



Reading more deeply

Easy

Thompson, S., *Forging America*, HTAV, Melbourne, 2010.

Chapters 4 to 6 deal with Area of Study Two and are highly recommended. It is one of the best texts on the market on the American Revolution. Thompson, a VCE Revolutions teacher, HTAV lecturer and now author, weaves an excellent tale of the American Revolution.

Moderate

Zinn, H., *Radical Left: A People's History of the United States*, New York, Harper, 1980.

Zinn provides a Marxist view of the 1780s crisis; in particular, his analysis of Shays' Rebellion is in marked contrast with those of other historians.

Challenging

Wood, G., *The Creation of the American Republic, 1776–1787*, Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 1969.

Wood, G., *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*, Vintage, New York, 1992.

In both texts, Wood tends to focus on the revolutionary ideology of the period from a conservative viewpoint and provides a marked contrast with Zinn's views. *The Creation of the American Republic, 1776–1787* won the Bancroft Prize and the John H. Dunning Prize in 1970.

Morgan, G., *The Debate on the American Revolution*, Manchester, Manchester University Press, 2007. Ch 3 "Present at the creation: the making of the Federal Constitution". 95–131.

A tertiary-level chapter, charting the ways that historians have interpreted the secretive proceedings in Philadelphia in 1787 by men gathered to revise the Articles of Confederation. This comprehensively researched chapter features historical interpretations from the early nineteenth-century to the twenty-first, and is worth a read for the dedicated scholar.