

## The Political Institution

**Types of Political Institutions:** Introduce students to different types of political institutions such as legislatures, executives, judiciaries, and bureaucracies. Explain the roles and responsibilities of each institution in the political system.

**Constitutional Design:** Discuss how political institutions are established and organized within constitutional frameworks. Explore different models of constitutional design, including presidential systems, parliamentary systems, federalism, and unitary systems.

**Separation of Powers and Checks and Balances:** Explain the principles of separation of powers and checks and balances, which allocate and distribute governmental authority among different institutions to prevent the concentration of power. Analyze how these principles operate in practice in various political systems.

**Legislatures:** Examine the functions and structures of legislatures, including bicameral versus unicameral systems, the legislative process, committee systems, and the role of political parties in legislative bodies.

**Executives:** Study the powers and responsibilities of executives, such as presidents, prime ministers, monarchs, or governors. Discuss leadership styles, decision-making processes, executive-legislative relations, and mechanisms of accountability.

**Judiciaries:** Explore the functions and powers of judicial institutions, including interpreting laws, resolving disputes, upholding the constitution, and judicial review. Analyze the independence of the judiciary, judicial activism versus restraint, and the selection and tenure of judges.

**Bureaucracies:** Investigate the role of bureaucracies in implementing public policies, administering government programs, and providing services to citizens. Discuss issues such as bureaucratic discretion, accountability, efficiency, and responsiveness.

**Electoral Systems:** Examine different electoral systems and their impact on political representation, party competition, and governance. Compare majoritarian systems (e.g., first-past-the-post) with proportional representation systems (e.g., party-list proportional representation).

**Federalism and Decentralization:** Discuss the division of powers between central and subnational governments in federal systems and the extent of decentralization in unitary systems. Analyze the implications of federalism for governance, intergovernmental relations, and regional autonomy.

Reforms and Challenges: Explore ongoing debates and reforms concerning political institutions, such as electoral reforms, constitutional amendments, judicial independence, bureaucratic reform, and efforts to strengthen democratic governance.