**Overview:**

* *Arizona state government, like the national govt., is divided into three branches. In addition there are county governments, municipal or city governments, school districts, and tribal governments.*

**Lawmaking Body:**

* The Arizona Legislature consists of:
	+ \_\_ Senators
	+ \_\_ Representatives
* Each district has 1 senator and 2 house members
* Thus, AZ is broken into 30 state districts
* Modeled after US Congress but dealing with state specific issues
* Legislators are part-time politicians
* Compensation = $28,000 and mileage
* \_\_ year term with 4 consecutive term limit

**Executive Branch:**

* The Chief Executive is the Governor
* They serve a 4 year term – pseudo pres.
* Has a 2 term limit, re-eligible after 4 yr hiatus
* Compensation = $95,000
* Arizona has no lieutenant governor
* Cabinet consists of \_\_\_ members!!!
	+ Governor determines size, not in constitution
* Governor has full control over states budget

**Major executive offices:**

* Sec of State – 1st in line to become governor
	+ Keeps all records, elections, publishes laws, handles petitions
* Attorney General
	+ Directs the department of law
* Treasurer
	+ Chief financial officer, invests and collects states monies
* Superintendent of public instruction
	+ Develops state standards and tests
* Mine Inspector
	+ Supervises and inspects, new laws

**Executive Powers:**

* Makes appointments, removes officers
* Liaison between the state and federal govt.
* Military = National Guard but pres. May nationalize
* Legislative = signs or vetoes laws
	+ The AZ governor does have the power of line-item veto
	+ This has led to multiple balanced budgets in Arizona
	+ Special sessions, state of state speech
	+ An ordinary non-emergency bill becomes a law \_\_\_\_ days after the legislative session ends
* Judicial = pardons, amnesty

**Judicial Branch:**

* 3 levels = Supreme, Court of Appeals, Superior
* Supreme: 5 justices, 1 chief
	+ Review lower court cases
	+ Court of last resort in Az
	+ Qualifications:
		- Good moral character
		- Practiced law in Az at least 5 years
		- Law school graduate
		- Mandatory retirement at age 70
		- Appointed by Governor
	+ Term = \_\_\_ years for re-vote

**Court of Appeals:**

* Created in 1964 to relieve the S.C.
* 2 divisions North (16 in Phx); South (6 in Tuc)

**Superior Courts: Primary courts**

* Hear civil cases using original jurisdiction
* Cases involving over $5000 = jury 6/8
* Also hear criminal cases
	+ Low level = jury must be 6/8
	+ High level = must be unanimous or hung jury
	+ Jury = no less than six no more than 12

**City courts:**

* Hear cases concerning traffic, fighting, drunkenness

**Justice of the Peace courts**

* Local judge hears less serious cases (elected judges)
* Each precinct has a Justice of the Peace
* Maricopa County judges are appointed by Governor and then must be re-elected after a 4 year term
* Removal of Judges: RECALL and impeachment

**Stupid Arizona Laws:**

* These are official laws on books but not enforced:
	+ Hunting camels is prohibited
	+ Any misdemeanor committed while wearing a red mask is a felony
	+ Donkeys cannot sleep in bathtubs
	+ It is upwards of 25 years in prison for cutting down a cactus
	+ It is illegal to manufacture imitation cocaine
	+ When being attacked by a criminal or burglar, you may only protect yourself with the same weapon the other possesses
	+ It is unlawful to refuse a person a glass of water
	+ In Maricopa county No more than 6 girls may live an any house
	+ In Prescott it is forbidden to ride your horse up the county courthouse stairs
	+ In Tombstone it is illegal for men and women over the age of 18 to have less than one missing tooth visible while smiling
	+ In Tucson women may not wear pants

**Tribal Government:**

* Arizona has 21 tribal nations = over 25% of the land
* Tribal Sovereignty:
* Tribal council = representatives elected by people
	+ Makes laws and imposes taxes on reservation
	+ Federal law does apply on reservation but not most state laws
		- Hence why casinos are only located on reservation land
* Chooses one council member to be liaison between the tribe and the federal govt. (Internal affairs department)
* Tribal police are in charge of law enforcement on land except in cases of serious felonies
	+ Be careful on reservation land
* Tribal courts deal with minor crimes, divorce, child custody battles, civil disputes, etc.
* Most tribes try to work with the state and federal govt. Ex: 101
	+ Tribal state compacts Ex: gambling age to 21 in 2003