**Chapter 2 – Origins of American Government**

I. Colonial Period

* **1607 –** Jamestown becomes the first permanent English settlement in North America
* English colonists shaped the development of government in the U.S.

A. Magna Carta

* The “Great Charter”
* Passed in 1215
* Limited the powers of England’s King John
* **Limited Government –**
* It guaranteed that free people could not be:
* English citizens could only be judged according to English laws

B. English Bill of Rights

* Result of the Glorious Revolution of 1688
* Established Parliament’s dominance over the monarchy
* **Right to Petition –**
* Could not change laws or tax without consent
* Right to a jury by one’s peers
* Citizens could not be cruelly or unjustly punished

C. Make up of British Govt.

* **Parliament –**
* **Bicameral –**
* 1) House of Lords
* 2) House of Commons
* Creates limited government and representative government

D. Consent of the Governed

* **Mayflower Compact** (1620) –
* **Popular Sovereignty –**
* E. Colonial Governments
* Written plans of government were key features in the colonial period
* People elected representative assemblies and established democratic traditions
* Division of government powers among governor, colonial legislature, and courts establish the principle of separation of powers