The President	Class Notes
Formal Powers of the President	
<ol> <li>Commander in chief of the armed forces</li> <li>Negotiates treaties that are then sent to the Senate</li> <li>Nominates ambassadors with approval of the Senate</li> <li>Gives diplomatic recognition to other governments; receives ambassadors, dignitaries &amp; heads of state</li> <li>State of the Union Address</li> <li>Drafts and recommends legislation</li> <li>Veto power</li> <li>Administrative power to execute laws</li> <li>Fill administrative vacancies if Congress is in recess</li> <li>Grant pardons and reprieves for federal offenses</li> <li>Nominate federal judges, including Supreme Court justices, who are all later confirmed <i>or not</i> by a Senate majority</li> <li>Appoints administrators/chief administrator/chief executive</li> </ol>	
Informal Powers of the President	
<ol> <li>leadership         <ul> <li>should the president follow a majoritarian path?</li> <li>president of all the people?</li> </ul> </li> <li>persuasion, negotiation &amp; compromise         <ul> <li>inaugural address</li> </ul> </li> <li>chief lobbyist for policy agenda         <ul> <li>work with united/divided government</li> <li>executive &amp; legislative branches may be controlled by differing parties and competing agendas</li> <li>gridlock may result from such divisions</li> </ul> </li> <li>fundraiser in chief/party leader</li> <li>forge an agenda</li> <li>bully pulpit—platform for the president to push agenda to the public; meet with media; go directly to the people</li> <li>Office of the First Lady/Gentleman—may forward agenda for the president; advocacy</li> </ol>	
Terms to Remember  ⇒ frontloading—early state primary or caucus; maximizes	, <del></del>
<ul> <li>impact on presidential race; early states receive more attention from field of candidates</li> <li>⇒ general election—November election; public opinion through voting helps inform the electors to the Electoral College</li> <li>⇒ Electoral College—electors chosen from each state</li> </ul>	
based upon the total number of US senators and representatives in each state including 3 electors for D.C.; meeting after the general election to elect the president	
<ul> <li>⇒ Article II—the executive branch</li> <li>⇒ impeachment—charging a government official with serious wrongdoing by the US House and voting to</li> </ul>	
remove from office by the US Senate  ⇒ line-item veto—president may nullify lines of a spending bill; 1996  ⇒ signing statements—president agrees to legislation and	
⇒ signing statements—president agrees to legislation and indicates how it will be interpreted and enforced	

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REVOLUTION	١

US Constitution,
Article II
Presidents must be at least
85, a natural born citizen, a
esident of the US 14 years

Class Notes		
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War Powers Resolution (1973)

- president must consult Congress when committing troops to a military engagement
- 48 hour notification process
- 60 day limit for troop committal without Congressional approval for extension or declaration of war by Congress

#### Cabinet

The president's advisors—secretaries of state, treasury, defense, justice, interior, agriculture, commerce, labor, health & human services, housing & urban development, transportation, energy, education, veterans affairs, and homeland security; each heads a department of the executive branch; also includes US Ambassador to the United Nations

# Executive Office of the President (EOP/White House)

Chief of staff; approximately; includes NSC, OMB, Office of Vice President

## **National Security Council**

Created in 1947 and includes the president, vice president, secretary of state, secretary of defense, and other advisers to formulate a national security plan or formulate policy agenda; National Security Advisor; CIA and NSA advising as required

## Office of Management and Budget (OMB) & Council of Economic Advisors

head of OMB is also part of cabinet; advising president on budgetary matters; policy agenda; oversees budget implementation as well as actions of the executive branch

#### Legislative Liaison Staff

facilitate relationship between the president and the Congress

#### **Presidential Actions...**

### **Executive Orders**

- connected to implementing laws passed by Congress
- connected to powers as Commander-in-Chief
- connected to internal executive branch matters

### **Executive Agreement**

- discuss constitutional authority (treaties)
- president conducts negotiations with another foreign government
- president makes a pact with another sovereign nation

## **Executive Privilege**

- president invokes; withholding information from Congress, press, FOIA requests, etc.
- usually confidential information; courts have ruled such power is implicit in constitutional separation of powers

### **State Secret**

- does it threaten judicial oversight? undermine democratic ideals?
- when disclosure of information is determined to be a threat to national security