



Boston University Academy Model United Nations Conference XIII

Saturday, February 1 to Sunday, February 2, 2025

Boston University Academy

Boston, MA

American Revolution

JOINT CRISIS COMMITTEE

Revolution Subcommittee: British

Background Guide

Introduction from The Crisis Director:

Hello, Delegates:

I am V Woolf, a senior here at Boston University Academy, and I am your 2024 Crisis Director for BUAMUN XIII, specifically JCC:AR: British. Your committee leaders are your chair, Georgie Linscott ('26), and vice-chair Alexandros Paschalidis ('27). The committee is modeled on the fictional and fantastical world of *Hamilton* combined with true historical events of the American Revolution. This committee will serve as the British Side.

I started Model UN [MUN] eight years ago, and it's safe to say BUAMUN is one of my favorite conferences. BUAMUN has always held a special place in my heart, with BUA being my top choice high school and MUN being one of my main passions in middle school. My first MUN conference was Northeastern's MSMUN, and I was beyond anxious. I soon realized how welcoming the MUN community is to delegates, as well as how much MUN itself inspired me to speak, both at conferences and in life. Over my MUN career, I have won nine or so awards, with most being best position papers and one as best delegate, won at BUAMUN no less. However, my favorite part of MUN and being a staff member at BUAMUN is the supportive atmosphere at MUN conferences and the fun of the conference itself!

As cliché as this will sound, try to not sweat the small details of the conference as it approaches, I'm positive that whatever work you put in will be more than exceptional as long as you put effort into it. The idea of MUN, the founding virtue, is to debate your opinions and to be united as delegates who come together to change the world. Remember to speak up and collaborate with your fellow delegates, as you can't save, or destroy the world, by yourself! I am looking forward to seeing you all. With that, I formally welcome you, delegates, to BUAMUN XIII 2024! Let the MUN-ing begin!

Best,

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Equity and Inclusion Policy:

BUAMUN has a strict policy against discriminatory or hateful speech of any kind. If a delegate, advisor, or staff member is found to have violated this rule, they will be asked to leave the conference without a refund and shall not be allowed to attend any other events during the weekend of BUAMUN. As part of this rule, BUAMUN prohibits discrimination in all of its communications and events on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, gender expression, genetic information, or political beliefs. To report a concern, please contact a member of the Secretariat. For a complete list of rules, please see the [BUAMUN website](#).

BUAMUN awards will be given on the basis of the quality of a delegate's participation. The chairs will not choose awards based on how often a delegate speaks or how loudly they argue. It is important for all delegates to understand that the purpose of the Model UN is to work together with peers to find solutions to the world's issues, not to win awards for themselves.

Committee Information:

The Crisis Committee is slightly more challenging and, I believe, a more entertaining type of committee in MUN. Crisis is similar to GA with moderated and unmoderated caucuses. Moderated Caucuses are the primary form of debate in any Model UN setting.

In Moderated Caucuses or "Mods" delegates speak for a set time and topic. The topic for a Mod has to apply and be relevant to the committee's topic and is typically a smaller idea. Mods are voted by the most disruptive on whether the mod should pass. The previously mentioned unmoderated caucuses, known also as "unmods," are more informally based caucuses. Unmods are not given topics but are given times, and are mainly used to form communiqués, directives, and other multi-delegate documents. Communiqués are full committee statements or communications that are sent to other committees. This includes press releases, propaganda,

communications to other committees, etc. The last important crisis-specialized document is directives, which are similar to resolutions however, directives have only operative clauses. Also, include important historical points about the committee and the main focus of the committee. Maybe write about a few challenges your assembly has overcome. JCC: AR: British will focus on the upcoming and impending war between the British Colony (to become America) and the British Resistance.

This committee will dive into and change the history of the show, starring epic fights and daring crisis debates on war strategies. Some topics we will have to deal with including the previously stated are the outcome of the American Revolution as well as any personal goals of your characters, this can include minimizing the damage to the country, getting closer to political leaders, growing your political influence or any other topic you deem reasonable. This committee will follow the politics of the war between the two sides, as well as many of the beginning canon of Hamilton.

Position Paper Guidelines:

This committee requires one position paper. It should be written from the perspective and opinion of your assigned character. The absence of at least one position paper will disqualify you (the delegate) from receiving an award. The quality, depth, and clarity of your position paper will influence award decisions. Each position paper should be 1-3 pages and double-spaced. This includes citations which are preferably in the format of footnotes. To insert a footnote, simply click *Insert > Footnote*. Note: A footnote goes after the period. Position papers should follow a general outline with three paragraphs. This is only a suggestion, as long as the paper fits the aforementioned specifications, the number of paragraphs will not be taken into consideration.

Possible position paper outline:

- 1) Introduction to your delegation and the topic as a whole
- 2) The position of your delegation
- 3) Your delegation's proposed solutions

Furthermore, the position paper must be titled in the following format:

Delegation:

School: Boston University Academy

Committee: JCC: AR: British

Position: _____

Topic: The War of American Independence

The Impending War in the British Colonies:

General Overview:

It's 1775, and the American colonies are on the brink of revolution. Tensions with Britain have reached a boiling point, but no one knows if war is truly inevitable, only you, working with your committee members can change the course of history. Some colonists are rearing for a chance for freedom, and they're ready to give up their lives for liberty and their democratic dream. Others are taking a more calculated approach, staying loyal to the Crown. However, with British troops marching and the Continental Congress meeting, the stage is set for conflict—but the first shot hasn't been fired yet...

As a key figure in this moment of uncertainty, your decisions will determine whether the colonies unite for war or collapse into division. Will you push for independence, seek reconciliation, or secure alliances that could change the course of history? The revolution is on the line, and the choices you and your allies make will shape its future.

The British:

In 1775, the British Empire stands resolute in its determination to maintain control over its American colonies, which are increasingly testing Britain's leniency. King George III and his government, led by Prime Minister Lord North, view the growing unrest as a direct challenge to imperial sovereignty and the established order. British leadership, grounded in centuries of monarchical tradition, is convinced that the colonies' resistance can be quelled through military force and strategic governance. The British military, while far superior in training, resources, and discipline, faces the challenge of maintaining order over an ocean away, where logistical difficulties and the vast expanse of the colonies hinder rapid reinforcement. Figures such as General Thomas Gage, appointed Commander-in-Chief in North America, are tasked with subduing rebellious factions, but internal divisions within the British command, coupled with underestimation of colonial resolve, complicate efforts. The British strategy initially revolves around isolating the most radical elements of the rebellion—such as those in Massachusetts—and dealing swiftly with any overt acts of rebellion, exemplified by the battles of Lexington and Concord. Simultaneously, British diplomats work to isolate the colonies diplomatically, attempting to prevent any foreign alliances, especially with France, from forming. On the North American Continent, the British Crown is supported by loyalists, who remain committed to the monarchy and seek to suppress revolutionary movements. However, these loyalists are scattered and vulnerable, struggling to organize against an increasingly committed and coordinated rebel opposition. Despite the strength of the British navy and its ability to control vital ports, the Empire faces an unanticipated challenge: the burgeoning spirit of

American resistance. British officials, including Lord Dunmore and General Howe, underestimate the strategic and ideological unity of the revolutionaries, who are fueled by a powerful sense of self-determination, liberty, and democracy. As British forces engage in combat, they are confronted not only by soldiers but the American commitment to independence, making the conflict far more complex than anticipated. This brutal confrontation marks the beginning of a struggle in which the British must balance military might with the harsh realities of maintaining an empire across the Atlantic, with no easy path to victory in sight.

Questions To Consider:

- How can you use your influence and resources to rally resistance for the revolution?
 - What immediate actions will you take to advance the cause, and what risks are you willing to take?
- How will you navigate the delicate balance between pushing for compliance from the colony while avoiding full-scale war?
- What role do you see yourself playing in this revolution—are you a leader, a strategist, a diplomat, a spy, or something in between?
 - How can you convince the undecided or revolutionists that the future of the colonies lies in the support of the British Empire?
- What risks will you take to secure essential resources or military support for your cause?
- Are you prepared to challenge your fellow delegates if their vision for the war diverge from your own?
 - Any personal grudges or amity with any members?

Characters:

King George III

In April 1775, King George III stands at a pivotal point in British history, grappling with the growing colonial unrest in North America while struggling with fits of ‘madness’. His reign has been marked by a commitment to maintaining British authority and ensuring the empire remains cohesive. The King views the colonies as vital assets but is increasingly frustrated by their resistance to taxation and governance. Influenced by advisors and Parliament, he believes that a display of military strength will quell the rebellion and reaffirm British dominance. However, beneath his resolve lies a deep worry about the future of the empire; he fears that yielding to colonial demands could embolden other territories to challenge British rule. The tension surrounding Boston, where British troops have encircled the city, is emblematic of his

struggle—can he maintain order without igniting a full-scale war? King George, often portrayed as stubborn, is also capable of reflection, demonstrating both the weight of his decisions and the challenges of leadership during an era of unprecedented dissent.

Queen Charlotte

In April 1775, Queen Charlotte stands as partial regent and a strong advisor to the British committee due to her powerful leadership and her husband's occasional episodes of madness. She stands as a strong advocate for British domination and superiority over the world stage. She has a close relationship with Queen Marie Antoinette, who she engages in frequent correspondence with and shares a love of France for. Additionally, she serves as the Electress of the Gernam city-state of Hanover, maintaining important connections there. Due to her position as Queen, Charlotte is expected to remain formally neutral, but will certainly use her connections to influence the Revolution.

Lord North

As Prime Minister, Lord North faces a daunting challenge in April 1775. He is a staunch defender of British policy and believes in the necessity of parliamentary sovereignty over the colonies. Known for his conciliatory measures earlier in his tenure, North is increasingly frustrated with the colonial reaction to taxation. He is aware of the mounting unrest in Boston and the British troops stationed there, yet he feels compelled to uphold Parliament's decisions. While he recognizes the importance of finding a peaceful resolution, North is also acutely aware that appeasement might be seen as weakness. In his heart, he grapples with the consequences of the emerging conflict—both politically and morally. North's commitment to maintaining British rule is palpable, but as violence looms, he must navigate the delicate balance between enforcing order and preventing an outright war that could fracture the empire.

General Thomas Gage

In April 1775, General Thomas Gage occupies a critical role as the British military governor of Massachusetts. After years of service, he finds himself overseeing a tense standoff in Boston, where British troops are encircled, and the local populace is fraught with unrest. Gage is tasked with implementing the King's orders while also managing an increasingly volatile situation. He has a keen understanding of the American mindset, having spent years in the colonies, yet he is unwavering in his loyalty to the Crown. He is tasked with ensuring the safety of loyalists in Boston while also preparing for any potential military confrontations. Gage fears the wrath of colonial rebels but believes that decisive action may be necessary to restore order. As he assesses the readiness of his troops, he contemplates strategies for de-escalation, hoping to avoid a full-blown conflict an enduring war could devastate both sides.

General Henry Clinton

Amidst the encirclement of Boston in April 1775, General Henry Clinton emerges as a key military figure in the British forces. Known for his strategic mind and experience from the French and Indian War, Clinton is acutely aware of the complex dynamics at play in America. While Gage is contending with the immediate tensions, Clinton recognizes that a broader strategy is needed to address the colonial uprising. He believes that strategic military maneuvers could suppress the rebellion without total warfare. Yet, he is also torn between a desire for military action and the imperative of maintaining British dignity while avoiding unnecessary bloodshed. His insights into colonial life and politics lend him a unique perspective, and he advocates for both military readiness and diplomatic channels. As sentiments harden on both sides, Clinton's ability to navigate the military and political arenas will be pivotal in determining the course of events in the coming months.

General William Howe

General William Howe stands at the forefront of British military operations as conflicts brew in Boston in April 1775. Appointed in part due to his reputation for effective leadership during the French and Indian War, Howe is determined to reassert British control over the increasingly rebellious colonies. He arrives in Boston aware that tensions have reached a boiling point, with the city's residents openly defiant against British authority. Howe believes that a show of force might lead to a swift resolution and is prepared to use military tactics that could decisively end colonial resistance. Yet, he understands the potential backlash of violent engagements and is mindful of the colonial populace's sentiments toward the Crown. Balancing aggression and strategy, Howe grapples with whether to engage directly with rebel forces or to consider negotiation, hoping to avoid a protracted war that could deplete resources and morale.

General Frederick Cornwallis

In April 1775, General Frederick Cornwallis is a rising star in the British military, known for his tactical awareness and leadership abilities. Although he has not yet played a direct role in the Boston siege, his reputation precedes him as a capable strategist, having distinguished himself in previous military campaigns. Cornwallis is keenly aware of the political and military landscape, understanding that the events unfolding in Boston may well dictate the course of the entire conflict. He is determined to uphold the Crown's interests and restore order to the colonies but is also cognizant of the potential challenges posed by colonial unity against British rule. His experience leads him to advocate for a robust military response, yet he holds a cautious view of the consequences—fearing that excessive force might unite the colonial resistance even further. As he watches events unfold, he grapples with the question of whether the rebellion can be quelled with the right military strategies or if war is indeed inevitable.

Lord Dunmore

Lord Dunmore, the royal governor of Virginia, finds himself at a crossroads in April 1775 as the revolutionary spirit brews across the colonies. A staunch loyalist, he is deeply committed to the Crown but faces significant challenges as the situation escalates. His controversial proclamation offering freedom to slaves who join the British forces has drawn outrage but also demonstrated his willingness to leverage any means to maintain British control. Dunmore believes that rallying loyalists and promising freedom could turn the tide of support against the rebels. He understands the complexities of colonial politics and the fears that underlie the growing rebellion. As tensions mount, he aims to mobilize loyalist sentiments while navigating the delicate balance between British authority and the desperate desires of the disenfranchised colonists. His leadership is vital as he tries to prevent a complete uprising while ensuring loyalty to the Crown amid the chaos that threatens to engulf Virginia and beyond.

Joseph Galloway

Joseph Galloway occupies a unique position in April 1775 as a loyalist and member of the Continental Congress who believes in reconciliation rather than revolution. He symbolizes the moderate perspective, advocating for an approach that bridges the gap between colonial grievances and British governance. Galloway has been a vocal critic of British policies, but notably, he is not opposed to the Crown itself; rather, he wishes to see reforms that address the colonists' concerns. As British troops surround Boston, Galloway urges dialogue over confrontation, believing that both sides must seek common ground to avert war. He understands the growing frustrations of the colonists and advocates for British concessions to meet their demands. His desperate desire to avoid bloodshed drives him deeper into political strategy, as he coordinates with fellow moderates and loyalists to craft a viable path forward. However, as tensions rise, Galloway's moderate stance may prove increasingly difficult to maintain amid the fervor of revolution.

Joseph Brant

In April 1775, Joseph Brant serves as a Captain for the British forces, specifically leading Mohawk warriors from Canajoharie, a village in New York. His role involves organizing raids and attacks on American frontier settlements, working closely with the British military to support their cause. Brant's leadership is crucial, as the Mohawk and other Iroquois Confederacy nations had long-standing ties with the British, and he is instrumental in mobilizing Indigenous forces against American colonists. He has to balance the needs and wants of both the Indigenous troops under his control and the needs of the British Empire.

John Burgoyne

By 1775, he had become a Member of Parliament and was a strong supporter of British authority over the American colonies. When the American Revolution began, Burgoyne was involved in discussions about how to suppress the rebellion. Although he has not yet participate in direct military action by April 1775, he was already preparing for a role in the conflict, advocating for a more aggressive British response to the growing colonial resistance.

John André

At the age of 20, John André joined the British Army and gained the rank of major. Stationed in Canada, he served with the 7th Regiment of Foot, gaining a reputation as a disciplined and intelligent officer. By 1775, as tensions between Britain and the American colonies grew, André's early experiences in the military would set the stage for his later involvement in espionage during the American Revolution.

George Collier

Up to 1775, George Collier has a steady career in the British Navy, though he had not yet gained significant fame or notoriety. His naval career is largely focused on serving in various naval operations and gradually rising through the ranks, rather than being directly involved in major actions against the American colonies before the outbreak of the Revolution

Guy Carleton

He is a British Army officer and colonial administrator who played an important role in the early stages of the American Revolution. Up to 1775, Carleton's actions were primarily focused on his military service in Canada, where he was involved in key military and administrative roles. Guy Carleton's actions were primarily focused on securing British interests in Quebec, maintaining the loyalty of the French-Canadian population, and preparing for the potential spillover of the American Revolutionary War into Canada.

Charles Gray

He serves as a British Army officer who is best known for his role during the Revolution, with a solid military career, serving in various capacities in both Europe and North America. While he is most famous for his leadership in the early stages of the American Revolution, his actions up to 1775 were focused on his military service in Britain and the colonies. He is an ambitious Army officer looking to advance his career.

Richard Oswald

Although Oswald was not directly involved in military or political actions leading up to 1775, his role as a businessman, with deep ties to the American colonies and the British government,

positioned him as an important figure when it came to future diplomatic negotiations, particularly in the context of the Treaty of Paris, which ended the American Revolutionary War.

Prince George Augustus

He is an influential royal figure whose political and familial dynamics shaped his later years, but his direct role in the events leading to the American Revolution are limited until his reign as George III (beginning in 1760). Most of the decisions impacting the colonies were made by other members of the royal government.

Thomas Robinson

Thomas Robinson is a British politician and diplomat. He serves as Secretary of State for the Southern Department from 1770, overseeing Britain's American colonies. Robinson supports policies like the Coercive Acts, which contributed to growing tensions leading to the American Revolution. Though influential in colonial affairs, his role in the pre-Revolutionary period was largely political, and his reputation suffered as resistance to British rule grew.

William Legge: Secretary of State

In summary, William Legge is a key figure in British policy towards the American colonies in the lead-up to the American Revolution. His tenure as Secretary of State for the Colonies saw the imposition of several unpopular measures that contributed to the growing colonial resistance. His resignation in 1775 marked the end of his direct involvement in the colonial affairs that would soon erupt into war.

John Stuart (3rd Earl of Bute)

Bute's tenure as prime minister, though brief, was pivotal in shaping early British policy, especially concerning colonial matters. His actions set the stage for many of the policies that might spark resistance and rebellion in the American colonies. However, currently his political downfall, due to his unpopularity and the criticism of his leadership, may mark the end of his direct influence on government.

Further Research:

This source describes some of the history of the American Revolution:

<https://www.britannica.com/event/American-Revolution>

This is a detailed timeline of the revolution:

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/americanrevolution/timeline.htm>

This is an article about the British perspective in general:

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/british-perspective-american-revolution>