9 Key Foundational Documents

August 17, 2018 Mr. Beck (Sandia High School, Albuquerque, NM)
Below are the nine foundational documents you will need to know and understand:

1. Declaration of Independence (1776)
2. The Articles of Confederation (1777)
3. Federalist 10 – Control of factions- Madison
4. Federalist 51—checks and balances and separation of powers among the three branches of government- Madison
5. Federalist 70—Rationale for a strong executive- Hamilton
6. Federalist 78—Rationale for an impartial judiciary- Hamilton
7. Brutus 1—concern over ratification of Constitution- ???
8. The Constitution of the United States (1787)
9. Letter From a Birmingham Jail; Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1963)
15 Key Supreme Court Cases

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Below are the 15 key Supreme Court cases you need to know and understand:

1. Marbury v. Madison (1803)- **Established doctrine of Judicial Review**
2. McCulloch v. Maryland (1819)- **Established Federalism (national over state)**
6. Engel v. Vitale (1962)- Unconstitutional to force school prayer
7. Gideon v. Wainwright (1963)- Indigent defendants must be provided counsel (lawyer)
8. Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)- Students have 1st Amendment rights in a school setting (wearing armbands)
10. Wisconsin v. Yoder (1972)- Children cannot be placed under compulsory education after the 8th grade
14. McDonald v. Chicago (2010)- Affirmed the 2nd Amendment right to bear arms to the states