# Federalism

**Federalism** is the system of government in which at least 2 levels of government share governing over the same people and territory

* We had tried con-federalism under the articles of confederation
  + But we needed to sort out the overlapping powers between state and national governments
    - This is why article 6 was created – the supremacy clause
* Benefits of federalism include :
  + Local governments can better deal with specific problems
  + The value of time and place information in differentiating the functions of the government
  + Creates overlapping layers of government that can address different issues
* Origin of federalism
  + Number 9 and 39 written by Hamilton and Madison respectively
    - Number 9 talks about how federalism can suppress factions and provide order. Also it provides governing in a large and small scale Also states have equal power and no one state has more power.
    - Number 39 argues that the convention created a federal government
      * The character of the government
      * The authority of the government
      * Duty of the convention to provide a good government
      * The process involves state approval
      * Representation is based on states
* Shifts in federalism
  + Top down vs bottom up
* The new deal
  + Rise in power for the government
  + Fdr was given special powers by congress
    - The supreme court tried to stop him from passing some of the bills but he threatened them with appointed more judges who worked for him
* Top down policy
  + Picket fence federalism uses the local levels to administer and deliver public policies
    - Benefits are policy specialization and vertical alliances between state and local
    - Drawbacks are mandated actions and monitoring problems
  + National government policy dominates choices and innovation of the lower levels
* Policy instruments
  + Sticks and carrots which are positive and negative incentives
* 3 qualifications of a federal system :
  + Geography – Texas is split by the Texas government and national government
  + Independence – the constitution protects the states powers from the government
  + Mutual influence – each unit has leverage over the other units
* We have a shared federalism system because we have state and national powers
  + Shared federalism jointly serve the people
    - Dual federalism would mean state and national powers are split
* The elastic clause and commerce clause and supremacy clause give the national government a lot of power
* The supreme court is seen as a interpreter of laws
* Types of grants and carrots and sticks
  + Categorical grants – federal dollars tied to particular programs or categories
  + Block grants – with fewer strings attached
    - These are carrots
  + Sticks are unfunded mandates