

**American Political Institutions**  
**Faculty of Social Studies**  
**Masaryk University**  
**October 20, 2022**

***Advice:*** I recommend that you read the questions and make outlines for your answers so you do not leave anything out in the rush to complete your essays. Please send me an email ([cdhadley@gmail.com](mailto:cdhadley@gmail.com)) if you would like your course grade and basic comments on your answers. You can also make arrangements with Professor Michal Pink to see your completed essays with my marking and comments.

**Question 1 (U.S. System of Government):**

Explain the important features of the U.S. system of government. Then describe the **organization AND operation** of the Executive Branch (President), Congress (Senate and House of Representatives), and the Supreme Court. Explain how these three branches of government **interact with each other**, their power relationships. Is one more important than another for the American political system? Explain your choice in the context of the other two political institutions, for example, The Office of the President *viz-á-viz* Congress and Supreme Court. **Please do not neglect the video, “Super Chief,” in your examination of the United States Supreme Court and its position in the American system of government and American society.**

**Question 2 (U.S. Presidential Election System):**

The U.S. is a federal republic. Its elections are held under the laws (rules) of the individual state governments with three exceptions: the national voting day (in even numbered years), the Electoral College voting procedure, and the public funding of presidential elections that guarantees Republican and Democratic Party candidates **optional access** to public funds. A U.S. presidential election is a very lengthy process that takes a calendar year to complete. Please explain that process. Details are important. Do not neglect them. Explain why the presidential election process was different in the 1968 presidential election and those elections that came before it *viz-á-viz* the 1972 presidential election and those that took place after it? Examine the collective impact of the public funding of presidential elections and the political party rules reforms for presidential candidate nominations. What is the future of American politics? Why?

**Ground your analyses in the context of the class reading and lectures.**