**6.1 Notes: The President**

**Roles of the President**

* Article II of the Constitution outlines the executive branch of the federal government and the presidency (p 163-164)

**Official Roles (under Article II)**

* Chief executive
* Chief administrator
* Commander in chief
* Foreign policy leader
* Chief agenda setter

**Unofficial Roles**

* Chief of state
* Party leader
* Chief citizen

**Formal Characteristics of the Presidency**

**Written Qualifications**

* Constitutional
	+ 35 years old
	+ Natural Born Citizen
	+ U.S. Resident 14 years
* Unwritten Yet Expected
	+ Leadership
	+ Decisive
	+ Communicator
	+ Negotiator
	+ Experienced

**Term**

* 2 Terms [4 years each]
* FDR…22 Amendment
	+ Max 10 years [if finishing predecessors term]

**Electing to Office**

* The Electoral College
	+ Voters do not directly choose the pres & vice pres
	+ Voters choose electors
	+ Why? Framers worried about the public ability to make a wise choice AND concern over small vs large states
* How it works
	+ Candidate names are on ballots but peeps are actually voting for party’s electors in their state
	+ States granted a # of electors equal to the number of its members in the House & Senate
	+ 538 electors: need 270 to win prez
		- Winner take all system: candidate who wins popular vote wins all electoral votes in that state
	+ Dec: meet in D.C to cast official vote
* Issues w/ the Electoral College

**Presidential Succession**

* 25th Amendment>
	+ \*Pres. Vacancy = V.P. becomes Pres.
	+ \*V.P. Vacancy = Pres. Nominates replacement
	+ [Congressional Approval]
* Succession Act of 1947 >
	+ Only applies if vacancy in both Pres. & V.P. at same time.
	+ Speaker/House
	+ Pres. Pro Tempore [Senate]
	+ Sec. of Cabinet [in chron. order of creation]

**Salary and Benefits**

* 400,000 a year
* Benefits: travel allowances, secret service, tax deduction on residencies, health & retirement benefits

**Unwritten Qualifications for the Presidency**

* Presidential Backgrounds
* Personal qualities