

Westport Library Presents

# When in the Course of Human Events: The American Revolution at 250

Join Middlebury College  
historian and Westport  
resident Connor Williams to  
explore the American  
Revolution.



Today, how Americans interpret  
their revolutionary heritage, truly  
has global consequences. These  
talks will introduce timely  
themes for reflection and  
conversation.

250 years ago, representatives from 13 British colonies along North America's eastern seaboard declared their independence—that, in the immortal words of the Declaration of Independence, they “are and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States”.

The impacts were immediate. For the next 7 years, those colonies hosted a series of conflicts simultaneously constituting both an anti-imperial war for independence against the British Empire, a civil war between Americans, a system of fights between different Native American alliances, an international conflict between great powers, and a series of guerilla battles. It matched the highest ideals of human liberty with some of the most desperate conditions Americans have ever experienced.

The effects have been felt ever since. As those 13 colonies became first a transcontinental nation and then a global superpower, they carried their culture, constitution, and civic faith with them. Our debates over the founders, their original intent, and just what role both should play in our present continue to impact not just Americans' memory of the past, but their politics in the current moment and the possibilities of the future.

## Lecture Series: Tuesdays

# May 26, June 23 & September 15, 2026

## 6:30pm

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