Chapter 1: Purposes of Government

Lecture Notes

What is Government?

* The formal structures and institutions through which \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Most have 3 components:

Features of a state

* A state (meaning country) is a political unit with the power to make laws over a group of people living in that defined territory
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- Must have land, established boundaries
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- State has supreme and absolute authority within its territorial boundaries
		- Make laws and determine own actions
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
		- Institution that keeps social order, provides services, and enforces decisions

Functions of Government

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Internally via police and the legal system
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Through politics and the legal system
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Ranging from edu to transportation and usually paid for by tax dollars
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Attempt to balance public good with needs of smaller groups of pop

Mommy, where do states come from?

Theories of Rule

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ State evolved from the family
	+ Head of family was the authority that served as govt
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Early civilizations needed cooperation and came under the rule of the strongest person
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ God choose certain people to rule!
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
	+ Govt arose out of voluntary action!
	+ Society is governed by a general will
	+ Grew out of Enlightenment
		- Ex: Hobbes, Locke