**Scholar Exchange: Article V – Amendment Process**

**Introductory Level Class Outline and Worksheet**

**INTERACTIVE CONSTITUTION RESOURCES**

* [Resources for Article V](https://constitutioncenter.org/interactive-constitution/learning-material/article-v)

**OVERVIEW**

**Part I. Article V: How does it work?**

**Part II. Founding Debates and the Constitutional Convention**

**Part III. Constitutional Amendments Over Time**

**QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

* Why did the Founding generation include a formal process for amending the Constitution?
* How does the Constitution’s amendment process work, and why did the Founders make it so hard to amend the Constitution?
* What’s the relationship between the Constitution’s Article V amendment process and key foundational principles like popular sovereignty and the rule of law?
* What key changes have the American people made to the Constitution over time and what does that tell us about the key constitutional issues in American history?

**PART I. ARTICLE V: HOW DOES IT WORK?**

| **What are the two steps in the amendment process?** **Briefly describe each step in your own words. Consider who is involved and what happens during each step.** |
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| **Step One:** |  |
| **Step Two:**  |  |

| **Describe two of the amendments that have been added to the Constitution since 1787.** |
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| **Amendment** |  |  |
| **What it does** |  |  |

**PART II. THE FOUNDING STORY OF ARTICLE V: THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION**

| **What was the amendment process like under the Articles of Confederation?** |  |
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| **Why was that process so difficult to live with?** |  |

| **Describe one way that the Framers checked congressional power when developing Article V** |
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| **What the Framers included in Article V** |  |
| **How it checks congressional power** |  |

| **Describe one way that the Framers limited the amendment process in the Constitution.**  |
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**PART III. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OVER TIME**

| **Pick one of the stories shared about amendments throughout history.**  |
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| **Who was involved in the amendment process?** |  |
| **What was the issue at the center of the amendment?** |  |
| **What made this amendment unique in its proposal and/or ratification?** |  |