

ATTACHMENT C

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Annotated Bibliography

TAH Module 1

Primary Sources:

Chevalier de la Luzerne (1784 Mar. 12). "Letter Comte de Vergennes" Documents of the Emerging Nation: US Foreign Relations 1775-1789. Giunta, Mary A. et al Ed: Scholarly Resources, Inc. Wilmington, DE (1998). p. 173-174

Summary: This letter, sent from the French diplomat to the French Foreign Minister in the United States, outlines the problems Americans are having due to the ineffectiveness of government under the Articles of Confederation. Specifically, Luzerne notes how positive progress in the relationship between America and France is retarded by the tedious methods of diplomacy allowed by the Articles. He also hopes that soon the instability will become such that change would be inevitable.

Citizen of Philadelphia (1789, Feb). "Three letters on trade and commerce of America". *The American Museum*; Vol. 5, Issue 2, p. 133. American Periodicals Series [On-line database]. Retrieved October 15, 2009, from the World Wide Web:
<http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?RQT=302&COPT=REJTPTE0NGQmSU5UPmVkVSPTI=&clientId=8772&cfc=1>

Summary: This letter argues why America needs to establish itself as a stronger trade partner with England. England is, it explains, taking advantage of the new government under the Articles and all agreements seem to be biased towards Great Britain, while being harmful to the former colonies. This documents speaks to the frustrations felt with the system of trade and foreign policy under the Articles of Confederation, and can be used to help students see why a new Constitution, with a stronger national government with broader economic and foreign policy powers, was necessary.

Comte de Vergennes (1782, Dec. 21). "Letter to Chevalier de la Luzerne" Documents of the Emerging Nation: US Foreign Relations 1775-1789. Giunta, Mary A. et al Ed: Scholarly Resources, Inc. Wilmington, DE (1998). p. 125-126

Summary: This letter, sent from the French foreign minister to the French diplomat in the US, was written to discuss the requests by the US, specifically of Benjamin Franklin, for a loan from the French government. Vergennes argues that France is already in too great a debt after the recent warfare in North America, and that since the US can't establish its own credit, no other country should do it for them. It speaks to the European perspective of the weaknesses of the American Congress.

Hartley, David. (1783, July 17) "Letter to Charles James Fox". Documents of the Emerging Nation: US Foreign Relations 1775-1789. Giunta, Mary A. et al Ed: Scholarly Resources, Inc. Wilmington, DE (1998). p. 146-147

Summary: This is a letter sent from David Hartley, a British plenipotentiary, to Charles James Fox, a member of the Britain's House of Commons, resident of the colonies, and a noted supporter of the American Revolution. In it, Hartley says that according to American ministers, trade is open between America and the West Indies. However, he argues, he is still under the impression that American states are excluded from trade with the West Indies. Hartley explains why trade should be open between these entities, but that a clarification from England is needed to appease the Americans.

Jefferson, Thomas. (1787, Aug. 4). "Letter to Edward Convington" *The Papers of Thomas Jefferson*. Boyd, Julian P. et al. Ed: Princeton University Press (1950). Retrieved on November 30, 2009 from The Founders' Constitution, Vol. 1, Ch. 5, Document 20. University of Chicago Press.
<http://press-pubs.uchicago.edu/founders/documents/v1ch5s20.html>

Summary: In this letter, Jefferson expresses that he believes the current government, the Articles of Confederation, has failed, particularly in the arena of commerce. He argues that Congress should assert its authority more, and that to make that acceptable, the upcoming Convention attendees should pay attention to separating the branches of government. This letter will demonstrate to students the inability of the Articles Congress to enforce any policies.

Lee, William (1781, Jan. 28). "Letter to John Adams" Founding Families: Digital Editions of The Winthrops and the Adamsses. Ed. C. James Taylor The Massachusetts Historical Society: Boston. Retrieved on November 20, 2009 on the World Wide Web
<http://www.masshist.org/ff/>

Summary: This letter, from William Lee, and American diplomat and Virginia politician, to John Adams, who was a plenipotentiary to the Netherlands at the time, demonstrates for students how America's politicians were aware of their financial troubles at home under the Articles. Lee discusses the lack of money in Congress, and suggests to Adams that he ask the Dutch for a loan. To justify his inquiry, Lee argues that if the Dutch truly want to be an independent power in Europe, they should financially and militarily support the new United States. This letter will allow students to really see the international economic perspective of the country under the Articles.

Letter from Mayor of Bristol to King George III. (1777, January 21). *The London Gazette*. p.1; Issue Number 11738 American Trade Virgo Search [On-line database]. Retrieved October 15, 2009, from the World Wide Web: <http://www.lib.virginia.edu>

Summary: This editorial asks the King to restore trade relationships with the colonies, as their economies are suffering due to the stymied commercial relationship. The document adds to the historical timeline of revolution and Constitutional creation in America. This letter also provides evidence of the importance of trade with Britain to colonies' well-being, which will add support to the argument that there were more practical, economic reasons that the Constitution was created and the Articles of Confederation failed. It's also a good example of the deference paid to the King, and conveys the idea of a British Empire and how citizens wished it to be maintained.

Life Magazine Photography Collection (Host and Owner of photographs). (2008). Life Photo Archive Hosted by Google. [On-line database]/ Retrieved November 1, 2009, from the World Wide Web: <http://images.google.com/hosted/life>

Summary: In the third lesson, students will analyze these photographs for demonstrations of various constitutional principles and provisions, and then discuss if and how these images could have existed under the Articles of Confederation. The images come from Google, who hosts the *Life Magazine* photo collection. These particular pictures range in date from the early 1900's and Theodore Roosevelt, to the 1980's and foreign policy.

Madison, James (1787). Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787 p.14-15 . WW Norton and Co. Publishing; Pub. 1966 Ohio University Press

Summary: In this section of his Convention notes, Madison discusses the importance of reform in the context of international commerce. He also argues that the United States' weak federal

authority caused the nation to lose respect abroad. These types of notes provide evidence of the concerns and motives of the Founding Fathers in creating the US Constitution.

Otto, Louis Guillaume (1785, Oct. 1). "Letter to Comte de Vergennes" Documents of the Emerging Nation: US Foreign Relations 1775-1789. Giunta, Mary A. et al Ed: Scholarly Resources, Inc. Wilmington, DE (1998). p. 175-179

Summary: This letter is from Otto, a French envoy to the United States, to Vergennes, the French Foreign minister. This letter is a scathing report on the cultures and inefficiencies of Americans, with a definite distinction drawn between the North and the South. Otto starts by criticizing Northerners' love and adoration of Adams, which, he argues, has led this region to total economic inefficiency, as they "cry tyranny" at every possible economic regulation by a central government. A particularly revealing sentence to point out to students is the last in the paragraph at the bottom of page 177. Eventually, Otto relates these cultural traits to how the nation can be expected to interact and cooperate with France.

The US Constitution Online. (1995). The Articles of Confederation Text. Retrieved October 15, 2009, from the World Wide Web: <http://www.usconstitution.net/articles.html>

Summary: This website provides an easily navigable path through the Articles of Confederation, which students will need in order to complete lesson one. This website would be most useful for teachers who wish to use more technology in their lessons, rather than rely on a traditional textbook which may not contain the entire Articles of Confederation.

Washington, George. (1786, Oct 22). "Letter to David Humphreys". The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799. Fitzpatrick, John C., Ed. Retrieved October 15, 2009, from the Library of Congress website: <http://www.loc.gov>

Summary: This letter is written by Washington, and demonstrates the embarrassment American leaders and diplomats felt about Shay's Rebellion. In this letter, Washington says he is "mortified beyond expression" at the impression the rebellion(s) must be giving Europe about America. It is a great piece of evidence in demonstrating the importance of America showing itself as an important international player, and how difficult it was for the new nation to create legitimacy for itself.

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Secondary Sources:

Beard, Charles A. (1913). Framing the Constitution. In P. Woll (Ed.), American Government Readings and Cases (pp. 31-41), 15th ed. New York, NY. Pearson Longman

Summary: Charles Beard's 1913 Book An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution is a famous historical piece, arguing that the US Constitution was created primarily for the economic interest of the elite politicians who attended the Constitutional Convention of 1787. This particular chapter outlines that thesis well. This article is often an eye-opener for students, who have usually only been taught the idyllic version of the intents of the Framers. It will be used as a secondary source piece of "evidence" in favor of the aristocratic, self-serving view of the Founding Fathers, as well as evidence for the students to use to hypothesize for themselves the reasons our Constitution as we know it was created.

Berkin, Carol. Lecture "The Role of Women during the American, French, and Italian Revolutions". Delivered Feb 3, 2010. University of Virginia Special Collections Library.

Summary: Carol Berkin, a leading historian of the Revolutionary period, speaks often about the motives of the Founding Fathers, and mentioned in this particular lecture how the Framers took old ideas to create the new government, excluding federalism, which was a new political notion.

Black, Eric. (1988) . Our Constitution: The Myth That Binds Us Boulder and London: Westview Press

Summary: This book is a culmination of Black's work as a journalist who researched the origins of the Constitution during the bicentennial. At its basis, his thesis is that Americans adhere to the romantic, idyllic version of the Constitutional Convention, and in fact, those notions are often false. I will use this book in order to gain background knowledge for the overall lesson. Several pages of this text will be used as the basis of the Socratic Seminar on the motives of the Framers. Students can use particular passages as evidence in their hypothesis on the creation of the Constitution.

Chu, Jonathan (2008). Imagining a World Without Tea or Sugar: Teaching Strategies for America, the Atlantic, and Global Consumer Demand, 1500-1800. In G.W Reichard and T. Dickson (Ed.) America on the World Stage: A Global Approach to US History (pp. 12-16). Urbana and Chicago: The University of Illinois Press.

Summary: This book is the basis of the entire investigation. This particular article by Jonathan Chu explains that students will learn the historical material best when presented with a connecting theme, and that this also encourages them to examine history from different points of view. The text is used as a source of background knowledge, and also as an inspiration for the exploration of the Articles of Confederation.

Holton, Woody. (2007). Unruly Americans and the Origins of the Constitution. New York: Hill and Wang Press

Summary: This book is an incredibly rich resource, which in great detail outlines the history of the creation of the Constitution. Various theories on the motives of the Founding Fathers are

explored, documents of the time are scrutinized, and primary sources are used to support Holton's historical narrative. I will use excerpts from this book as a secondary source for students to research, and I have used it myself to gain background knowledge for the creation of the unit.

Shammas, Carole. (2009, September). America on the World Stage: America, the Atlantic, and Global Consumer Demand 1500-1800 PowerPoint presented at the Teaching American History Speaker Series, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Summary: Shammas' PowerPoint and lecture, presented at the speaker series, was a summary of the chapter she wrote for America on the World Stage: A Global Approach to US History (2008). In her presentation, she displayed many vivid photographs and maps. The particular slide that will be used in these lessons will be a chart, showing the growth of the British National Debt between 1500 and 1800, and it will be used to help students understand the need for Great Britain to tax the colonists, and how important America was to the economic stability of the world's largest superpower of the eighteenth-century.