

AP United States History

George Washington and His Presidency

- Slavery and The Constitution
 - Compromise between states over slavery implicitly in The Constitution
 - Three fifths compromise
 - Slaves counted as 3/5 of a person in terms of representation in the House of Representatives
 - No slave trade would exist after 1808
 - Fugitive Slave Clause
 - Slaves who escaped from southern states into northern, free states would be extradited back
- Precedent of George Washington's presidency
 - Executive departments: secretary of state, treasury and war, attorney general, postmaster general
 - This was not stated in The Constitution
- Hamilton's Financial Program
 - Wants to stimulate the National Economy by buying all state debt
 - Pushes for a "sin tax" on products like whiskey
 - Supports tariffs
- Jefferson freaks out
 - Anti-Federalists argue that this is a return to the days of Britain ruling over the colonies after the Seven Years War
 - Thought Hamilton's plan favored the rich
 - Whiskey tax and debt plan was thought to hurt small farmers
- The Whiskey Rebellion
 - Mostly just large protests, but Washington sends 13-15k troops
 - This demonstrates the power of the president as Washington leads the troops himself, new credit to the government
- Proclamation of Neutrality in 1793

- George Washington announces his neutrality to France and Britain while encouraging trade with both
- Jefferson rages over trade with Britain and resigns
- Jay's Treaty
 - John Jay (Federalist) is sent to Britain to secure neutrality between Britain and America
 - Returns with neutrality between British and Natives and rights for British to search American ships for French goods
 - Everyone gets super mad and George Washington is surprised
 - First exercise of executive privilege to keep conversations about the treaty private (precedent)