

The paper is due **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10 by 8:00 P.M.**

You may email your paper to ccburkett@ashland.edu or deposit a hard copy in the box on my office door (Andrews 129).

NOTE: These topics are for **PAPER OPTION #2** on the syllabus. If you choose this option, select one of the following topics for your 10-12 page scholarly paper. You should rely heavily on the readings assigned for class when writing your paper.

1. Abraham Lincoln wrote that the Constitution was a "frame of silver" meant to protect the "apple of gold" in the Declaration of Independence. How do the efforts of Americans between 1776-1787 to create *good* constitutions – both state and Federal – reveal the truth of Lincoln's claim?
2. James Madison has been called "the Father of the Constitution." What did Madison contribute to the American understanding of "constitutionalism"?
3. Why did the Antifederalists – especially Brutus – believe that a large republic would be dangerous to rights and undermine the principles of the American Revolution?
4. According to Publius in *The Federalist*, how would the Constitution lead to *better* government?
5. Why did Americans – especially Jefferson, Hamilton, Marshall and Jackson – believe the national bank question was so important?
6. The Constitution vests "the executive power" in the president. According to the documents assigned for the course, what is the proper American understanding of "the executive power"?
7. In the Webster-Hayne debates of 1830, both Senators held extreme views regarding the nature of the Union and Constitution. How were each of their views influenced and justified by the formation of the Union and the creation of the Constitution?
8. According to the documents assigned for the course, was the Constitution pro-slavery or anti-slavery?
9. John C. Calhoun argued that in certain cases a state, "acting in its sovereign capacity," has the constitutional right to secede from the Union. How did Calhoun come to this conclusion?
10. What are the arguments of Andrew Jackson and Abraham Lincoln against the doctrine of secession? In what ways are their views similar or different?