

12th Grade Government

John Adams (2008) Drama, History, War, Politics

The History Department has carefully evaluated the film, *John Adams* as a whole and deemed it worthy for the 12th grade history curriculum.

Plot Summary

John Adams, the first of a long line of Adams men to rise to historical prominence, might be best remembered as one of the most influential voices of the American Revolution. His vocal opinions and eloquent writing, plus a solid background of legal and philosophical studies, made him a natural choice to assist drafting many of the documents of the Revolution, from the earliest letters of complaint to Crown officials to the Declaration of Independence and the Massachusetts Constitution. He and Thomas Jefferson could be understandably called the voices of the Revolution.

Learning Objectives Based on Standards

Concept 4: Revolution and New Nation

PO 1. Assess the economic, political, and social reasons for the American Revolution:

- a. British attempts to tax and regulate colonial trade as a result of the French and Indian War
- b. colonists' reaction to British policy ideas expressed in the Declaration of Independence

PO 3. Describe the significance of major events in the Revolutionary War:

- a. Lexington and Concord
- b. Bunker Hill

PO 4. Analyze how the new national government was created:

- a. Albany Plan of Union influenced by the Iroquois Confederation
- b. Articles of Confederation
- c. Constitutional Convention
- d. struggles over ratification of the Constitution

Anchor Standard #11. Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding

Sensitive subjects in the text and how possible objections will be handled

Possibly sensitive Topics: None