

# Unit 2: A Revolutionary Era (1754-1781)

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **7 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Summary

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In United States History I Honors, students will study events beginning with European colonization through the closing of the West. The US History I Honors course is intended to refine students' historical thinking skills and closely mirrors those of the AP US History course. Students further their understanding by examining historical events within the context of different themes such as American and national identity; work, exchange, and technology; geography and the environment; migration and settlement; politics and power; America in the world; American and regional culture; and social structures.

Throughout the course, students will be presented with opportunities to practice and refine the following Social Studies skills:

- Comparison - Compare and contrast different events, cultures, geographic areas, ideas, values, and institutions
- Causation - Evaluate the relationship between historical causes and effects and distinguish between long term and immediate effects
- Interpretation - Interpret information from a wide variety of primary, secondary, and tertiary sources, including but not limited to those listed [here](#).
- Sourcing - identify and explain the significance of a source's point of view, purpose, historical context, and intended audience
- Textual Analysis - Critically read various texts and identify text-based evidence
- Argumentation - Develop a historically defensible claim and support it with evidence, both in writing and orally

This unit is part of the larger aforementioned course sequence and specifically focuses on the Revolutionary Era where students will understand that British attempts to assert tighter control over its North American colonies as the colonies simultaneously pursued self-government led to a colonial independence movement and the Revolutionary War. By the end of this unit, students will be able to contextualize and identify causal relationships regarding historical developments of the time period in which America gained independence and developed a sense of national identity. This begins with the French and Indian War, through colonial taxation, into the war itself, supported by the Declaration of Independence. Students will do so by examining primary and secondary sources where they will identify viewpoints, create and support a claim, and assess causal relationships. Moreover, application of the AP Themes and definitions will allow students to develop a more comprehensive content focus.

The ability to make informed and reasoned decisions as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an increasingly globalized world is essential to students' post-secondary success. The skills and content of this unit and the curriculum as a whole encourage students to think critically about important issues, engage in the processes of problem solving, and develop civic competence as part of preparation for college, career, and/or civic life. Furthermore, this course fulfills one of three units in Social Studies course work required by both Cranford High School and the state of New Jersey for graduation.

Revision Date: August 2021

## Standards

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6.1.12.CivicsPI.2.a: Prepare and articulate a point of view about the importance of individual rights, separation of powers, and governmental structure in New Jersey's 1776 constitution and the United States Constitution.

6.1.12.HistoryUP.2.a: Using primary sources, describe the perspectives of African Americans, Native Americans, and women during the American Revolution and assess the contributions of each group on the outcome of the war.

6.1.12.EconGE.1.a - [*Performance Expectation*] - Explain how economic ideas and the practices of mercantilism and capitalism conflicted during this time period.

LA.RH.9-10.1 - [Progress Indicator] - Accurately cite strong and thorough textual evidence, to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information.

LA.RH.9-10.2 - [Progress Indicator] - Determine the theme, central ideas, key information and/or perspective(s) presented in a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.

LA.RH.9-10.3 - [Progress Indicator] - Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; draw connections between the events, to determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.

LA.RH.9-10.4 - [Progress Indicator] - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history and the social sciences; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.

LA.RH.9-10.6 - [Progress Indicator] - Compare the point of view of two or more authors in regards to how they treat the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts.

LA.RH.9-10.8 - [Progress Indicator] - Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's claims.<sup>4</sup>

LA.RH.9-10.9 - [Progress Indicator] - Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic, or of various perspectives, in several primary and secondary sources; analyze how they relate in terms of themes and significant historical concepts.

LA.RH.9-10.10 - [Progress Indicator] - By the end of grade 10, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 9-10 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

LA.RST.9-10.1 - [Progress Indicator] - Accurately cite strong and thorough evidence from the text to support analysis of

science and technical texts, attending to precise details for explanations or descriptions.

LA.RST.9-10.2 - [Progress Indicator] - Determine the central ideas, themes, or conclusions of a text; trace the text's explanation or depiction of a complex process, phenomenon, or concept; provide an accurate summary of the text.

LA.WHST.9-10.1.A - Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

LA.WHST.9-10.1.B - Develop claim(s) and counterclaims using sound reasoning, supplying data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline-appropriate form and in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.

LA.WHST.9-10.1.C - Use transitions (e.g., words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.

LA.WHST.9-10.1.D - Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.

LA.WHST.9-10.1.E - Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.

LA.WHST.9-10.2.A - Introduce a topic and organize ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

LA.WHST.9-10.2.B - Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.

LA.WHST.9-10.2.C - Use varied transitions and sentence structures to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.

LA.WHST.9-10.2.D - Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic and convey a style appropriate to the discipline and context as well as to the expertise of likely readers.

LA.WHST.9-10.2.E - Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.

LA.WHST.9-10.2.F - Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.

LA.WHST.9-10.4 - [Progress Indicator] - Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

LA.WHST.9-10.5 - [Progress Indicator] - Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

LA.WHST.9-10.6 - [Progress Indicator] - Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

LA.WHST.9-10.7 - [Progress Indicator] - Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

LA.WHST.9-10.8 - [Progress Indicator] - Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

LA.WHST.9-10.9 - [Progress Indicator] - Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

LA.WHST.9-10.10 - [Progress Indicator] - Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

9.1.12.EG.3: Explain how individuals and businesses influence government policies.

9.1.12.FP.6: Evaluate the relationship of familial patterns, cultural traditions, and historical influences on financial practice

9.2.12.CAP.13: Analyze how the economic, social, and political conditions of a time period can affect the labor market.

9.1.12.EG.5: Relate a country's economic system of production and consumption to building personal wealth, the mindset of social comparison, and achieving societal responsibilities

NJSLSA.W1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

NJSLSA.W2. Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

NJSLSA.W4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

NJSLSA.W5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

NJSLSA.W6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

NJSLSA.W7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects, utilizing an inquiry based research process, based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

NJSLSA.W8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.

NJSLSA.W9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

NJSLSA.W10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences

SEL.PK-12.3.1 - [Sub-Competency] - Recognize and identify the thoughts, feelings and perspectives of others

SEL.PK-12.3.2 - [Sub-Competency] - Demonstrate awareness of the differences among individuals, groups and others' cultural backgrounds

SEL.PK-12.3.3 - [Sub-Competency] - Demonstrate an understanding of the need for mutual respect when viewpoints differ

PFL.9.1.12.A.5 - [Standard Statement] - Analyze how the economic, social, and political conditions of a time period can affect the labor market.

This unit also reflects the goals of the Department of Education and the Amistad Commission including the infusion of the history of Africans and African-Americans into the curriculum in order to provide an accurate, complete, and inclusive history regarding the importance of African-Americans to the growth and development of American society in a global context.

In accordance with New Jersey's Chapter 32 Diversity and Inclusion Law, this unit includes instructional materials that highlight and promote diversity, including: economic diversity, equity, inclusion, tolerance, and belonging in connection with gender and sexual orientation, race and ethnicity, and religious tolerance.

This unit is aligned to the English Language Development (ELD) standards for kindergarten through grade 12 since multilingual learners develop content and language concurrently, with academic content in a classroom where the language of instruction is English. As a result, language learning and language as a means for learning academic content are interchangeable. The following ELD standards are relevant for this unit and course of study:

- Standard 1: Language for Social and Instructional Purposes: English language learners communicate for social and instructional purposes within the school setting.
- Standard 5: Language for Social Studies: English language learners communicate information, ideas and concepts necessary for academic success in the content area of Social Studies.

The standards in this unit reflect a developmental progression across grade levels and make interdisciplinary connections across content areas including the humanities, technology, career readiness, cultural awareness, and global citizenship.

## **Essential Questions and Enduring Understandings**

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Essential Questions:

- To what extent did conflict between European powers lead to land conflict in the colonies?
- How did the French and Indian War impact the French, Indigenous Americans, British, and American colonists?
- Was colonial resistance inevitable or instigated by the British?
- To what extent did the Age of Enlightenment foster a desire for change in the British North American colonies from 1685 - 1775?

Enduring Understandings:

- British attempts to assert tighter control over its North American colonies as the colonies simultaneously pursued self-government led to a colonial independence movement and the Revolutionary War.

## Objectives

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Students will know:

- Terms, Events, and People (including but not limited to):
  - Seven Years' War
  - Albany Plan
  - Peace of Paris
  - Proclamation of 1763
  - Pontiac's Rebellion
  - Salutary Neglect
  - Sugar Act, Stamp Act, Townshend Acts, Tea Act
  - Boston Tea Party
  - Boston Massacre
  - Intolerable Acts
  - Lexington and Concord
  - First Continental Congress
  - Committee of Correspondence
  - John Adams, Paul Revere, Samuel Adams
  - Sons and Daughters of Liberty
  - Virginia Resolves
  - Patriots vs. Loyalists
  - George Washington, Horatio Gates, Alexander Hamilton, Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben, Marquis de Lafayette, Charles Cornwallis
  - Battle of Bunker Hill, Battle of Trenton, Battle of Princeton, Battle of Monmouth, Battle of Saratoga, Battle of Yorktown
  - *Common Sense*
  - Declaration of Independence
  - Guerilla Warfare
  - Dunmore's Proclamation
  - Treaty of Paris 1783
  
- The context in which America gained independence and developed a sense of national identity

Students will be skilled at:

- classifying the causes and effects of the French and Indian War (Seven Years' War)
- explaining how 1763 was a "turning point" in the relationship between England and her American colonies
- connecting how the British colonial policies regarding North America led to the Revolutionary War
- developing a theory as to why colonial attitudes about government and the individual changed in the years leading up to the American Revolution
- identifying and analyzing how various factors contributed to the American victory during the Revolutionary War
- assessing the ways in which the American Revolution Affected society
- examining, analyzing, and interpreting primary and secondary source documents to provide evidence of point of view, purpose, intended audience, and experiences during this time period.
- working independently and collaboratively to present comprehension and understanding.

- contextualizing to place events and sources into a broader historical timeline to describe the circumstances surrounding a topic.
- interpreting multiple perspectives to compare and contrast varying viewpoints for relative similarities and differences regarding a specific topic.
- writing with evidence to support an original claim.
- creating a claim to respond to a prompt.
- establishing causal relationships between events and time periods (this includes both short and long term factors to be explained in connection to the topic).
- developing applicable connections to APUSH Themes.

## Learning Plan

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The unit learning plan includes, but is not limited to the following strategies:

- French and Indian War Decision Making: Students will take on the role of mediator to help the British and colonists decide how to solve several problems they face due to the aftermath of the French and Indian War.
- Mercantilism Introduction Simulation: Students will examine the impact of mercantilism on the colonial trade system through a budgeting and critical thinking activity to examine multiple perspectives.
- Inquiry Lesson - Did the Colonists Overreact to the Stamp Act?: Students will examine various sources to determine the multiple responses to initial taxation in the colonies. Students will sort the documents using evidence from the text to place the actions as “justified” or “not justified”. Students will weigh evidence before drawing conclusions.
- Road to Revolution Gallery Walk and Analysis: Students will participate in a Gallery Walk to discuss main causes of the American Revolution including economic issues, political grievances, conflicting ideologies, and British tyranny. Gallery Walk (or stations) include text and visuals to draw conclusions, think critically and promote conversation.
- Boston Tea Party - Activism or Vandalism? - Inquiry Lesson: HIPP Analysis of Bostonians in distress connected to perspectives of the Boston Tea Party and the British response to the event (Intolerable Acts).
- Debate for Independence: To understand and apply the Patriot and Loyalist perspective, students will analyze primary source documents, which help to “make the case” for or against colonial independence.
- Pre-Revolutionary War Speed Dating: Students will assume their assigned role and circulate to meet other founding fathers in their quest to express their views and learn about others’ to determine the social climate during this time period.
- Turning Point Battles Jigsaw: Students will work collaboratively to identify and explain the turning points of the American Revolution to present to the class (Lexington and Concord, Bunker Hill, Trenton, Saratoga, Winter at Valley Forge, Yorktown). Evaluation of strengths, weaknesses and strategy of the British and American colonists to follow.
- Winning the Revolution - Argumentation Skill: A series of quotes are provided to students to offer arguments for how the Americans were able to win the Revolutionary War. Students will use the evidence to make a claim and provide their evidence and reasoning.
- Race, Gender and Class in the American Revolution: Through a digital notebook investigation students will analyze resources to answer and discuss the following question: “To what extent did all Americans benefit equally from the revolution? Use specific information to support your claim.”

Note: Other strategies to address the learning objectives may include, but are not limited to direct instruction, primary and secondary source analysis (including annotations, critique, questioning and close reading strategies), self and peer review, think-pair-share activities, creating visual representations, debates, film analysis, Socratic seminars, small group



discussions, simulations, mapping activities, jigsaw activities, gallery walks, web quests, and/or inquiry or problem based learning projects.

## **Assessment**

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When taking a Social Studies course, students demonstrate differentiated proficiency according to their ability to answer the essential questions through formative and summative assessments. Many of the performance tasks below can be implemented as formative and/or summative assessments. As teachers strive for students to demonstrate proficiency, they will need to create additional or alternative assessments based on demonstration or absence of skill.

### **Formative Assessments:**

Do Now/Exit Tickets, Class Activities, Chapter Reading Quizzes (Short Answer Format), Homework, *Fabric of A Nation* Sourcing Activities (pages 151, Maps on 152-155, 163, 166, 175, 180, 183, 187, 189, 190, 193)

### **Summative Assessments:**

AP Style Tests including Document Stimulus Question and Short Answer Questions, Revolutionary War Personalized Learning Projects (student choice for presentation and understanding of a facet of the war), Speed Dating Project

### **Benchmark Assessments:**

HIPP Analysis (students will be able to identify and explain Historical Context, Purpose and Point of view and Intended Audience by the end of this unit)

### **Alternative Assessments:**

Students may write an essay to address one of the essential questions using class assignment sources and outside research.

## **Materials**

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The design of this course allows for the integration of a variety of instructional, supplemental, and intervention materials that support student learners at all levels in the school and home environments. Associated web content and media sources are infused into the unit as applicable and available. In addition to the materials below, the following link connects to district approved textbooks and resources utilized in this course: [Core Book List](#).

The following are approved resources that teachers can include to further unit related objectives:

Primary Sources:

- John Locke's Second Treatise of Civil Government (1689)

- Thomas Paine's Common Sense (1776)
- Declaration of Independence
- Abigail Adams excerpt on Women's Rights
- "Bloody Massacre" etching by Paul Revere

[The Declaration of Independence "An Expression of the American Mind" \(EDSITEment\)](#)

*America the Story of Us* - Revolution (Episode 2)

*John Adams* Miniseries (HBO) - Excerpted scenes from Episodes 1 - 4

- Episode 1 - Road to Revolution
- Episode 2 - Declaration of Independence
- Episode 3 - Turning Point (Saratoga and French alliance)
- Episode 4 - Treaty of Paris

*The War that Made America* - Documentary

Zinn's *A People's History* Excerpts

[Origin of Everything \(PBS\) - Would You have Joined the American Revolution?](#)

[History.Com - 7 Black Heroes of the American Revolution Article](#)

[Poetry of Defiance lesson plan \(resistance to slavery\)](#)

[American Revolution SAC](#)

[Primary source documentation on British attempt to spread smallpox during Pontiac's Rebellion](#)

[The Legacy Project's "Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben" article](#)

[Loyalists in the American Revolution](#)

[Boston Massacre mock trial](#)

[Treaty of Paris Activity](#)

[The American Revolution from Below packet](#)

Any additional resources that are not included in this list will be presented to and reviewed by the supervisor before being included in lesson plans. This ensures resources are reviewed and vetted for relevance and appropriateness prior to implementation.

## **Integrated Accommodation and Modifications**

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This link includes content specific accommodations and modifications for all populations:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Pp6EJOCsFz5o4-opzsXpQDQoa6aCIW-bkRGPDRHXVrk/edit?usp=sharing>

These additional strategies are helpful when learning Social Studies content and skills:

- Highlighter for close reading and annotation strategies
- Bolded terms in directions
- Reading texts aloud for students to assist in comprehension and analysis
- Providing opportunities for text-to-speech for written responses.
- Use visual presentations of all materials to include graphic organizers for writing.