

American Liberty Reading List

(Available online at www.theindependentpatriot.org/American_History, except as noted)

Foundations of American Liberty

360 BC “The Republic” Plato
320 BC “Politics” Aristotle
1215 “Magna Carta”
1515 “The Prince” – Nicolo Machiavelli
1517 "Discourses on The First Decade of Titus Livius" - Niccolo Machiavelli
1516 "Utopia" - Sir Thomas More
1625 “Essays” – Francis Bacon
1627 “New Atlantis” Francis Bacon

English Colonization

1606 “The First Charter of Virginia”
1620 “Mayflower Compact”
1621 “Ordinances for Virginia”
1629 “The Charter of Massachusetts Bay”
1632 “The Charter of Maryland”
1634 “Royal Commission for Regulating Plantations”
1639 “Fundamental Agreement or Original Constitution of the Colony of New Haven”
1639 “Agreement of the Settlers at Exeter in New Hampshire”
1641 “The Combinations of the Inhabitants Upon the Piscataqua River for Government”
1643 “The Articles of Confederation of the United Colonies of New England”
1646 “An Arrow Against All Tyrants” Overton
1682 “Charter of Libertie” William Penn
1683 “The Fundamental Constitutions for the Province of East New Jersey in America”
1688 “Resolutions of The Germantown Mennonites”

Revolutionary Ideology

1689 “English Bill Of Rights”
1690 “Second Treatise on Government” John Locke
1698 “Discourses Concerning Government” Algernon Sydney
1701 “Charter of Privileges Granted by William Penn, esq. to the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania and Territories”
1748 “The Spirit of Laws” Baron de Montesquieu
1750 “Remarks upon the Fable of the Bees” Frances Hutcheson
1754 “Idea of a Perfect Commonwealth” Hume
1754 “Albany Plan of Union”
1757 “The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin” (actually written in 1788, but stops in 1757)
1762 “On Social Contract” Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Revolution and Independence

1764 “The Currency Act”
1764 “The Sugar Act”
1764 “Petition from the Massachusetts House of Representatives to the House of Commons”
1764 “Petition of the Virginia House of Burgesses to the House of Commons”
1764 “The Rights of the British Colonies Asserted and Proved” – Otis
1765 “The Stamp Act”
1765 “The Quartering Act”
1765 “Resolves of the Pennsylvania Assembly on the Stamp Act”
1765 “Resolutions of the Continental Congress”
1765 “New York Merchants Non importation Agreement”
1765 “Connecticut Resolutions on the Stamp Act”
1766 “The Declaratory Act”
1766 “An Act Repealing the Stamp Act”
1767 “The Townshend Act”
1768 “Massachusetts Circular Letter to the Colonial Legislatures”
1768 “Circular Letter to the Governors in America”
1768 “Boston Non-Importation Agreement”
1768 “Resolutions of the Boston Town Meeting”
1773 “The Philadelphia Resolutions”
1774 “The Boston Port Act”
1774 “Circular Letter of the Boston Committee of Correspondence”
1774 “The Administration of Justice Act”
1774 “Letter from the New York Committee of Fifty One”
1774 “Letter from Lieutenant Governor Colden to the Earl of Dartmouth”
1774 “Declaration and Resolves of the First Continental Congress”
1775 “Give Me Liberty Or Give Me Death” Patrick Henry
1775 “The Mecklenburgh Resolutions”
1775 “A Declaration of the Causes and Necessities of Taking Up Arms”
1776 “An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations” Adam Smith
1776 “Common Sense” Thomas Paine
1776 “Virginia Declaration of Rights”
1776 “Declaration of Independence”
1776 “Constitution of Pennsylvania”
1780 “Constitution of Massachusetts”
1781 “Articles of Capitulation”
1781 “Articles of Confederation”
1786 “The Virginia Act for Establishing Religious Freedom” Thomas Jefferson

Federalism Versus States' Rights

1787 Speech on Prayer at the Constitutional Convention - Benjamin Franklin
1787 Appeal to the Constitutional Convention - Benjamin Franklin
1787 "Constitution of the United States of America" (Proposed in 1787, ratified in 1789)
1787 Federalist Speech of James Wilson
1787 Anti-Federalist Centinel 1
1787 Anti-Federalist Federal Farmer 1
1787 Anti-Federalist Federal Farmer 2
1787 Anti-Federalist Brutus 1
1787 Federalist 1 Hamilton
1787 Anti-Federalist DeWitt 2
1787 Anti-Federalist Brutus 4
1787 Federalist 14 Madison
1787 Federalist 23 Hamilton
1787 Anti-Federalist "The Address and Reasons of Dissent of the Minority of the Convention of Pennsylvania"
1788 Federalist 39 Madison
1788 Anti-Federalist Brutus 10
1788 Federalist 45 Madison
1788 Anti-Federalist Brutus 12
1788 Federalist 57 Madison
1788 Federalist 62 Madison
1788 Federalist 70 Hamilton
1788 Federalist 78 Hamilton
1788 Federalist 84 Hamilton
1788 Anti-Federalist Speech in Virginia Legislature Patrick Henry
1788 Anti-Federalist "Need for Bill of Rights" Patrick Henry

The Bill of Rights

1789 Congressional Debates - Religious Amendments
1789 "Bill of Rights" (Proposed in 1789, ratified in 1791)

The Early Republic

1796 George Washington's Farewell Address
1814 The Character of George Washington by Thomas Jefferson
1814 The Star-Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key

The Civil War

1845 “Narrative of the Life and Times of Frederick Douglass” Frederick Douglass
1848 “Communist Manifesto” Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels
1848 “Declaration of Sentiments Urged Equal Rights for Women” Elizabeth Cady Stanton
1849 “On the Duty of Civil Disobedience” Henry David Thoreau
1852 “What is the Slave to the 4th of July?” Frederick Douglass
1852 “Uncle Tom’s Cabin” Harriet Beecher Stowe
1857 Supreme Court “Dred Scott v Sandford” Slavery
1858 House Divided Speech (Excerpts) Abraham Lincoln
1863 “Gettysburg Address” Abraham Lincoln
1865 “Second Inaugural Address” Abraham Lincoln

Constitutional Changes

Constitutional Amendments 11-27

Segregation

1896 Supreme Court “Plessy v Ferguson” Segregation
1901 “Up From Slavery” Booker T. Washington
1903 “The Souls of Black Folk” W.E.B. Du Bois

The Rise of Socialism and the Progressives

1848 “Communist Manifesto” Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels
1848 “Declaration of Sentiments Urged Equal Rights for Women” Elizabeth Cady Stanton
1883 The Pittsburgh Proclamation Eugene Debs Socialist Party
1897 “Declaration of Principles of the Social Democracy of America” Eugene Debs
1913 “The New Freedom” Woodrow Wilson
1945 “The Road to Serfdom” [Abridged] Friedrich Hayek
1958 “The Naked Communist” Cleon Skousen (Copyrighted - not available online)
1964 A Time for Choosing - Ronald Reagan

The Civil Rights Movement

1954 Supreme Court “Brown v Board of Education” Segregation
1963 I Have a Dream Martin Luther King Jr
1964 “The Autobiography of Malcolm X” Alex Hailey (Copyrighted - not available online)
1964 “The Ballot or the Bullet” Malcolm X
1970 “A Black Theology of Liberation” James Cone (Copyrighted - not available online)

The Contemporary Assault on Freedom

“Rules For Radicals” Saul Alinsky (Copyrighted - not available online)
“Dumbing Us Down” John Gatto (Copyrighted - not available online)
“1984” George Orwell
“The Essential Second Amendment Guide” Wayne LaPierre (Copyrighted - not available online)
“Taking America Back” Joseph Farah (Copyrighted - not available online)
“They Must Be Stopped” Brigitte Gabriel (Copyrighted - not available online)