United States Government... Where do we start?

Why form a government?

- guidance or control; system of maintaining order in a state (people occupying a fixed territory)
- fundamental rules & principles; regulation of social interaction
- written contract (in some cases)
- framework of political institutions that implement the business of the state
- regulate, restrain, supervise, control, protect
- republic—sovereignty rests with people, indirectly exercised through representatives

0% Governmental Control/Order **Balanced Governmental Control/Order Governmental Control/Order 100%** Direct Democracy? Traditional Monarchy? Totalitarianism Republic Anarchy Where would you place an oligarchy? A Few of the Basic Forms of Government... ⇒ monarchy/dictator/emirate/sultanate—rule of monarch/single individual; often hereditary rule oligarchy—rule of the few; usually based on power, money, or both confederacy—rule by multiple co-equal entities; compact, treaty, limited central authority direct democracy—rule by simple/popular majority ⇒ **republic**—representative government; consent of the people/governed **Declaration of Independence** Preamble to the U.S. Constitution July 4, 1776 We the **People** of the United States, in Order to form a We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created more perfect **Union**, establish **Justice**, insure domestic equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalien-**Tranquility**, provide for the common **defence**, promote the able Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to our-Happiness. —That to secure these rights, **Governments are** selves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this **instituted** among Men, deriving their just powers from the **consent** Constitution for the United States of America. of the governed... (usa.gov, emphasis added) (Charters of Freedom, National Archives, emphasis added) **Class Notes:**

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| ernment ⇒Politics: process of gaining/exercising control for setting & achieving go. ⇒Policymaking System: People with an interest, problem, or concern corparties, the media or interest groups who help set a policy agenda to influecutive, judicial or bureaucratic institutions of government in order to influences people. | nect with linkages or access points like ence policymakers in the legislative, ex- |
| impacts people. ⇒Public Goods: Clean air, clean water, national defense, etc. ⇒Private Goods: provided by private business for profit ⇒Toll Goods: available for a price ⇒Public Policy and Types of Policy ⇒Course of action taken with regard to some perceived problem ⇒Congressional statute or law from legislative branch ⇒Presidential action or decision from executive branch ⇒Court decision or opinion ⇒Budgetary action through taxes or expenditures ⇒Regulation ⇒Traditional Ideals of Democratic Theory: ⇒ Majority Rule ⇒ Minority Rights ⇒ Representative Government responsive to the People | REMINDER What are the basic functions of government according to the Founders? form a union (strength in unity) system of justice (accountability) domestic safety & security (at home) common defense (outside threats) general welfare (basics of life) secure liberty (make sure government does not curtail liberty any more than absolutely necessary for security) |
| ⇒ Theories of Government: | |

⇒ liberty/freedom—political, social and economic liberty