

Outline of the American Revolution

- I. Background and Causes of the American Revolution
 - a. Colonial Grievances
 - i. Taxation Without Representation
 - ii. Restrictive Trade Policies (Navigation Acts)
 - iii. Quartering Act
 - iv. Proclamation of 1763
 - b. Enlightenment Ideas
 - i. Influence of Enlightenment Thinkers (e.g., John Locke, Montesquieu)
 - ii. Concepts of Natural Rights and Liberty
 - c. Colonial Resistance
 - i. Stamp Act Congress (1765)
 - ii. Sons of Liberty and Boycotts
 - iii. Boston Massacre (1770)
 - iv. Boston Tea Party (1773)
 - v. Intolerable Acts (Coercive Acts)

- II. Outbreak of the American Revolution
 - a. Lexington and Concord (1775)
 - i. "Shot Heard 'Round the World"
 - ii. Start of Armed Conflict
 - b. Second Continental Congress
 - i. Formation of the Continental Army
 - ii. Appointment of George Washington as Commander-in-Chief

- III. Early Years of the War
 - a. Siege of Boston (1775-1776)
 - i. Bunker Hill
 - ii. Washington's Leadership
 - b. Declaration of Independence (1776)
 - i. Thomas Jefferson's Draft
 - ii. Significance of the Declaration
 - c. Military Campaigns
 - i. New York Campaign (1776)
 - ii. Crossing of the Delaware River (1776)
 - iii. Trenton and Princeton (1776-1777)

- IV. Foreign Involvement and Turning Points
 - a. Saratoga (1777)
 - i. American Victory
 - ii. Alliance with France (Treaty of Alliance, 1778)
 - b. Winter at Valley Forge (1777-1778)
 - i. Challenges and Training
 - ii. Baron von Steuben's Influence
 - c. The Southern Campaign
 - i. British Strategy in the South
 - ii. Battles of Cowpens and Guilford Courthouse (1781)

- V. End of the War and Treaty of Paris
 - a. Siege of Yorktown (1781)
 - i. Combined American and French Assault
 - ii. Cornwallis Surrenders
 - b. Treaty of Paris (1783)
 - i. Recognition of American Independence
 - ii. Borders and Territories Defined

- VI. Aftermath and Legacy of the American Revolution
 - a. Creation of the United States Constitution (1787)
 - i. Constitutional Convention
 - ii. Ratification and Bill of Rights (1791)
 - b. Formation of Political Parties (Federalists vs. Anti-Federalists)
 - i. Federalist Papers
 - ii. Emergence of Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton
 - c. Influence on Other Revolutions (e.g., French Revolution)
 - i. Spread of Revolutionary Ideas
 - d. Long-Term Impact on American Identity and Democracy
 - i. Concepts of Liberty, Equality, and Democracy
 - e. Historical Significance and Commemoration
 - i. The American Revolution as a Founding Moment