

CONSTITUTION 101

Module 15: The Constitution as Amended:

Article V and a Walking Tour of America's 27 Constitutional Amendments


15.3 Activity Guide

THE 27 AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

Throughout American history, “We the People” have amended our Constitution 27 times—transforming it in important ways. Through the Article V amendment process, we often make it a “more perfect” document. In this activity, you will learn more about key periods of constitutional change and explore the 27 amendments to the Constitution.

The Founding era amendments: 1791 – 1804

Gave us our first 12 amendments, including the Bill of Rights!




Amendment	Read the amendment on the <i>Interactive Constitution</i> .	Summarize the amendment in your own words.	What are three to five key words or terms associated with this amendment?	What were some factors that led to this amendment being added to the Constitution?
First Amendment 1791 	Text of the Amendment Common Interpretations: - Establishment Clause - Free Exercise Clause - Free Speech and Press - Assembly and Petition			

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<p>Second Amendment 1791</p>  The seal of the Second Amendment, featuring a circular design with a central figure holding a rifle, surrounded by the words "SECOND AMENDMENT" and "1791".	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>Third Amendment 1791</p>  The seal of the Third Amendment, featuring a circular design with a central figure holding a key, surrounded by the words "THIRD AMENDMENT" and "1791".	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>Fourth Amendment 1791</p>  The seal of the Fourth Amendment, featuring a circular design with a central figure holding a key, surrounded by the words "FOURTH AMENDMENT" and "1791".	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			

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<p>Fifth Amendment 1791</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Criminal Procedure Clauses- Due Process Clause- Takings Clause			
<p>Sixth Amendment 1791</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>Seventh Amendment 1791</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			

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<p>Eighth Amendment 1791</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>Ninth Amendment 1791</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>10th Amendment 1791</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			





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<p>11th Amendment 1795</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>12th Amendment 1804</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			

Reconstruction era amendments: 1865 – 1870 (There was a 60+ year gap between the Founding and Reconstruction eras.)

Gave us three transformational amendments that many scholars argue represent our nation's "Second Founding."




Amendment	Read the amendment on the <i>Interactive Constitution</i> .	Summarize the amendment in your own words.	What are three to five key words or terms associated with this amendment?	What were some factors that led to this amendment being added to the Constitution?
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<p>12th Amendment 1804</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>14th Amendment 1868</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Citizenship Clause- Due Process Clause- Equal Protection Clause- Enforcement Clause- Privileges or Immunities Clause			
<p>15th Amendment 1870</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			

The Progressive era: 1913 – 1920 (There was a 40+ year gap between the Reconstruction and Progressive eras.)




Gave us the 16th–19th Amendments.

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Amendment	Read the amendment on the <i>Interactive Constitution</i> .	Summarize the amendment in your own words.	What are three to five key words or terms associated with this amendment?	What were some factors that led to this amendment being added to the Constitution?
16th Amendment 1913 	Text of the Amendment Common Interpretation			
17th Amendment 1913 	Text of the Amendment Common Interpretation			
18th Amendment 1919 	Text of the Amendment Common Interpretation			

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<p>19th Amendment 1920</p>  The seal of the 19th Amendment features a central shield with a scale of justice, a sword, and a laurel wreath. Above the shield is a banner with the Roman numeral 'XIX'. The shield is flanked by two hands holding a scroll. Below the shield are the female and male symbols.	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
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Modern era: 1933 – 1992 (It's been over 30 years since the last amendment!)

Added the remaining eight amendments, little by little, between 1933 and 1992.




Amendment	Read the amendment on the <i>Interactive Constitution</i> .	Summarize the amendment in your own words.	What are three to five key words or terms associated with this amendment?	What were some factors that led to this amendment being added to the Constitution?
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<p>20th Amendment 1933</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>21st Amendment 1933</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>22nd Amendment 1951</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			






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<p>23rd Amendment 1961</p>  <p>The seal of the 23rd Amendment features a circular border with the Roman numeral 'XXIII' at the top. Inside the circle, there are three stars and a document with a checkmark, symbolizing the amendment's ratification.</p>	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>24th Amendment 1964</p>  <p>The seal of the 24th Amendment features a circular border with the Roman numeral 'XXIV' at the top. Inside the circle, there is a ballot box with a dollar sign on it, representing the prohibition of poll taxes.</p>	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>25th Amendment 1967</p>  <p>The seal of the 25th Amendment features a circular border with the Roman numeral 'XXV' at the top. Inside the circle, there is a question mark above a building, symbolizing the process of presidential succession and disability.</p>	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			





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<p>26th Amendment 1971</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			
<p>27th Amendment 1992</p> 	<p>Text of the Amendment</p> <p>Common Interpretation</p>			

