**Period 2 Outline**

**I.  European Warfare Comes to America**

* **Roots of the Seven Years War** 
  + Struggle for control of continent between France and England -- discuss area controlled by Britain and France
  + English fur traders began to venture into French controlled territory (western Penn, eastern Ohio--known as Ohio country) in 1752
  + French began to build a series of fortifications to protect their fur bearing regions
  + George Washington and Edward Braddock lead ill-fated missions in 1754 and 1755 against the French outposts, both parties beaten badly by French and Indian forces
  + Britain declares war in 1756 after learning of Braddock fiasco
* **Fighting of the war** 
  + From 1757-1760, a combined British-Colonial force fought against the French and their native allies
  + During this time, the British led forces captured all the major French outposts
  + By 1763, France, Spain, and Britain signed the treaty of Paris
  + France gave up all claim to its major holdings in North America
  + Spain surrendered claim to Florida
* **Impact of the war in North America** 
  + France excluded from North America
  + Native American tribes could no longer play the Europeans off against each other
  + To prevent Indian uprisings, Britain issued Proclamation of 1763--no colonists past the headwaters of the Appalachian Mountains (Atlantic side)
  + Colonists began to look at their situation in a new light
    - an estimated 1/3 of New England men of military age fought in the war alongside the British
    - most did not like what they saw
    - class-separated army
    - harsh discipline
    - refusal to respect agreements made with colonials--such as terms of enlistment
  + many of these men began to see British as tyrants

**II.  Resistance to the Empire**

* **Paying for the war** 
  + Since the war began in colonies, and fought much for colonists sake, Britain expected colonies to bear significant portion of expense
  + Lord Grenville, appointed prime minister in 1763 by the new King George III (of weak mind), decided to ask Americans to pay more for the upkeep of themselves and the British empire
  + **Sugar Act and Currency Act (1764)** 
    - Sugar Act aimed at raising money and stopping widespread smuggling of sugar (in form of molasses)
    - Currency Act outlaws (in effect) the use of colonial paper money, requiring hard money to be used
* "**Real Whigs" and conspiracy theories**
  + Real Whigs saw themselves as true lovers of freedom in Britain
    - Worried about a powerful government, especially one under one ruler (such as George III)
    - warned that political power corrupts and must be feared
    - only perpetual vigiliance by the public at large could preserve their cherished freedoms and liberties
  + Real Whigs published numerous pamphlets and tracts, many of which were spread to America
  + Real Whig concerns of tyrannical government fit in with colonial concerns about being represented
    - colonial legislatures had developed sense of self-government
    - British Parliament argued virtual representation, not actual representation was okay
  + Colonists and British see government of colonies in a very different light
* **Resistance to imperial edicts** 
  + **The Stamp Act of 1765** 
    - Required tax stamps on most printed materials--newspapers, pamphlets, wills, deeds, playing cards, licenses for different occupations, notes for loans
    - Tax had to be paid in specie
  + **Reaction to the Stamp Act** 
    - James Otis, Jr.
    - Virginia House of Burgesses
    - Mobocracy
    - Sons of Liberty (formed 1765)
      * formed to organize resistance to Stamp Act
      * made up of urban elite--lawyers, merchants, and tradesmen
      * formed first in NYC, but had branches in other towns and cities along coast
    - **Stamp Act Congress (1765)** 
      * intercolonial congress met in NYC in October
      * purpose was to write a unified statement of protest--couched in conservative terms so as not to offend Parliament
      * Nonimportation pact--informal agreements not to import British goods--enforced by threats and violence if needed
  + **Repeal of the Stamp Act, passage of Declaratory Act (1766)** 
    - Repeal
      * Change in British government--Lord Rockingham replaces Grenville as P.M.--signals change in position
      * Stamp Act repealed
    - **Passage of Declaratory Act** 
      * tied to repeal of Stamp Act
      * decreed that Parliament had the authority to tax and legislate British colonies in North America in whatever manner or circumstances it chose
      * didn't receive much attention
* **Townshend Acts (1767)** 
  + William Pitt replaces Rockingham
  + Charles Townshend appointed to head the Exchequer (British treasury department)
  + Townshend decides more monies needed from the colonies (debt from Seven Years War still outstanding)
  + Gets Parliament to pass new revenue act named after him
    - Puts duties on trade goods--glass, paper, cloth, and tea
    - Duties were levied on goods from Britain, not other countries--differ from the Navigation Acts
    - Duties meant to be used to pay salaries of royal officials in the colonies--formerly, colonial legislatures had paid these salaries
    - Created American Board of Customs--to sit in Boston, Philadelphia, and Charleston
  + **Boston a hotbed of trouble** 
    - Massachusetts Assembly issued a circular letter to be sent to all colonial legislatures
    - Called for a united front and a joint petition from all the colonies be sent to Parliament in protest
    - Hillsborough, the British secretary of state for America ordered the Mass. governor to recall the letter, also ordered other royal governors to prevent their legislatures from discussing it
    - Mass. assembly defied the order, along with a number of other colonial legislatures, which were disbanded by the royal governors
    - This created a strong atmosphere of distrust and hostility toward royal governors
    - Boston Sons of Liberty lead public protests against Townshend Acts, designed to garner widespread support for resistance
    - Public rituals, pamphlets, and posters were designed to get as many people involved as possible
  + Daughters of Liberty formed in some colonies to show their support of resistance
    - usually led by women from prominent families
    - making homespun, eating American food
    - drinking coffee and herbal tea, not tea
  + Call to boycott all British goods
    - at least 1/4 of all British exports go to colonies
    - division among colonists
      * artisans and manufacturers support boycott
      * merchants oppose boycott, trading good for them
  + Lord North, new prime minister in 1770, gets Parliament to repeal Townshend Act taxes, except for tea--provision to pay royal officials from Britain remains in effect
* **Boston Massacre (1770)** 
  + British station two regiments of troops in Boston
    - Troops compete with laborers for jobs (when off-duty)
    - Troops very intrusive--searches, etc.
  + March 2, workers attack troops--no serious harm
  + March 5, workers pelt troops in front of customs house with snowballs, troops fire (despite orders), kill five
  + John Adams and Josiah Quincy, Jr. defend troops, showing their respect for law to both sides--defendants acquitted or receive mild punishment
* Groups throughout the colonies seek to gather support for resistance with help of number of newspapers
  + elites lead way, draw on Real Whig ideology
  + Enslavement to Britain a common cry--contrast with slavery in colonies
  + no calls for independence as yet, try to work out some form of compromise
* **Committees of Correspondence** 
  + first formed in Boston in late 1772
  + led by Samuel and John Adams (distant cousins)
  + urged collective action and sought to get consensus of all citizens, not just urbanites
  + Boston group drew up a list of grievances that placed emphasis on American rights, with loyalty to Britain secondary
  + support widespread from towns and villages
* **Tea and Coercive Acts** 
  + Tea Act (1773)
    - Parliament passes Tea Act primarily to save the British East India Company from going bankrupt
    - BEIC only authorized agent to sell tea in colonies, with portion of duties going to them
    - In Boston, people protest to royal governor, Thomas Hutchinson, but he refuses to do anything
    - Boston Tea Party (Dec. 1773)
      * Meeting of 1/3 (5000) of Boston's population asks Hutchinson again to send tea back, he refuses
      * that evening, 60 men disguised as Mohawks dump tea in harbor (10,000 Brit. Pounds worth)
    - When North learns of Tea Party, passes Coercive Acts--closes port of Boston, limits trade, changes colonial charter, increases power of Gov. Hutchinson
  + Quebec Acts--1774--Catholics more freedom in Quebec, also many lands in the Old Northwest ceded to Quebec
  + Colonists now convinced of plot
* **First Continental Congress (Sept. 1774)** 
  + Met in Philadelphia--55 delegates representing mostly the elite factions of all 13 colonies
  + Many were radicals, but some conservative leaders--such as Joseph Galloway (leading merchant from Philadelphia) also participated
  + Congress rejected both radical and conservative proposals, settling on the Declaration of Rights and Grievances as a compromise
    - declaration stated that colonists would obey "bona fide" acts of Parliament
    - who decided whether the acts were bona fide?
  + The Congress also created the Continental Association, to boycott British goods and also to not export goods to Britain or West Indies
  + Other offshoots of the Congress were the new provinical legislatures (conventions) and Committees of Observation
* **Lexington and Concord** 
  + In April 1775, Thomas Gage (commanding British troops in Boston) received letter from the British secretary of state for America, Lord Dartmouth
  + Dartmouth saw resistance leaders as unruly mob who would put up little fight if challenged
  + Ordered Gage to arrest the main leaders--do so swiftly and silently
  + April 18--Gage prepares to march his troops to Concord to caputre weapons cache (Paul Revere and William Dawes get on their horses)
  + April 19
    - On way to Concord, British are confronted by American militia on Lexington square--Brits fire several volleys
    - British continue on to Concord--which they later regretted
  + By nightfall of May 20, close to 20,000 colonial militia had gathered around Boston--although most left soon after for planting
* **Siege of Boston** 
  + Guns from Ticonderoga--Benedict Arnold
  + June 17, 1775--Breed's Hill
  + British send 2,200 regulars against American forces on Breed's Hill
  + Americans repulse redcoats twice, but were beaten back on the third
  + Redcoats lost 1,000 casualties, Colonials 400
  + Boston remains under seige

**The Colonists Rebel**

**I.  Governing the War**

* **The Second Continental Congress** 
  + convened in Philadelphia in May 76
  + agreed to finance the war effort--printing $2 million paper money (discuss problems with this)
  + appointed Washington as general and commander-in-chief of the Continental Army (same time as battle of Breed's Hill)
  + Emphasize this is not a **national** government
  + Attempt at compromise--July 5 and 6
    - Olive branch petition--professed continued loyalty to Geo III, begged him for reconciliation
    - Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms--explained why colonists thought they were merely defending their rights rather than submit to slavery
    - George III still outraged, army was to treat colonists as "open and avowed enemies"

**II.  Choosing Sides**

* **When the war began, people were pushed to chose sides**
* British and other European groups
  + Rebels- 2/5's of population
  + Loyalists- 1/5 of population (government officials, non-English ethnic minorities and backcountry people--established patriot elite were their longstanding enemies)
  + Neutral- 2/5's of population (at least at the beginning of the war)
* **African Americans** 
  + unsure of who to fight for
  + many saw alliance with Britain promising
  + Lord Dunmore's proclamation
    - raised concerns of slave uprising
    - few joined Dunmore
    - most who did later regretted it (talk about life in British camps)
* **Native Americans** 
  + split over which side to support, but leaned toward British because westward expansion of white settlers
  + When they joined the British, many were used to raid settlements along the frontier
  + Frontier raids brought brutal retaliation
* **Ideological fight** 
  + Pamphlets and essays
    - as before the war, played major role in
    - Thomas Paine and *Common Sense*
      * Paine an English Quaker who had come to Philadelphia shortly before the war
      * published Common Sense anonymously in Jan. 76
      * within 3 months, 100,000 copies of Paine's pamphlet in circulation
      * pamphlet blamed George III for the malevolence toward the colonies -- Americans should go with their own interests and declare independence
  + **Terror and civil war** 
    - War in the Carolinas and Georgia
    - Destruction of other side the goal

**III.  Fighting a Revolution**

* **British strategy** 
  + Control cities
  + Defeat enemy armies and win clear cut military victory
  + Treated the Revolution as another European war
  + British needed to win the "hearts and minds" of the colonists and get them to return to the fold
* **Declaring independence**
* **Fighting in the North**
  + Long Island and Manhattan (June-July 1776)
  + Trenton (Dec 76) and Princeton (Jan 77)
  + "Gentleman Johnny" Burgoyne's Saratoga campaign
  + Surviving the winter of 77-78 at Valley Forge
* **French Intervention, British peace initiatives**
* **Civil War in the South** 
  + British triumphs
    - Savannah
    - Charleston
    - Camden
  + Tide turns
    - King's Mountain (Oct 1780)
    - Cowpens (Jan 81)
    - The Chase
    - Guilford Courthose (Mar 1781)
  + Cornwallis goes to Virginia, Greene to South Carolina
    - Cornwallis and Arnold team up (7,000 men)
      * Raid in Virginia--almost get Gov. Jefferson and Virginia legislature
      * Coming of large body of American troops causes Corny to fall back to Yorktown
    - Greene goes after British and Loyalist garrisons in South Carolina and Georgia
      * loses every battle, but British always retreat
      * "We get beat, rise up, and fight again"
      * British forces fall back to Charleston and Savannah
  + Yorktown (Cornwallis surrenders Oct 7 1781)

**IV.  Treaty of Paris ended the war, gave the U.S. territory stretching form the Atlantic Coast to the Mississippi River.**

**Building a New Nation**

**I.  Early frameworks for governing**

* **State governments**
  + The task of forming some type of governments began with the war
  + States needed to draft some type of written constitution defining the power and structure of government--did not trust unwritten constitutions such as Britain's
  + To draft the constitutions, the states called on conventions of their leading citizens (that supported the revolution)
  + Most structures similar
    - Strong legislature (usually two houses)
    - Weak governor (usually elected annually by the legislature) with few powers
    - independent judiciary
    - More people enfranchised (property qualifications lowered)
    - Limits on government authority--bill of rights
      * freedom of press, speech, and religion
      * fair trial and protection against general searches
      * consent required for taxation
  + **First systems had serious problems**
    - weak executive meant that action was slow, legislature had to act first
    - governor's power gradually increased
    - Many state constitutions were rewritten during the 1780s and 1790s
    - states found original constitutions just did not work
    - began to place more faith on a system of checks and balances
    - most power still rested in the legislatures
* **Articles of Confederation**
  + In 1777 the Second Continental Congress drafted the Articles of Confederation
    - Created a national government consisting of a unicameral legislature
    - One representative from each of the 13 colonies
    - No executive
    - Designed as a league of states called the United States of America--emphasis on the states
      * each state remained sovereign
      * any powers not specifically delegated to the national government--that is, Congress--remained in the states
    - Powers given to national government were limited
      * settlement of disputes between states
      * regulating foreign affairs (including Indian trade)
      * setting value of national and state coinage--to ensure standard trade
      * no power to tax or raise money other than through the states
      * no power to enforce its decisions upon the states
  + **Governing under the Articles**
    - Because unanimous consent needed, Articles could not be approved until 1780--Maryland upset over the distribution of western lands
    - Weaknesses in the Articles became quickly apparent
      * Foreign relations and trade presented major problems
      * each state went their own ways in this area--confiscation of loyalist property was a major diplomatic problem
      * major problem because Britain embargoed trade between the states and Britain or its colonies in West Indies--came at a time when national economy was depressed
      * states also pursued their own policies regarding dealings with Native American tribes--led to a series of wars in the Northwest that were not settled until 1795
  + **Northwest Ordinance of 1787**--biggest success under the Articles of Confederation
    - Northwest territory--area bordered by Mississippi River, Ohio River, and Great Lakes
    - Prohibited slavery in the territory--even southern states agreed to this provision
    - Gave bill of rights--jury trial, freedom of religion, right of new states to join the Union on equal footing with older states, giving citizens in territories same rights as citizens of states
    - earlier Northwest ordinances had laid out how townships were to be created and provided a method of funding education in the region
* **Calling a convention to deal with trade policy**
  + In 1786, representatives from five states met in Maryland to discuss problems with trade policy
  + Being too few in number to make any difference, they dismiss the meeting calling for a new Constitutional convention the following year in Philadelphia--asking all states to send delegates
  + response slow at first, until Shay's Rebellion scares the elites of the states into reacting
* **Shay's Rebellion**
  + Depressed prices for agricultural products and tight credit market (creditors demanding specie) left farmers hurting
    - Many farmers asked for relief through issuing paper money
    - Most creditors (along with some other Americans) fought against the issuing of paper money
    - In Mass., economic situation very bad for some
    - conservatives had run govt. since 1780, levying heavy taxes to pay off war debt (held mainly by Boston merchants--and paid off mainly by farmers)
  + In 1786, after the state refused to issue paper money, people in three western counties revolted
    - Jan. 1787 -- 1,200 farmers and their allies, led by Daniel Shay--a war veteran--attacked the Springfield arsenal
    - the farmers were defeated easily
  + rumors of the rebellion by the poor put terror into the hearts of the "better kind of people"
  + Shays' Rebellion scared the elite!!!

**II.  The Constitutional Convention**

* In Feb. 1787, following Shay's Rebellion, the Confederation Congress endorsed the idea of a convention to modify the Articles of Confederation
* One of the first questions to addressed (before the convention met) was the form of government
* **The question of republicanism**
  + Most agreed a republican form of government was best, but question became which version of republicanism
  + **Greek Republicanism**
    - only republics small in size and were homogeneous in population could succeed
    - citizens must be willing to sacrifice their own private interests for the good of the whole
    - government run by a natural aristocracy, men whose rank was based on merit rather than inherited wealth or family status
    - even the Greeks did not believe in ability of this type to succeed
  + **Republicanism based on self-interest**
    - put forth by members of economic elite and skilled craftsmen
    - emphasized that individuals should pursue rational self-interest
    - by pursuing self-interest, men would improve not only their own economic and social circumstances, but those around them would also
    - dismissed the notion of subordinating private interests to a communal ideal
  + **Egalitarian Republicanism**
    - sought a government that represented all the people
    - felt that the elite did not usually speak or respond to the needs of the majority
    - wanted widespread participation in political activity
  + All three versions emphasized the need for people to be virtuous and work hard as individuals
* The **constitutional convention begins**
  + Twelve states (all except Rhode Island) sent delegates to the convention
  + The 55 men mainly represented the elite of their states--men of property and wealth
    - included merchants, planters, lawyers, and former government officials
    - most had significant education--over half had attended college
    - Most of the men were in their middle years, the oldest was Ben Franklin at 81.
* The bulk of the work performed by about a dozen men, led by James Madison
  + Madison prepared for the convention by reading hundreds of books on history and political science
  + Prepared a critique of the government under the Articles of Confederation
* **Opposing plans for a Constitution**
  + **Virginia Plan**
    - most likely drafted by Madison, but presented by Gov. Edmund Randolph of Virginia
    - Called for a republic as form of government
    - Structure would consist of a bicameral legislature (one house elected by popular vote, the other by the first house), an executive elected by Congress, and a national judiciary
    - National government had the power to nullify any state laws
  + Many believed the Virginia plan gave too much power to national government
  + **New Jersey plan** basically made modifications of the existing Articles of Confederation
    - left representation equal among the states
    - gave Congress more power over trade and taxation
    - **rejected by the delegates**
* **Working out the Great Compromise (aka Connecticut Compromise)**
  + representation--proportional or equal by state
  + who would elect each house--popular for House, state legislature for Senate
  + slavery
    - is slavery mentioned in the Constitution?
    - how would slaves be counted regarding proportional representation
    - would slavery be protected
    - Congress couldn't outlaw slave trade for 20 years
    - Congress was required to protect slavery against interference
    - Separation of powers
  + three branches--exec, leg, jud
    - of the three, the legislative had most power
    - judiciary weakest
    - system of checks and balances between branches
* In September 1787, delegates met and approved the draft of the constitution
  + several voted against it
  + main opposition--diluted the states' powers and lacked a bill of rights
  + Constitution would be ratified when 9 states approved it

**III.  Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists (Ratifying the Constitution**)

* Federalists supported the constitution as written, antifederalists opposed the new document
* **Federalists**
  + tended to come from among merchant and bankers, large farmers
  + saw a strong central government as the key to the nation's growth and prosperity
  + especially interested in strong interstate commerce, against paper money and protection of debtors
* **Antifederalists**
  + tended to be small farmers and frontiersmen
  + believed the states were the best protectors of individual rights--weakening their power could lead to tyrannical power (a la Real Whigs)
  + had little to gain from interstate commerce, much to lose from prohibitions on paper money or stay laws
* Federalists better prepared, organized, and educated
* Leading Federalist movement in N.Y. were James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, and John Jay
  + N.Y. especially important as large state
    - Gov. George Clinton (not P-Funk's George Clinton) against ratification
  + Madison, Hamilton, and Jay published a series of essays in N.Y. newspapers between October 1787 and July 1788 under the name of "Publius"--these essays became known as The Federalist
  + Hamilton wrote # 6, warning of the evils of factions
  + Madison wrote # 10, describing how the large size of the republic worked against producing factions
  + Antifederalist responses were not as widely read or effective
* **Ratification**
  + States began ratifying Constitution in Dec 1787
  + By June 1788, 9 states had ratified
  + Still, crucial states of Virginia and New York had not
    - The battle in those states proved to be close
    - But in end, both ratified Constitution in 1788 (Federalist Papers deemed critical)
  + North Carolina and Rhode Island did not ratify until the Bill of Rights had passed

**IV.  Who participates in new system, who doesn't**

* **White males--must be property holders or pay taxes**
* **Females**
  + primary function to be good wives and mothers
  + seen as self-sacrificing -- charitable work okay for them
  + Discuss Abigail Adams' letters
  + role of women in society begins to undergo a significant change during this era--they begin to disappear from public view
* **African Americans**
  + growth of emancipation movement in North
  + finally, late 1780s, northern states begin to allow emancipation (usually gradual)
  + even after emancipated, many not allowed to participate economically or politically
  + riots against free blacks took place in some cities, especially Philadelphia
  + free blacks began working to establish their own communities within the larger framework of where they lived
* **Native Americans not even considered**

**The Eras of Federalists and Good Feelings**

**I.  The Federalist Era**

* **First government seated in 1789** 
  + Washington elected president, ran unopposed
  + Most men elected to Congress came from Federalist camp, few Antifederalists elected
* **The first president and congress** 
  + Congressional action in the first term
    - One of the first orders of business was amending the newly ratified Constitution
    - series of 12 amendments passed, 10 ratified (although an 11th -- Congressional pay -- was ratified recently)
    - brief description of Bill of Rights
      * freedoms of religion, press, speech, and assembly
      * right to arm bears
      * unreasonable searches and seizures
      * rights of accused persons, jury trials, cruel and unusual punishment
      * rights reserved to the people and states
    - Establishing Administrative departments--under control of President
      * war (Henry Knox), treasury (Hamilton), and state (Jefferson)
      * atty gen. (Edmund Randolph) and postmaster gen -- maybe most useful
    - Judiciary Act of 1789
      * Implemented Article III of Constitution
      * 6 USSC justices
      * 13 district courts (1 for each state)
      * 3 courts of appeal
  + **Washington administration** 
    - Washington cautious in taking actions--aware of setting precedent
    - Alexander Hamilton as Secty of Treasury
      * Hamilton pushed for national dominance in economic matters--consolidating state and national debt from the Revolution, First National Bank of U.S. ("used necessary and proper clause of Article 1--over objections of Madison (discuss that Madison had different views on constitutional powers even though he helped write the Federalist Papers), Jefferson, and Edmund Randolph, the A.G.)
      * Also convinced Congress to pass an excess tax on distilled liquor--starting the failed Whiskey Rebellion in western Pennsylvania in 1794
    - . Foreign relations-- avoid becoming involved in the Continental disputes following the French Revolution
* **Rise of partisan politics** 
  + During the early 1790s, politicians found themselves dividing into two factions (not really organized to call parties)--Federalists and Republicans (distinguish between Federalists and Anti-Federalists--no relation)
  + **Federalists** 
    - concentrated in New England, but found in other sections as well
    - believed the young nation threatened by a host of enemies--internal and external
    - emphasized need for stability, law, and order
    - put little faith in the masses
  + **Republicans** 
    - came primarily from the mid-Atlantic and southern states
    - saw bright political and economic future for the nation
    - not concerned about internal threats
    - sought to widen political participation (among white males)
  + Two factions continually sniped at each other
  + Factional politics helped lead Washington in deciding not to run for a third term
* **Adams' presidency** 
  + **Election of 1796** 
    - First contested election--pitted Federalist Adams (Washington's Vice President) against Republican Thomas Jefferson
    - Adams wins--Jefferson becomes V.P.
  + **XYZ affair and Quasi-war with France** 
    - French began to seize American ships carrying British goods
    - When U.S. attempted to talk to France, French agents demanded $250,000 before they would even discuss matters--no way was the reply
    - Adams released information of this (disguising the agents' names as XYZ) to anti-French feeling in the U.S.
    - America began naval conflict with French in the Caribbean--by 1799 U.S. had established naval superiority
  + **Alien and Sedition Acts** 
    - Series of four acts to suppress dissent and stifle actions of opposition by anti-Federalist factions (primarily the Republicans)
    - Opponents responded at the state level
    - Virginia (Madison) and Kentucky (Jefferson) resolutions
      * Argued that citizens speaking through their states had the right to decide the constitutionality of federal actions
      * Resolutions worked well as propaganda, rallying Republican opposition
      * Also served as the basis for later nullification theories--including secession