|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Levels** | **Branches** (EQUAL = Sep of Power/Checks & Balances) | | |
| **Legislative**  (Makes laws) | **Executive**  (Carries out/Enforces laws) | **Judicial**  (Interprets laws) |
| **Federal**  (Highest level)  Federalism  Supremacy Clause  Expressed  (ex. military)  and  concurrent powers (ex. taxes) | U.S. Congress: bicameral  Senate: Upper House, VP/Pro temp, Approves treaties/appointments  House of Representatives: Speaker, Census, districts, starts money bills  Powers: regulate trade, declare war, approve long-term troop use, make tax laws, approve budget, impeachment, veto override, approve appointments/treaties  Implied powers from Elastic clause  Limits: Veto, judicial review, shares powers of war/budget with President  Pros/Cons: seniority system,  pork-barrel projects | President: Chief Executive, Chief Diplomat, Chief of State, Commander-in-Chief, Legislative/Judicial/ Economic/Party Leader  Cabinet –Secretaries of Departments  Executive Office of the President (EOP): White House Office, Office of Management and Budget, National Security Council  Bureaucracy – Civil Service workers in Departments and Agencies  Foreign Policy Goals: National Security (executive orders), Trade (embargo), Peace (treaties), Democracy (UN)  Limits: Judicial review, Approvals by Congress, veto override, impeachment | U.S. Supreme Court: sets precedents for lower courts, judicial review  Court of Appeals  District Courts: hears testimony, jury decides  Justices are appointed by president and approved by Senate, have lifetime appointment, and can be impeached by Congress  Exclusive jurisdiction: between states, constitutional questions, federal crimes  Limits: Amendments, can be impeached, Exec. enforcement |
| **State**  (North Carolina)  Reserved (ex. education)  and  concurrent powers  (ex. taxes) | N.C. General Assembly  Bicameral (Senate/House of Rep)  Organized like Congress  Statutes: state laws about state taxes, education, business, elections, etc.  Creates/regulates local governments  Limits: judicial review, must work with State Exec branch on budget | Governor  Appoints Cabinet  Council of State, Lt. Gov.  Elected independently  Divided executive branch  Pro: Sep of Power/checks & balances  Con: Inefficient, power struggles  Departments and agencies deal with law enforcement, public education, elections, etc. | N.C. Supreme Court: final say unless challenged in federal court as unconstitutional, automatic appeals of death penalty cases  Courts of Appeals  Superior Courts  Major lawsuits and crimes  District Courts  Minor lawsuits and crimes  All state judges elected |
| **Local**  (in N.C.)  County:  (ex. Wake)  Municipal:  City/town  (ex. Raleigh) | Ordinances: local laws about local taxes, education, roads, etc.  County: Board of Commissioners  Municipal (city/town): Council  Weak mayor system: Mayor chairperson of council | Top executive is a professional Manager hired by the board/council  County: Manager and Sheriff (elected)  Municipality: City/Town Manager and Police Chief (hired)  Runs fire/police departments and jails, manages traffic, inspects facilities | *Run at the local level on behalf of the state…*  District Attorneys  Magistrates  Public defenders  Search/arrest warrants |

Current Events: Patriot Act, Federal Government Shutdown, Hurricane Katrina

Court Cases: *Marbury v. Madison, Korematsu v. U.S., Nixon v. U.S., Leandro v. State*