

Chief Justice Marshall's Court & Cases

High School AP US History

Objectives: Students should be able to:

- discover the importance of major landmark Supreme Court cases during the tenure of Chief Justice John Marshall; draw conclusions as to how Marshall shaped the role of the court and the power of the federal government;
- interpret a political cartoon; and
- complete a Document Based Question (“DBQ”) on the Marshall Court using an online resource.

Standards

APUSH: Key Concept 4.1 B) Supreme Court decisions established the primacy of the judiciary in determining the meaning of the Constitution and asserted that federal laws took precedence over state laws.

National: NSS-USH.5-12.4 Era 4 Expansion & Reform (1801-1861)
NSS-C.5-8.3 Principles of Democracy

Approx. Time: One and one-half 90 minute blocks or three 45 minute blocks

HOOK: Show students the video clip (link below) about the Supreme Court decision to uphold the Affordable Care Act. If students are not aware of it or the details, give them some background before you show the clip. After viewing the clip (2.5 minutes), have students discuss whether or not they agree with the decision. Allow for as much time as you believe you need to get them all engaged in the discussion. After that, ask them a few more questions.

- “Where does the Supreme Court get the power to declare a law, like the ACA, constitutional?”
- “Is buying health insurance classified as “interstate commerce,” and, if it is, does Congress have the right to regulate commerce within a state?”

Again, allow for discussion. You may need to explain to students what “interstate commerce” is and give some examples. If students cannot figure it out, tell them they will discover the answer today.

I SCOTUS ACA Decision video clip: <https://goo.gl/8Lkdc>

Today, you will learn about several important Supreme Court cases decided by Chief Justice John Marshall that changed the power of the Supreme Court and the federal government FOREVER!

Activity: Divide students into 7 groups and assign one case per group. Students can either use the web source for information or provide them with a handout of the cases found below. Students will

1. research the case,
2. create a visual presentation for their case, and
3. present their visual presentation to the class as the other students take notes using three of the “Landmark Cases of the John Marshall Court (1801-1835) NOTES Student Handout;” and
4. write an essay describing how John Marshall changed the role of the court and the federal government.

Show students the *Justice in the Classroom* Chapter Four video clip BEFORE students complete their essay to reinforce the idea of Marshall's influence and the significance of *Marbury v. Madison*. You may want to assign both the video and essay for homework. (Approx. 10 minutes)

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Post Assessment: Students will interpret a political cartoon about *Marbury v. Madison* and judicial review.

Optional Post Assessment: Students will complete a document-based question, DBQ, using the link below.

Describe the ways in which Chief Justice John Marshall's rulings established precedents for national supremacy over states' rights, defined the roles of the Supreme Court and Congress, and provided the constitutional foundation for the economic growth of the United States.

I Link <http://goo.gl/Z1TYse>