

A.P. United States History

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**George Washington,
First President,
1789-1797**

Unit 3: The American Revolution and the Federal Constitutional Debates

Unit Outline

- 1) The American Revolution, 1775-1783
 - a) Continental Congress
 - b) Declaration of Independence
 - c) The War
 - i) French Alliance
 - ii) Loyalists
 - iii) War economy
 - d) Articles of Confederation
 - e) Peace of Paris
 - f) Creating State Governments
 - i) Political organization
 - ii) Social reform: women, slavery
- 2) The Federal Constitution
 - a) Compromises
 - b) Liberty vs. Power

Learning Objectives

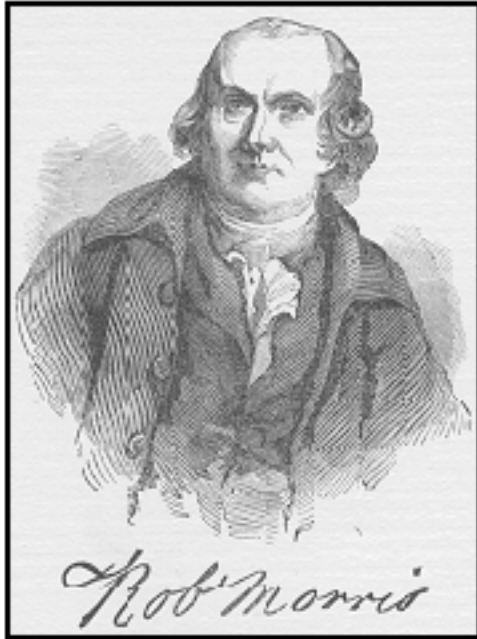
At the end of this unit, students should be able to:

- Understand the sequence of events during the American Revolution.
- Compare the American Revolution to other major national revolutions (French, Russian).
- Compare and contrast the strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution.
- Describe regional opposition and support for the Constitution.
- Determine the national and international impact of the revolution and the Constitution.

Essential Questions

1. Why did some Americans support revolution while others opposed it?
2. How revolutionary was the American Revolution?
3. What happened to the issue of slavery during the American Revolution?
4. How genuine were American cries for liberty during the revolutionary period?
5. Why was support for the Constitution mixed in the 1780s?
6. Were the Articles of Confederation a terrible system of government?

Unit 3: The American Revolution and the Federal Constitution



**Robert Morris,
Financier**

Terms, People & Concepts

Thomas Jefferson
Benjamin Franklin
John Adams
George Washington
Patrick Henry
Abigail Adams
Articles of Confederation
Robert Morris
Pennsylvania Constitution of 1776
Lexington & Concord
Saratoga
Yorktown
French Alliance
Adam Smith
Wealth of Nations
Shays' Rebellion
Constitutional Convention
Alexander Hamilton
Assumption Plan
Whiskey Rebellion
Report on Manufactures
Bank of the U.S.
Deism

Critical Period
Great Compromise
3/5ths Compromise
Electoral College
Federalism
Separation of Powers
Strict/ Loose Constructionism
Elastic Clause
Judicial Review
Checks and Balances
Bill of Rights
Federalists
Anti-Federalists/ Jeffersonians
Delegated Powers
Concurrent Powers
Denied Powers
Implied Powers
Reserved Powers
Amendment Process
Executive Branch
Legislative Branch
Judicial Branch

Unit 3: The American Revolution and the Federal Constitution

Unit 3: AP Exam Essay Questions/ ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

The following questions have been asked as AP Free Response (FRQ) and Document Based Questions (DBQ) on this unit.

1. Analyze the extent to which the American Revolution represented a radical alteration in American political ideas and institutions. Confine your answer to the period 1775 to 1800.
2. “In the two decades before the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War, a profound shift occurred in the way many Americans thought and felt about the British government and their colonial governments.”
 - Assess the validity of this statement in view of the political and constitutional debates of these decades.
3. Analyze the contributions of TWO of the following in helping establish a stable government after the adoption of the Constitution.
 - John Adams
 - Thomas Jefferson
 - George Washington
4. With respect to the Federal Constitution, the Jeffersonian Republicans are usually characterized as strict constructionists who were opposed to the broad constructionism of the Federalists. To what extent was this characterization of the two parties accurate during the Presidencies of Jefferson and Madison? Confine your answer to the period 1801-1817.
5. Analyze the degree to which the Articles of Confederation provided an effective form of government with respect to any TWO of the following.
 - Foreign relations
 - Economic conditions
 - Western lands
6. The Bill of Rights did not come from a desire to protect the liberties won in the American Revolution, but rather from a fear of the powers of the new federal government. Assess the validity of this statement.
7. To what extent did the American Revolution fundamentally change American society? In your answer, be sure to address the political, social, and economic effects of the Revolution in the period from 1775 to 1800.
8. Analyze the political, diplomatic, and military reason for the United States’ victory in the Revolutionary War. Confine your answer to the period 1775 to 1783.

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Assignments

It is expected that you will complete all reading assignments and homework thoroughly and carefully before you come to class. "Norton" refers to the textbook, *A People & A Nation*.

Work to be completed by:

October 24

Articles of Confederation & the U.S. Constitution: Structures, Functions, & the Bill of Rights

Articles of Confederation, U.S. Constitution

Gordon Wood chapter on Federal Constitution

October 28

Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists: The Ratification Debate and Creation of Parties

U.S. Constitution

Kennedy, pp. 172-181

October 30

Stability Born Through Conflict: Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, and Washington

Kennedy, 182-202

November 4

Seminar: Ideological Origins of the Second Amendment

Reading: Shalope: *Ideological Origins of the Second Amendment* (on Website)

November 6

Unit II Exam: Short Answer Question

Unit II Exam: Free Response Essay