

## GOVT30 Final Examination

Write a paper of no more than four pages (double-spaced) to address and answer one of the following two questions. The paper should be handed in to your TF **Monday, May 22, 5PM**, electronically to your TF, and then in (textually identical) paper form by a deadline of your TF's choosing.

In your papers, be sure to do the following: (1) answer the question directly, (2) organize your paper around a simple argument that is stated at the beginning of the paper, (3) minimize typographical and grammatical errors, (4) draw upon some relevant readings from the class, and (5) consider potential or actual counterarguments against your position.

1. The Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798 have long been considered one of the most controversial acts of John Adams' presidency, but David McCullough reminds us that they "must be seen in the context of the time." What was that context? How did the Federalists justify these extreme measures? How did Jefferson respond? What can we learn from this debate about theories of federalism and the proper limits of presidential power?

2. John Adams' presidency followed that of George Washington, who was arguably the "father of our country." Adams rarely enjoyed the same level of popularity as Washington -- but did this cause any difficulties in his presidency, e.g. in relations with Congress? Cite specific examples from McCullough in making your argument. Thinking about the presidency over time -- with the theories of Neustadt and Kernell in mind -- is a president's bargaining power or capacity to "go public" affected by his predecessors in office and the problems/possibilities inherited from old administrations? In answering this part of the question, offer at least one example of a later president whose governing capacities were enhanced or restrained by the activity of his predecessor(s).