

# U.S. American Revolution Section

## Overview

### Course Description:

The focus of this course is to examine U.S. American life with a specific focus on the U.S. American Revolution through the stories of adolescent characters in the novels we will read. Engagement with various other forms of literature relating to this time period and U.S. American life will also be used to explore the following: How can history be defined? How does literature discuss U.S. American history? Why do revolutions happen? Why is history important today? We will also explore themes such as: Colonization, adolescence vs childishness vs maturity, loyalty, freedom, independence, human rights, civil rights, gender roles, language and others as identified from course discussions.

### Goals for the Course:

This course is designed to expand your historical knowledge about early U.S. American history while also developing English language literacy skills. Using critical-thoughtful discussions and analysis of literature to learn, the goal is to prepare students to construct coherent, well-researched college level essays and components.

### Course Materials:

- Packet from: Eric Foner "Give me Liberty!: An American History", 2004.
- Crash Course Videos:
  - [The American Revolution](https://youtu.be/loT0qAqhpR4): <https://youtu.be/loT0qAqhpR4>
  - [Taxes & Smuggling- Prelude to Revolution](https://youtu.be/Eytc9ZaNWyc): <https://youtu.be/Eytc9ZaNWyc>
  - [Who Won the American Revolution](https://youtu.be/3EiSymRrKI4): <https://youtu.be/3EiSymRrKI4>
- [Documentary 13<sup>th</sup>](https://youtu.be/krfcq5pF8u8): <https://youtu.be/krfcq5pF8u8>

### More Teaching Resources

- Digital folder for more [SIELP American Revolution Resources](#) including Lecture Slides: [https://cuny547-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/personal/gcolonlopez\\_gradcenter\\_cuny\\_edu/Documents/SIELP%20Curriculum/American%20Revolution?csf=1&web=1&e=GGvDAb](https://cuny547-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/r/personal/gcolonlopez_gradcenter_cuny_edu/Documents/SIELP%20Curriculum/American%20Revolution?csf=1&web=1&e=GGvDAb)
- [The Junto](#): a group blog made up of junior on Early American History. <https://earlyamericanists.com>
- Library of Congress Timeline: [Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, 1774 to 1789](#) <https://www.loc.gov/collections/continental-congress-and-constitutional-convention-from-1774-to-1789/articles-and-essays/timeline/1764-to-1765/>

## Suggested Themes, Terminology & Identities

The following can be used as the focus of Lecture Discussions, assignments, and other curriculum items. It is not meant to be an exhaustive list, teachers, teacher's aides and students are encouraged to develop and identify additional course themes, terminology and identities not listed below.

- Adolescence: childishness vs. maturity
- City vs. country life
- Everyday life today vs. everyday life in colonial times
- Education today vs. in colonial times
- Life during wartime, then & now -- the impact of war
- Loyalty vs. freedom & independence
- Religious beliefs & practices -- then & now
- Parenting today vs. in colonial times
- The rights of African Americans -- then & now
- The rights of U.S. American Indians -- then & now
- The rights of children -- then & now
- Compare gender with consideration of: Experiences with travel & exposure to other cultures
- Family racial ancestry & social classes
- Abilities to make good decisions & judgments
- Compassion for & ability to relate to others
- Feelings & opinions about work and school
- Special talents & abilities
- Relationships with peers, parents, relatives & authority figures
- Change & growth over the course of the novel
- Social Movements

## Names of Suggested Colonial/Revolutionary Identities

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| John Adams          | Dolly Madison       |
| Benedict Arnold     | James Monroe        |
| Joseph Brandt       | Mercy Otis Warren   |
| Mary Brandt         | Molly Pitcher       |
| John Burgoyne       | George Rogers Clark |
| Benjamin Church     | Betsy Ross          |
| Moses Cooper        | Deborah Sampson     |
| Lord Cornwallis     | Peggy Shippen       |
| Thomas Gage         | Venture Smith       |
| Nathanael Greene    | Boston King         |
| Nathan Hale         | Anthony Wayne       |
| Alexander Hamilton  | Phillis Wheatley    |
| Mary Hays           | Baron Von Steuben   |
| William Howe        | John Peter Zenger   |
| John Jay            |                     |
| John Paul Jones     |                     |
| Boston King         |                     |
| Thaddeus Kosciuszko |                     |

## Suggested Bibliography

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- Crash Course YouTube Page. U.S. Government and Politics Playlist. Access with this link:  
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeelTrqvhrz8H>
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