



# The Christian Citizenship Course – Basic Fact Sheet

## Summary of Basic Facts and Dates

### Jamestown - Arrived May 1607, Jamestown VA

- Established as a trading outpost - 1607
- First established permanent settlement in “new world”, Representative Government 1619
- Established primarily for trading and economic reasons

### The Pilgrims – Arrived November 1620, Plymouth Massachusetts

- The Pastor who led the Pilgrims was Pastor John Robinson, though he never came to the “new world”
- The Mayflower Compact was the first Civil Covenant in the new world – November 20, 1620
- William Bradford was the Governor of the Pilgrim Colony for over 20 years
- The Pilgrims and neighboring native Americans had peace for 50 years
- John Winthrop was another important pastor of the Pilgrim period and preached the “City on the Hill” sermon
- Came to put into practice the principles of their faith as an experiment in self government

### The Declaration of Independence – July 4, 1776

- Thomas Jefferson (VA) was the primary author, with the help of Benjamin Franklin (PA), John Adams (MA) and Roger Sherman (CT), Robert Livingston (NY).
- Congress Approved, July 4, 1776
- Signed by 56 men, who represented the 13 colonies
- Location - Philadelphia, PA

### The Revolutionary War – April 19, 1775 – Sept 3, 1783

- Began with Battle of Concord and Lexington, April 19, 1775 – “shot heard round the world”
- The Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776 - formalized war that was already underway
- George Washington was the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army
- Believed deeply in the Providential Hand of God in the affairs of men and nations
- Battle of Yorktown – October 19, 1781 – last major battle of Revolutionary War
- Peace Treaty signed, September 3, 1783 – almost 2 years after the Battle of Yorktown

### The US Constitution – September 17, 1787

- After the Revolutionary War each State had its own Constitution
- The Articles of Confederation served as first “Constitution” of the United States
- The US Constitution was worked out over several months in the summer of 1787 by the Continental Congress and finished September 17, 1787. This all took place in Philadelphia, PA
- James Madison is described as the Chief Architect of the Constitution
- 9 of 13 states needed to approve (ratify) the Constitution to put it into operation
- The Constitution was ratified on – June 21, 1788 by 9<sup>th</sup> State – New Hampshire

### The US Constitutional System – Put into Operation – April 30, 1789

- George Washington was sworn in on April 30, 1789
- George Washington gave his Inaugural Address on this date
- This day included a call for the nation to pray and after George Washington was sworn in there was a prayer and commencement service that the President, all of Congress and all of the Supreme Court and other leaders attended.
- This all took place in New York City, NY as this was the first national capital for the first year.