Study Guide – Chapter 5

* Models for American government
	+ State constitutions
	+ Declaration of Independence - important – states reasons we left Britain and formed a basis for limited government and Bill of Rights
	+ Magna Carta
	+ John Locke philosophy
	+ Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom
* Articles of Confederation
	+ Developed by Second Continental Congress
	+ First National government of America
	+ Created a single branch of government with limited powers
	+ Created very weak central government
	+ Many weakness and dealt with many challenges
		- Troubles with Britain
		- Trade troubles with Britain and Spain
		- Economic problems – trade between states, inflation, weak economy
* Northwest Territory
	+ Land Ordinance of 1785 set up a system of surveying and dividing lands
	+ Northwest Ordinance of 1787 established process for bringing in new states and established basic civil rights
* Shays Rebellion
	+ Caused by taxes causing farmers to lose their farms
	+ Tried to close courts to stop foreclosures
	+ Highlighted weakness of the Articles of Confederation and their failure to protect ideals of the American Revolution
* Creating the constitution
	+ Compromise over determining representation in the new government
		- Virginia Plan, New Jersey Plan and the Great Compromise
	+ Compromise over counting slaves
		- Three-fifths compromise
	+ Created a federalist government – federalism – sharing of power between states and the national government
	+ Popular sovereignty – Political authority belongs to the people
	+ Created three branches of government
		- Legislative makes laws
		- Executive carries out the law
		- Judicial branch interprets laws
		- Checks and balances created to make sure no one branch is too strong
		- Federal government has certain powers like foreign policy, declare war, maintain armed services
		- Shared duties with local governments like courts, taxation
		- Certain powers to the states like education
	+ Ratification
		- Passed by delegates September 1787
		- Needed to be approved by states
			* Nine in Constitution, but all states needed to ratify
		- Federalists and Anti-federalists
	+ Antifederalists
		- Constitution should not have been written
		- No individual rights guarantees
		- Central government was too strong
	+ Federalists
		- Proper balance between state and local governments
		- Federalists Papers
	+ Bill of Rights
		- First amendments (ten) to the Constitution
		- Ensured protection of individual rights and liberty
		- Protects ideals of Declaration of Independence
	+ Constitution has been flexible to meet changing needs of the nation