

## MS CONSTITUTION 101

### Module 2: Principles of the American Revolution

#### 2.4: Declaring Independence



## DECLARING INDEPENDENCE

Can you explain the Declaration of Independence in a way that makes sense today? Read the excerpt of the Declaration of Independence below. As you read, pay attention to words or phrases that are clues to the key principles. When you are finished, summarize the Declaration of Independence so you could post your summary online in 240 characters or less.

### **Declaration of Independence (1776):**

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. –That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, –That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.”

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