



# The American Revolution

Chairs:  
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## Letter From The Chairs

Dear Delegates,

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to LTMUN I and to the American Revolution Crisis Committee. My name is Ngone Dioum and I am thrilled to be your co-chair for this committee. I am a current senior at Lane Tech and this is my second year in MUN. In addition to conferences, I also do XC, track, as well as tennis on the side. I'm so grateful to be a part of Lane Tech's very first conference and I'm eager to see how you all recreate history!

My name is Anika Datta and I am going to be the second co-chair of this committee! I'm also a senior at Lane and this is my third year of MUN. Outside of school, I do XC, track, and play guitar. I'm very excited to see the direction you all decide to take the story of the American revolution. I especially wanted to choose this topic because the setting gives delegates a lot of creative liberty and many different possible perspectives, so I hope you all make the most of this opportunity!

We invite you to step directly into one of the most defining moments in political history and to reflect on what freedom and democracy meant back in the 18th century and what it means now. As your chairs, we are thrilled to lead a committee that blends the perspectives and strategies of many historical figures. You will be tasked with navigating a fragile balance of potential reconciliation and the fires of rebellion.

Whether you choose to fight for reconciliation, independence, or something entirely new; we hope this committee challenges you to think deeply about governance and the foundations of our democracy. We cannot wait to see how each of you interprets and reshapes this pivotal era of American history, and we look forward to meeting you all in committee!

Feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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# Topic A: Amicable Reconciliation



## History of Topic A

The start of colonial discontent stretched back decades prior to any open rebellion. For much of the early 18th century Britain's imperial policy consisted of **Salutary Neglect**, a loose enforcement of trade laws that led the colonies to develop their own political institutions and economic practices. This autonomy fostered a sense of independence that would later clash with Britain's later attempts at control.

The turning point came after British victory in the **Seven Years War** (1756-1763). Britain emerged victorious but deeply in debt; to recoup costs, Parliament issued the



**Proclamation of 1763.** This proclamation forbade settlement west of the Appalachian mountains. With the colonists' independent nature and eagerness for more land, they saw it as a betrayal to their sacrifices during the war. Next came direct taxation: the **Stamp Act** of 1765 required colonists to pay taxes on printed materials to raise revenue for their troops. This sparked the conflict of taxation without representation, since the colonies had no seats in the parliament that imposed taxes

upon them. This eventually led to widespread protest, riots, and the formation of groups like the sons of liberty. Parliament eventually repealed the act in 1766 but simultaneously passed the **Declaratory Act**, asserting its right to legislate for the colonies in "in all cases whatsoever."

Over the following years, Britain imposed further trade restrictions through the **Navigation Acts** and duties under the **Townshend Acts** (1767). Colonists again responded with Boycotts and organized resistance, coordinated through Committees of Correspondence. By the time the First Continental Congress met in Philadelphia (1774), delegates were debating whether reconciliation was possible or whether independence was inevitable.

## Current Situation

The colonies are now at an impasse with the British Parliament. The colonies have submitted the **Olive Branch Petition** (1775), pleading for peace and recognition of their right. King George III has rejected it, declaring the colonies in rebellion. In August of 1775 he issued a **Proclamation of Rebellion**, declaring the colonies to be in open revolt. This response shocked many moderates, those who had hoped for a diplomatic resolution. Meanwhile, the **Intolerable Acts** of 1774, including the Boston Port Act and the Massachusetts Government Act, continued to punish Massachusetts and inflame the ever-present colonial anger.

Delegates enter the crisis at a pivotal moment, needing to decide whether reconciliation can still be achieved. Delegates must weigh colonial grievances against imperial authority, consider the long-term interests of both sides and decide whether compromise

can preserve unity or whether independence must be taken through confrontation.



Militias are mobilizing and radical figures are gaining more influence, trust in the crown is deteriorating. At the same time, many remain hesitant to pursue full independence, fearing economic collapse and internal instability. Loyalists warn that rebellion will bring ruin,

while Patriots argue that submission will only lead to more tyranny.



## Questions To Consider

- To what extent were colonial grievances legitimate within the British imperial system?
- Is representation in Parliament a realistic or desirable solution for the colonists?
- After the rejection of the Olive Branch Petition (1775), is reconciliation still politically feasible for either side?
- What compromise, if any, could the colonists accept without betraying their principles or appearing weak?
- How might reconciliation affect the colonies' economic development, trade networks, and westward expansion?
- How can delegates avoid or encourage radical groups (ie. Sons of liberty) in undermining diplomatic efforts?
- If the situation is beyond reconciliation, is there a way to negotiate independence without escalating to war?
- In the event of conflict, how can the colonists balance diplomacy and defensive strategy?

## Topic B: Siege of Boston



## History of Topic B

Boston was the heart of colonial resistance. The city's radical politics and economic importance made it a focal point for Britain's enforcement of Imperial Authority.



Tensions escalated with the **Quartering Act** of 1765, which required colonists to house British soldiers. This was seen as an invasion of privacy and a symbol of unwarranted occupation.

The situation worsened with the **Boston Massacre** of 1770, when British soldiers fired into a crowd after provocation, killing 5 civilians. Patriots like Paul Revere and Samuel Adams used the events as propaganda, portraying it as evidence of British tyranny.



Economic Grievances soon reignited conflict. The **Tea Act** (May 1773) granted the British East India Company a monopoly on tea sales. The colonists responded with the **Boston Tea Party** (December 1773), dumping 342 chests of tea into the harbor. Britain retaliated with the **Intolerable Acts**, closing Boston's port, placing Massachusetts under Martial law and restricting colonial governance.

## Current Situation

Delegates now face a city under siege, British troops patrol Boston's streets enforcing martial law and suppressing resistance. As tensions between Boston's residents and the British troops rise; radical groups like the Sons of Liberty are mobilizing resistance through underground networks to spread information, sabotage British

operations, and rally support, while local militias prepare for the possibility of armed conflict.



The clashes at **Lexington and Concord** (1775) have already marked the outbreak of conflict. Many fear that Boston will become the epicenter of a much larger war.

Families are divided, Loyalists and Patriots fight in the streets, and the presence of British warships in the harbor serves as a constant reminder of the Crown's power. Delegates must now determine how to respond to escalating British aggression, assess the security risks facing civilians and militias, and decide whether Boston's suffering will ignite a revolution across all thirteen colonies. The choices made in this moment will shape not only the fate of Massachusetts but of the entire continent.



## Questions to Consider

- What is the most strategic way colonial leaders should respond to the presence of British troops enforcing martial law in Boston?
- Would war be justified at this stage, or would it escalate the conflict prematurely?
- What responsibilities, if any, do delegates have towards Loyalists living in Boston?
- What role do colonial assemblies play in negotiating with the crown
- If war is inevitable, is it feasible for the colonies to support themselves and a militia at this stage?
- How should the committee address the radicalization of Boston's population, especially through groups like the Sons of Liberty?

## Position List

Alexander Hamilton

George Washington

James Madison

Thomas Jefferson

Benjamin Franklin

John Adams

Samuel Adams

Patrick Henry

Lord Frederick North

General Thomas Gage

Paul Revere

Samuel Adams

John Hancock

Abigail Adams

Marquis de Lafayette

John Dickinson

Charles Cornwallis

Nathanael Greene

Henry Knox

Thomas Hutchinson

Martha Washington

Mercy Otis Warren

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