



Scholar Exchange: Article V – Amendment Process

Introductory Level Class Outline and Worksheet

INTERACTIVE CONSTITUTION RESOURCES

- [Resources for 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.**

Step One:	
Step Two:	

Describe two of the amendments that have been added to the Constitution since 1787.

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?	
Why was that process so difficult to live with?	

Describe one way that the Framers checked congressional power when developing Article V

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.

PART III. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS OVER TIME

Pick one of the stories shared about amendments throughout history.

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?