

The World Turned Upside Down?

Period 3 in Review: Continuity and Change, 1754–1800

Unit 3 3.13 Continuity and Change in Period 3

“we may be admitted to partake of the
Liberties and unalienable Rights therein
held forth...”

Absalom Jones and seventy other free Black Philadelphians
Petition to Congress, December 30, 1799

What the exam expects

Evaluate the extent to which politics in the United States became more democratic from 1776 to 1800.

Politics grew more democratic for white men, while most women and all enslaved people still could not vote. Lower **property qualifications** and respect for talent over birth put more farmers and artisans in state legislatures, and the **Democratic-Republican Party** organized voters to win the **election of 1800**. Yet Federalists jailed their critics under the **Alien and Sedition Acts**.

Explain one change and one continuity in slavery in the United States from 1776 to 1800.

The change came in the North, where Black petitioners used the language of the **Declaration of Independence** and every state had begun ending slavery by 1804, most through **gradual emancipation** laws. Slavery continued and grew in the South, and the Constitution's **three-fifths compromise** gave slaveholding states extra seats in Congress.

How far did the American Revolution change the status of American women?

The Revolution raised women's civic standing but left their legal status almost untouched. **Republican motherhood** gave mothers the task of raising virtuous citizens and widened schooling for girls. Yet **coverture** still put a wife's property under her husband's control, and outside New Jersey, where some propertied women voted until 1807, no woman could vote.

Evaluate the extent to which settler expansion influenced North America from 1754 to 1800.

Settlers' demand for land kept the frontier at war under British and American rule. They crossed the **Proclamation of 1763** line, and after independence they pushed north of the Ohio despite the **Northwest Ordinance's** promise of consent. The **Western Confederacy** fought back, but after Fallen Timbers its leaders gave up most of Ohio in the **Treaty of Greenville**.

Don't mix these up

- ✗ "The Northwest Ordinance banned settlement west of the Appalachians." Britain's Proclamation of 1763 tried that, while the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 set out how territories north of the Ohio would become states.
- ✗ "By the 1790s, white Southerners widely defended slavery as a positive good." Many Revolutionary-era slaveholders, Jefferson among them, called slavery an evil, and the positive-good defense spread only in the 1830s.
- ✗ "The new state constitutions gave governors more power than legislatures." After their fights with royal governors, most states made the elected legislature the strongest branch and kept governors weak.

Study list

	What it was	Why it matters
Proclamation of 1763 Proclamation Line 1763	King George III's order barring colonial settlement and private land purchases west of the Appalachians and reserving that land for Native nations.	Colonists who had fought for the West resented the line, which became one of their first grievances against Britain.
Coverture 1700s	The English common-law rule, which Blackstone described in 1765, that a husband's legal identity covered his wife's. He controlled her property and wages, and she generally could not sue or sign contracts.	Independence left coverture in place, so the women who voted in New Jersey before 1807 were mostly widows and single women.
Loyalists 1775–1783	Colonists who stayed loyal to George III, by most estimates 15 to 20 percent of white colonists, strongest in New York, New Jersey, Georgia, and the port cities.	Their numbers made the war a civil war too, and the new states punished them by seizing their land.
Property qualifications 1776–1780	Rules in most state constitutions that let a man vote only if he owned property or paid taxes, and set a higher bar to hold office.	Voting widened for white men of modest means, yet most states kept a property or tax test through 1800.
Declaration of Independence 1776	Congress's statement of July 4, 1776, which based government on natural rights and the consent of the governed, charged George III with a long list of abuses, and declared independence.	Congress declared all men equal while slavery stayed legal in all 13 states, a contradiction Black petitioners raised within a year.
Gradual emancipation gradual abolition 1780–1804	Northern state laws that freed children born to enslaved mothers after a set date, but only after years of service. Pennsylvania's 1780 act, the first, made them serve until age 28.	Revolutionary ideals moved every Northern state to begin ending slavery by 1804, while no Southern state did.
Western Confederacy 1785–1795	An alliance of the Shawnee, Miami, Delaware, and other nations that fought U.S. settlement north of the Ohio River. With British guns, it beat U.S. armies in 1790 and 1791.	Native nations united across tribal lines to defend the Ohio Country against American expansion.
Northwest Ordinance 1787	The law that set up the Northwest Territory, with an elected assembly at 5,000 free adult men and statehood on equal terms at 60,000 free inhabitants. It banned slavery and encouraged schools.	Future states would join as equals of the original 13, but its promise to take Native land only with consent ended in war.

	What it was	Why it matters
Republican motherhood 1780s–1790s	The ideal that women served the republic by raising their children to be virtuous citizens. It justified more schooling for girls but gave women no vote and left coverture in place.	Women gained a civic role as mothers, while politics itself stayed in men's hands.
Three-Fifths Compromise Three-Fifths Clause 1787	The rule in Article I that added three-fifths of a state's enslaved people, whom the text called "all other Persons," to its count for House seats and direct taxes.	Just as Northern states began ending slavery, the Constitution gave slaveholders extra power in the national government.
Bill of Rights 1791	The first 10 amendments to the Constitution, which Madison steered through the First Congress. They protected freedom of religion, speech, and the press, the right to a jury trial, and other rights.	Anti-Federalists feared a strong central government would trample individual rights, so Federalists promised these amendments to win ratification.
Federalist Party Federalists 1790s	The party of Hamilton and Adams, which wanted a strong national government, Hamilton's bank and tariffs, and close ties with Britain. Merchants, creditors, and New Englanders formed its base.	Federalists trusted the wealthy and educated to govern, and Democratic-Republicans called that a step back toward monarchy.
Democratic-Republican Party Republicans 1790s	Jefferson and Madison's party, which stood for strict construction, states' rights, farmers' interests, and friendship with France. Its strength lay in the South and West.	Its leaders charged that Hamilton's program served merchants and creditors at farmers' expense, and they rallied voters against Federalist rule.
Whiskey Rebellion 1794	An uprising of western Pennsylvania farmers against Hamilton's 1791 whiskey tax, which they had to pay in scarce cash. Rebels burned the house of the federal tax inspector, John Neville.	Farmers now resisted a tax from their own elected Congress, and the new federal government proved it could enforce its laws.
Treaty of Greenville 1795	The treaty in which 12 Native nations gave up most of present-day Ohio for \$20,000 in goods and yearly payments. They also agreed to sell other land only to the United States.	As under British rule, Native land passed to settlers through war and then treaty, despite the Northwest Ordinance's promise of consent.
Alien and Sedition Acts 1798	Four Federalist laws that raised the wait for citizenship to 14 years, let the president deport noncitizens, and punished "false, scandalous and malicious" writing against the government, Congress, or the president.	During the Quasi-War with France, Federalists used the Sedition Act to jail Democratic-Republican editors and Congressman Matthew Lyon.

	What it was	Why it matters
Election of 1800 Revolution of 1800 1800	The election in which Jefferson and his fellow Republican Aaron Burr tied with 73 electoral votes each, ahead of Adams's 65. The House of Representatives chose Jefferson on the 36th ballot.	For the first time, power passed peacefully from one party to another, which Jefferson later called a revolution.

Also in the film

Gnadenhütten massacre 1782	Pennsylvania militia killed 96 neutral Christian Native people, mostly Lenape, in present-day Ohio, and no killer stood trial.
Free African Society 1787	Absalom Jones and Richard Allen's Philadelphia mutual-aid society, which led to two Black churches, St. Thomas and Bethel, in 1794.

Short-answer practice

“The utmost good faith shall always be observed towards the Indians; their lands and property shall never be taken from them without their consent ... There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory”

Confederation Congress, Northwest Ordinance, July 13, 1787

(a) Briefly describe ONE promise the ordinance made about American Indians or about slavery.

(b) Briefly explain ONE way the United States acquired American Indian land in the Ohio Country between 1790 and 1795.

(c) Briefly explain how ONE clause of the Constitution of 1787 protected slavery in the states.

Proclamation of 1763

Proclamation Line

1763

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Coverture

1700s

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Loyalists

1775–1783

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Property qualifications

1776–1780

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Declaration of Independence

1776

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Gradual emancipation

gradual abolition

1780–1804

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Western Confederacy

1785–1795

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Northwest Ordinance

1787

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Republican motherhood

1780s–1790s

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Three-Fifths Compromise

Three-Fifths Clause

1787

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English common-law rule that put a married woman's property and legal identity under her husband's control.

Married women gained few legal rights from the Revolution.

State rules that let a man vote only if he owned property or paid taxes.

More men of modest wealth won seats in state legislatures.

Northern laws that freed enslaved women's future children, but only after years of unpaid service.

People already enslaved usually stayed enslaved, so Northern slavery died slowly.

The 1787 law that set a path to statehood and banned slavery north of the Ohio.

The Ohio River became the line between free and slave soil.

The rule counting three-fifths of enslaved people toward a state's House seats and taxes.

Slave states won extra House seats and electoral votes.

The king's ban on colonial settlement west of the Appalachian Mountains.

Settlers crossed it anyway, and frontier fighting went on.

Colonists who sided with the king, about 15 to 20 percent of white colonists.

Tens of thousands went into exile in Canada and Britain.

Congress's 1776 statement that based government on natural rights and consent and declared the colonies independent.

Black petitioners and later women's rights reformers claimed its promises.

Shawnee, Miami, and allied nations that united, with British guns, to stop settlement north of the Ohio.

Defeat at Fallen Timbers in 1794 led to the Treaty of Greenville.

The ideal that educated mothers should raise their children to be virtuous republican citizens.

Schooling for girls spread, and the ideal later shaped the cult of domesticity.

Bill of Rights

1791

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Federalist Party

Federalists

1790s

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Democratic- Republican Party

Republicans

1790s

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Whiskey Rebellion

1794

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Treaty of Greenville

1795

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Alien and Sedition Acts

1798

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Election of 1800

Revolution of 1800

1800

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Hamilton's party, which wanted a strong national government, a national bank, and friendship with Britain.

After 1800, Jefferson's party kept much of Hamilton's financial system.

A 1794 revolt by western Pennsylvania farmers against the federal whiskey tax.

Backcountry farmers again resented rule by eastern elites, as in Shays's Rebellion.

Federalist laws of 1798 that targeted immigrants and made false attacks on the government a crime.

Jefferson and Madison answered with the Virginia and Kentucky Resolutions.

The first 10 amendments, which protected individual rights from the federal government.

The Sedition Act of 1798 soon tested its free-speech guarantee.

Jefferson and Madison's party, which favored strict construction, states' rights, farmers, and France.

Its fight with the Federalists created the first two-party system.

The 1795 treaty in which 12 defeated Native nations gave up most of present-day Ohio.

Ohio filled with settlers and became a state in 1803.

Jefferson's victory over Adams, the first time one party peacefully handed the presidency to another.

Federalists never won the presidency again.

Model answers

- (a) Briefly describe ONE promise the ordinance made about American Indians or about slavery.

The ordinance promised that the United States would never take American Indian land or property without the Indians' consent. Congress made that promise in 1787 for the Northwest Territory, north of the Ohio River, where the Shawnee, Miami, Delaware, and other nations lived.

- (b) Briefly explain ONE way the United States acquired American Indian land in the Ohio Country between 1790 and 1795.

The United States took the land by war and then by treaty. After General Anthony Wayne's army defeated the Western Confederacy at Fallen Timbers in 1794, leaders of 12 nations gave up most of present-day Ohio in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville for goods and yearly payments.

- (c) Briefly explain how ONE clause of the Constitution of 1787 protected slavery in the states.

The three-fifths clause counted three-fifths of each state's enslaved people when dividing seats in the House. That gave slaveholding states extra weight in the House and the Electoral College, which they used to keep the federal government from interfering with slavery in their states.