Period 3: 1754-1800

BAGPIPE Themes

**Belief Systems: Culture and Society**

* Ideas
* *Enlightenment ideas and philosophy inspired many American political thinkers to emphasize individual talent over hereditary privilege, while religion strengthened Americans' view of themselves as a people blessed with liberty.*
* *The colonists' belief in the superiority of republican forms of government based on the natural rights of the people found expression in Thomas Paine's Common Sense and the Declaration of Independence. The ideas in these documents resonated throughout American history, shaping Americans' understanding of the ideals on which the nation was based.*
* *The American Revolution and the ideals set forth in the Declaration of Independence reverberated in France, Haiti, and Latin America, inspiring future independence movements.*
* Religion and Literature
* Art and Literature
* Cultural Values
* Science
* Morality and Moral Values
* *In response to women's participation in the American Revolution, Enlightenment ideas, and women's appeals for expanded roles, an ideal of "republican motherhood" gained popularity. It called on women to teach republican values within the family and granted women a new importance in American political culture.*

**America in the World: Global Context**

* Competition for Resources
* Foreign Policy and Diplomacy
* The United States government forged diplomatic initiatives aimed at dealing with the continued British and Spanish presence in North America, as U.S. settlers migrated beyond the Appalachians and sought free navigation of the Mississippi River.
* Expansionism and imperialism
* An ambiguous relationship between the federal government and American Indian tribes contributed to problems regarding treaties and American Indian legal claims relating to the seizure of their lands.
* Global Conflicts (World Wars)
* *Colonial rivalry intensified between Britain and France in the mid-18th century, as the growing population of the British colonies expanded into the interior of North America, threatening French-Indian trade networks and American Indian autonomy.*
* *Britain achieved a major expansion of its territorial holdings by defeating the French, but at tremendous expense, setting the stage for imperial efforts to raise revenue and consolidate control over the colonies.*
* *War between France and Britain resulting from the French Revolution presented challenges to the United States over issues of free trade and foreign policy and fostered political disagreement.*
* *George Washington's Farewell Address encouraged national unity, as he cautioned against political factions and warned about the danger of permanent foreign alliances.*
* Military and Economic
* *In the face of economic shortages and the British military occupation of some regions, men and women mobilized in large numbers to provide financial and material support to the Patriot movement.*
* *Despite considerable loyalist opposition, as well as Great Britain's apparently overwhelming military and financial advantages, the Patriot cause succeeded because of the actions of colonial militias and the Continental Army, George Washington's military leadership, the colonists' ideological commitment and resilience, and assistance sent by European allies.*

**Geography & Environment: Physical and Human**

* Climate, Environment, and Geography
* Natural Resources
* Exchanges: plants, disease, animals

**Peopling: Migration and Settlement**

* Movement to, from, within the U.S.
* *After the British victory, imperial officials' attempts to prevent colonists from moving westward generated colonial opposition, while native groups sought to both continue trading with Europeans and resist the encroachments of colonists on tribal lands.*
* Nativism
* Immigrant groups impact on Society
* *Various American Indian groups repeatedly evaluated and adjusted their alliances with Europeans, other tribes, and the U.S. seeking to limit immigration of white settlers and maintain control of tribal lands and natural resources. British alliances with American Indians contributed to tensions between the U.S. and Britain.*
* *As increasing numbers of migrants from North America and other parts of the world continued to move westward, frontier cultures that had emerged in the colonial period continued to grow, fueling social, political, and ethnic tensions.*
* *As settlers moved westward during the 1780s, Congress enacted the Northwest Ordinance for admitting new states; the ordinance promoted public education, the protection of private property, and a ban on slavery in the Northwest Territory.*
* *The Spanish, supported by the bonded labor of the local American Indians, expanded their mission settlements into California; these provided opportunities for social mobility among soldiers and led to new cultural blending.*

**Identity: Gender, Class, Racial, Ethnic Identities**

* Gender
* Class
* Racial and Ethnic Identities
* National and Regional Identities
* Nationalism and Patriotism
* *The effort for American independence was energized by colonial leaders such as Benjamin Franklin, as well as by popular movements that included the political activism of laborers, artisans, and women.*
* *Ideas about national identity increasingly found expression in works of art, literature, and architecture.*
* Assimilation

**Politics and Power**

* Role of State in Society
* Political Process
* Many new state constitutions placed power in the hands of the legislative branch and maintained property qualifications for voting and citizenship.
* *Delegates from the states participated in a Constitutional Convention and through negotiation, collaboration, and compromise, proposed a constitution that created a limited but dynamic central government embodying federalism and providing for a separation of powers between its three branches.*
* *During the presidential administrations of George Washington and John Adams, political leaders created institutions and precedents that put the principles of the Constitution into practice.*
* Role of Political Parties
* *Political leaders in the 1790s took a variety of positions on issues such as the relationship between the national government and the states, economic policy, foreign policy, and the balance between liberty and order. This led to the formation of political parties--most significantly the Federalists, led by Alexander Hamilton, and the Democratic-Republican Party, led by Thomas Jefferson and James Madison.*

* Struggles over / for Freedom
* *During and after the American Revolution, an increased awareness of inequalities in society motivated some individuals and groups to call for the abolition of slavery and greater political democracy in the new state and national governments.*
* *The Constitutional Convention compromised over the representation of slave states in Congress and the role of the federal government in regulating both slavery and the slave trade, allowing the prohibition of the international slave trade after 1808.*
* *The expansion of slavery in the deep South and adjacent western lands and rising antislavery sentiment began to create distinctive regional attitudes toward the institution.*
* Federalism
* *The Articles of Confederation unified the newly independent states, creating a central government with limited power. After the Revolution, difficulties over international trade, finances, interstate commerce, foreign relations, and internal unrest led to calls for a stronger central government.*
* *In the debate over ratifying the Constitution, Anti-Federalists opposing ratification battled with Federalists, whose principles were articulated in the Federalist Papers (primarily written by Alexander Hamilton and James Madison). Federalists ensured the ratification of the Constitution by promising the addition of a Bill of Rights that enumerated individual rights and explicitly restricted the powers of the federal government.*
* Liberty and Rights
* *Colonial leaders based their calls for resistance to Britain on arguments about the rights of British subjects, the rights of the individual, local traditions of self rule, and the ideas of the Enlightenment.*
* Citizenship
* Authority and Power
* *The imperial struggles of the mid-18th century, as well as new British efforts to collect taxes without direct colonial representation or consent and to assert imperial authority in the colonies against perceived and real constraints on their economic activities and political rights.*

**Economy: Work, Exchange, Trade, Technology**

* Agriculture and Manufacturing
* Commerce and Trade
* Technology and Innovations
* Labor Systems
* Transportation
* Land Distribution