

### **Substantive issues of the convention (besides ratification)**

- form of representation; Madison's vision and the Virginia Plan
- powers of the central govt vs. powers of the states
  - taxation
  - commerce
  - slavery
  - military
- executive powers
- democracy vs. elites ("natural aristocracy," virtue); hence, modes of election
  - "the people out of doors"—see quotes from Wood, separate page below.
- the vagaries of "original meanings"

### **Issues in ratification:**

- legality of the process itself
- lack of a Bill of Rights
- details of representation: size of constituencies; frequency of elections
- likelihood that President would become a monarch
- slavery
- tax powers
- various other powers thought to be dangerous: time/place/manner of elections; treaty power; supremacy clause and jurisdiction of federal/state courts.
- generalized suspicion