

**HERTOG POLITICAL STUDIES PROGRAM
2013 SUMMER FELLOWSHIP
WEEK 4 – THE FEDERALIST
Washington, DC**

Section 2 – Ralph Lerner, professor, University of Chicago

The series of newspaper essays collectively known as *The Federalist* are rightly regarded as classics of American political thought. Standing alone, however, they are only one half of a notable conversation. We will try to uncover the differing presuppositions, hopes, and fears of those who debated whether to replace the existing Articles of Confederation with the proposed Constitution of the United States.

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Brunch and Speaker
Charles Murray, author, *Coming Apart*

1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. *A New Kind of Republic*

- *Federalist*, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 9, 14, 37
- Herbert Storing, *The Anti-Federalist Papers*, Introduction
- *Anti-Federalist*, Federal Farmer 1 (2.8.1–13), 5 (2.8.59–66), 6 (2.8.71–73)
- *Anti-Federalist*, Agrippa 4 (4.6.16–17)

Questions:

1. What are some of the competing visions of public happiness that are implicit in these debates over America's political organization?
2. How might one account for there still being disagreement, even after securing independence from Britain, whether the thirteen colonies—now states—ought to be a single nation?

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

9:00 a.m. to Noon *Federal vs. Consolidated Government*

- *Federalist*, Nos. 15, 23, 39
- *Anti-Federalist*, Federal Farmer 16 (2.8.196–198), 17 (2.8.204–213)
- *Anti-Federalist*, Brutus 1 (2.9.10–21)
- *Anti-Federalist*, Pennsylvania Minority (3.11.16–30)

Questions:

1. Are the anxieties voiced by those who criticized the proposed constitution better understood as expressions of parochialism, pessimism about human nature, realism, or something else?
2. Are the supporters of the proposed constitution excessive in trusting that the structures built into its framework will suffice to prevent tyrannical rule, be it of the government or of the governed?

Thursday, July 11, 2013

9:00 a.m. to Noon *Representation*

- *Federalist*, Nos. 10, 35, 56
- *Anti-Federalist*, Federal Farmer 7 (2.8.93–100)
- *Anti-Federalist*, Brutus 3 (2.9.41–44), 4 (2.9.45–49)
- *Anti-Federalist*, Melancton Smith (6.12.8–25)

Questions:

1. Can a system of representation ever be and remain representative? And what exactly ought to *be* represented?
2. Are there better and worse ways of enlisting the talents of an elite in political life? Consider some alternatives.

Friday, July 12, 2013

9:00 a.m. to Noon *Ambition and Its Discontents*

- *Federalist*, Nos. 49, 51, 62, 70, 72
- *Anti-Federalist*, Impartial Examiner 1 (5.14.13–16)

Questions:

1. How might one channel ambition without driving it out of politics altogether?
2. Does the debate over the proposed constitution presume too much about the character of the American public both at the time and in the future?

12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Semiweekly Group Lunch
