

BACKGROUND READING

De Tocqueville, Alexis. *Democracy in America*. New York: Penguin Classics, 2003.

Goodsell, Charles T. *The Case for Bureaucracy: A Public Administration Polemic*, 2nd ed. Chatham: Chatham House, 1985.

Hamilton, Alexander, James Madison, and John Jay. *The Federalist Papers*. New York: Penguin Classics, 1987.

Lorenzo, David J. "Countering Popular Misconceptions of Federal Bureaucracies in American Government Classes." *Political Science and Politics* (December 1999): 743–747.

Wilson, Woodrow. "The Study of Administration." *Political Science Quarterly* 2 (June/July 1887): 197–222.

MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. The unwritten agreement between the government and the governed that defines the responsibilities of each party is referred to as a
 - a. referendum
 - b. discretionary decision
 - c. **social contract**
 - d. constitution
2. At the local level, public administration is characterized by unusually weak
 - a. **chief executives**
 - b. budgetary officers
 - c. legislative bodies
 - d. judges
3. In many states, citizens have constrained government activities by adopting principles of direct democracy. Which of the following places an issue on the ballot through petitions signed by registered voters?
 - a. a recall
 - b. a referendum
 - c. **an initiative**
 - d. a supermajority

4. _____ is the device used to reconcile bureaucracy with democracy.
- a. **Public administration**
 - b. Public policy
 - c. Civic responsibility
 - d. Legislative action
5. American public administration is characterized as
- a. aggressive
 - b. **constrained.**
 - c. forceful
 - d. destructive
8. What percentage of American has a favorable opinion of government workers?
- a. 20%
 - b. 50%
 - c. **70%**
 - d. 90%
7. A _____ election allows voters to determine whether an elected official can complete his/her term in office.
- a. primary
 - b. referendum
 - c. **recall**
 - d. general
8. _____ power refers to a public administrator's authority to decide how to implement public policies.
- a. **Discretionary**
 - b. Legislative
 - c. Judicial
 - d. Noetic
9. Congressional repeal of an executive action taken in the course of administering a law is known as a
- a. line-item veto
 - b. **legislative veto**
 - c. discretionary veto
 - d. political veto

10. _____ allows Congress to review how agencies fill in the blanks in a law.
- a. Proposition 13
 - b. Congressional Review Act of 1996**
 - c. Government Employees Training Act of 1958
 - d. Setting the policy agenda

TRUE/FALSE QUESTIONS

11. The Articles of Confederation created a strong national government with a centralized bureaucratic structure. **FALSE**
12. Public administration and bureaucracy are specifically referenced in the U.S. Constitution. **FALSE**
13. The majority of Americans believe that they have been treated fairly in their interactions with public bureaucrats. **TRUE**
14. In contrast to Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson supported a constrained administrative tradition. **TRUE**
15. The United States has smaller governments and lower taxes than comparable countries. **TRUE**
16. There is a clear correlation between strong social capital and low performing state government. **FALSE**

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

17. Discuss why U.S. presidents may feel frustrated by or indifferent to the bureaucracy. What are the potential consequences of these actions?
18. Why did the Framers of the U.S. Constitution create constrained government structures and processes?
19. Discuss the differences between the image and the reality of the public bureaucrat.
20. What are some of the features of constrained public administration?
21. How would you describe American's view of their governments today?