# **Chapter 1**

**Constitutional Democracy**

**I. LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

1. Distinguish between direct and representative democracy.

2. Explain the interacting values that comprise the democratic faith, such as popular consent, respect for the individual, equality of opportunity, and personal liberty; and examine how democratic values may conflict with one another.

3. Analyze the interrelated political processes that comprise democracy.

4. Identify the interdependent political structures that make up the American system of democracy.

1. Discuss the educational, economic, social, and ideological conditions conducive to establishing and maintaining democracy. Be sure to explain why constitutional democracy is not a "spectator sport".

6. Trace the historical roots of the American Revolution.

7. Explain the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation.

8. Discuss the impact of the Annapolis Convention and Shays Rebellion on the calling of the Constitutional Convention.

9. List the major issues on which the delegates to the Constitutional Convention had consensus as well as those issues on which the delegates had conflicts and compromise.

10. Debate the arguments against ratification.

11. Summarize the steps involved in ratifying the Constitution.

1. Discuss the major challenges for the American system of Constitutional Democracy.
2. Reflect upon the reasons why democracies fail.
3. Explain how *Bush v. Gore* in 2000 exemplified democratic institutions at work.
4. Discuss the impact the terrorist attacks on America of September 11, 2001 had on U.S. governing bodies and the overall political culture in the United States. What examples can be cited from the 2004 Presidential race?