabinet in disagreement

**Asserting Federal Power**

* **Whiskey Rebellion, 1794**
* Western PA farmers did not want to pay excise tax on whiskey which was est. to help pay for war debt
	+ they converted surplus grain to whiskey
	+ Used as a medium of exchange/currency until National Bank was established
	+ Excise tax cut into their profit by 7 cents a gallon
	+ Multi-state militias came to put down protest (15,000 troops), only a few killed, but demonstrated the power of federal authority
	+ Impacts:
		- Has the opposite effect of Shays’ Rebellion: Flex’s gov’ts muscles instead of showing weakness
		- Westerners: seen as unnecessary use of force by gov’t
			* Critic Thomas Jefferson gains popularity as a result

**Indian Conflicts**

* **Miami Confederacy aka “Northwest Confederacy”**
	+ “Little Turtle” leader of Natives
	+ 8 tribes that controlled lands in Ohio, Indiana who attacked American frontiersmen
		- Shawnee, Delaware, Iroquois, Miami
	+ Won a series of bloody battles but are eventually defeated at the “Battle of Fallen Timbers” in NW Ohio
	+ Supported British in maintaining forts in US territory
* **Treaty of Grenville, 1795**
	+ Natives agree to open Ohio R. area to settlement
	+ $20,000 initially + $9,000 annually (worth of goods) to the natives
	+ Created system of sovereign people living on US lands (eventually, reservation system)

**Conflicts w/Britain**

* British captured hundreds of US ships & **impressed** sailors in the West Indies
	+ Impressment: capturing sailors and forcing to fight in military
* Federalists refused to sanction (punish with tariffs) the British b/c U.S. was dependent on trade
* **Jay Treaty of 1794**
	+ Chief Justice John Jay, to England to discuss impressment issue. 1 year of negotiations.
		- British agree to evacuate forts in the west
		- Pay for maritime damages, but did not promise to stop
		- US had to pay pre-Revolution debt
		- Helped to keep US at peace

Farewell Address

* Warned against:
	+ Getting involved in European affairs
	+ Not to make permanent alliances with foreign nations
	+ Not to form political parties – already began to form during his administration
	+ Not to fall into (geographical) sectionalism

**John Adams Administration (Federalist)**

* Won 1796 Election by 3 Electoral votes, Jefferson (Dem-Rep) becomes Vice-President (2nd most votes)
	+ Disliked by Hamilton, unpopular w/ the masses due to inflexibility and intellectual snobbery
* **Convention of 1800**
	+ **Annulled Franco-American Treaty of 1778**
* **XYZ Affair** (1797)
	+ US diplomats go to France to discuss French seizure of American merchant ships
	+ French diplomats, known as X, Y, and Z ask for “tribute” ($$/bribe) in order to see French minister Talleyrand
		- US envoys refused to pay a bribe
		- “millions for defense, but not one cent for tribute” – slogan of angry Federalists
	+ Led to 2 years of naval hostilities (1798-1800), creation of the Department of Navy, navy & marine corps expanded
	+ Redeemed Adams in the eyes of the public

Alien & Sedition Acts

* Created by Federalist dominated Congress to suppress the ability for Democratic-Republicans to gain power
* **Alien Laws**
	+ Intended to bar immigrants from becoming citizens (They typically supported Democratic- Republicans who welcomed them)
	+ Made residency for citizenship 14 years instead of 5 (**Naturalization Act**)
* **Sedition Act**
	+ Anyone who spoke out against gov’t policies or defamed officials could be fined or imprisoned
		- Used to silence Democratic-Republicans to retain favorable public spotlight

VA & KY Resolutions

* Democratic-Republicans have little ability to change the laws (Judicial Review yet to be est.)
* Jefferson’s secret response to Alien & Sedition laws
* Approved by Kentucky legislature in order to nullify the Alien and Sedition Acts
* **James Madison** penned a similar resolution for the VA legislature
	+ No other states approved
* **Compact theory –’state’s rights’**
	+ National gov’t a creation of the states
	+ Federal ‘regime’ had exceeded its authority
	+ States should ‘nullify’ unjust laws
	+ Helped to elect Jefferson in 1800 and Federalists lost their majority in Congress in 1800