



Goals for your Principles of the American Revolution Scholar Exchange

The goals for this session are for students to understand three key principles related to the American Revolution; Natural Rights, Popular Sovereignty, and the Rule of Law , trace these principles through the events leading up to the American Revolution, and where these principles are seen in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Throughout the session, we will ask the students engagement questions, pause for conversation, and encourage discussion. Those factors of the session are just as vital to its success as the sharing of content.

Format of the session

<p>Overview of Popular Sovereignty <i>Government of We the People</i></p>	<p>Overview of Natural Rights <i>Alienable vs. Inalienable Rights</i></p>
<p>Overview of the Rule of Law <i>Social Contract Theory</i></p>	<p>Events leading up the American Revolution <i>Stamp Act</i> <i>Boston Tea Party</i> <i>The Declaration of Independence</i></p>

There are conversation breaks between each section, which includes time for engagement questions from the moderator, student questions, and discussion.

How to prepare

Share the handout

This is a great way for students to get an idea of what to expect from the session. Students can work on the **warm-up activity** prior to the session, as well, as a way to explore the topic beforehand.

If you are using this session as an introduction to your studies on Principles of the American Revolution

Read the preamble of the Declaration of Independence with your students and ask them to identify questions about the text itself. Brainstorm some ideas about what they think makes a good government. Ask them what they think Popular Sovereignty, Natural Rights, and Rule of Law mean.

If you are using this session as a review of your studies on Principles of the American Revolution

Read the preamble of the Declaration of Independence and ask students how they would define the significant words they notice based on their previous studies. Ask them to define Popular Sovereignty, Natural Rights, and Rule of Law. Where do they see these principles in the Preamble? What unresolved questions do your students have about these Principles?