

Topic #3 Overview

Main Theme(s):

1. How it was that colonists who, for the most part, had enjoyed benefits unattainable by their European counterparts rose in rebellion against the nation that was responsible for their circumstances.

Objectives: [You should be able to explain each of these in some detail]

1. The primary reasons for the differences between colonial Americans and the British government that resulted in a clash of interests.
2. The colonial attitudes toward England and toward other colonies before the Great War for the empire.
3. The causes of the Great War for the empire, how it became an international conflict and the reasons for the French defeat.
4. The effects of the war on American colonists and on the status of the colonies within the British Empire.
5. The options for dealing with the colonies available to the British in 1763, and the reasons for adopting the policies that they chose to implement.
6. The importance of the series of crises from the Sugar Act through the Coercive Acts, and how each crisis changed colonial attitudes toward the mother country.
7. The change in American attitudes toward Parliament, the English constitution, and the king. What such slogans as "No taxation without representation" really meant.
8. The significance of the convening of the First Continental Congress, and what it accomplished.
9. Lexington and Concord—who fired the first shot, and does it really matter?