

## Topic 2

# The Development of the United States Government

*Topic 2 examines the development of the United States government during the time period of the American Revolution. It focuses on the founding documents of our democracy—the Declaration of Independence, the Articles of Confederation, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights—as well as the contentious political debates that surrounded, and continue to surround, the meaning of those texts, demonstrated by current struggles of people of color, women, and LGBTQIA individuals for equal rights as well as efforts by people and courts to balance states rights and federal power in the pursuit of social and economic justice.*



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## Snapshot of Topic 2

### Supporting Question

How did the framers of the Constitution attempt to address issues of power and freedom in the design of a new political system?

### Massachusetts Standards [8.T2.1-5]

1. [The Revolutionary Era and the Declaration of Independence](#)
2. [The Articles of Confederation](#)
3. [The Constitutional Convention](#)
4. [Debates between Federalists and Anti-Federalists](#)
5. [The Articles of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights](#)

# Advanced Placement Standards for U.S. Government and U.S. History

Modules in this Topic can also be used to address the following Advanced Placement (AP) Standards:

- AP U.S. Government and Politics Unit 1.4: Challenges of the Articles of Confederation
- AP U.S. Government and Politics Unit 1.5: Ratification of the U.S. Constitution
- AP U.S. History: Period 3: 1754 - 1800

## Topic 2: The Development of the United States Government

The Revolutionary Era and the Declaration of Independence
The Articles of Confederation
The Constitutional Convention
Debates between Federalists and Anti-Federalists
Articles of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights



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