

Essential Questions:

- What political and social theories from the Enlightenment influenced the American and French Revolutions?
- How were French revolutionaries influenced by the democratic ideals of the American Revolution?
- Should all citizens have equal rights regardless of economic or educational background?
- Do greater individual freedoms result in a more stable system of government?
- How does scarcity of resources affect relationships between various groups of people?
- How do economic disparities result in political unrest and revolution?
- Is political change inevitable?
- How do the perceived sources of power in monarchical and democratic governments differ and how does this difference impact their resistance to change?
- How did the French social hierarchy contribute to the division and eventual breakdown of French society?

Learning Objectives:

- **H.2.1** - People around the world are rebelling against their governments as a result of societal and economic inequalities.
- **G.1.2** - Growing class divisions led to conflict as people rebelled against their government.
- **C&G.1.3** - Views of the role and requirements of citizens were challenged through various revolutions in Europe and its colonies.
- **E.1.2** - Government exploitation by European powers through taxation and economic inequalities inspired revolution.
- **C.1.1** - Cultural division between upper and lower classes in Europe and its colonies incited rebellion against established government.

Essential Standards:

- **H.2.1** - Analyze the effects of social, economic, military and political conflict among nations, regions, and groups (e.g. war, genocide, imperialism and colonization).
- **G.1.2** - Explain how demographic trends (e.g. population growth and decline, push/pull factors and urbanization) lead to conflict, negotiation, and compromise in modern societies and regions.
- **C&G.1.3** - Compare the requirements for (e.g. age, gender, legal and economic status) and responsibilities of citizenship under various governments in modern societies
- **E.1.2** - Explain the implications of economic decisions in national and international affairs (e.g. OPEC, NAFTA, G20, WTO, EU and economic alliances).
- **C.1.1** - Explain how culture unites and divides modern societies and regions (e.g. enslavement of various peoples, caste system, religious conflict and Social Darwinism).

Major Topics:

American Revolution, French Revolution, Declaration of Independence, Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Louis XVI and Marie Antoinette