

History 336  
The Age of the Democratic Revolution  
Spring 2003  
Robert M. Calhoun [rmcalhoo@uncg.edu](mailto:rmcalhoo@uncg.edu)

Required Reading:

Cynthia A. Kierner, *Revolutionary America, 1750-1815: Sources and Interpretation*  
Pauline Maier, *American Scripture: Making the Declaration of Independence*  
John Buchanan, *The Road to Guilford Courthouse: The American Revolution in the Carolinas*  
Robert A. Gross, ed., *In Debt to Shays: The Bicentennial of an Agrarian Rebellion*

Course Goals and Objectives: This course introduces students to what Jefferson called “the course of events” leading to Independence and onward toward the Constitution and American nationality. But course also teaches students how to ask questions about the causes of the Revolution, its ideology, military struggle to secure its goals, and social transformation it brought about.

Unit One: The Coming of the Revolution

Jan. 13-17 *The Bonds of Empire*, read Kierner, ch. 1  
Jan. 22-24 *Languages of Liberty*, read Kierner, ch. 2, Maier, pp. ix-xxi  
Jan. 27-31 *Reform and Resistance*, read Kierner, ch. 3  
Feb. 3-7 *The Road to Rebellion*, read Kierner, ch. 4, Maier, ch. 2  
Feb. 10-14 *Asserting Independence*, read Kierner, ch. 5, Maier, ch. 3  
Feb. 17-21, *Independence Declared*, read Maier, ch. 4, pp. 226-234.  
Feb. 24 Unit Examination (short answer, factual questions on assigned reading).

Unit Two: The War for Independence

Feb. 26-28 *Times that Tried Men’s Souls*, read Kierner, ch. 6, Buchanan, ch. 1-4  
Mar. 3-7 *A World Turned Upside Down*, read Kierner, ch. 7, Buchanan, ch. 5-8  
Mar. 17-21 *Who Should Rule at Home*, read Kierner, ch. 8, Buchanan, ch. 9-11  
Mar. 24-28 *The Revolutionary War in the Backcountry*, read Buchanan, ch. 12-17  
Mar. 30-April 4 *Unravelling Britain’s Southern Strategy*, read Buchanan, ch. 18-24  
April 4 Interpretive take-home examination on the War for Independence distributed  
April 7 Take-home examination due.

Unit Three: Securing the Revolution in the 1780s

April 7-11 *From the Articles of Confederation to the Constitution*, read Kierner, ch. 9, Gross, ch. 1-4  
April 14-16 *Federalists and Anti-Federalists*, read Kierner, ch. 10, Gross, ch. 5-7  
April 21-25 *The Federalist Era*, read Kierner, ch. 11 and Gross, ch. 8-10  
April 28-May 2 *Forging a National Culture*, read Kierner, ch. 12, Gross, ch. 11-12

May 5 Securing and Remembering the Revolution, read Kierner, pp.345-354, 376-385  
May 9 12 noon to 3pm Final Examination (on Unit 3)