

**Week 4: Chapter Summaries
Or
Mapping Your Narrative**

If the work of the project description is to make an argument, the work of the chapter summaries is to offer evidence.

More than a summary: they support the larger argument by making subarguments, offering evidence, and establishing a through line.

- They make explicit the purpose of the argument of each chapter;
- They offer an overview of the evidence that will be used to support that argument;
- They establish a through line of the book and make the case that this is a book, not a series of articles, held together by a larger narrative.

1. Birth of a Protestant Nation: Catholic Canadians, Religious Pluralism, and National Unity in the Early U.S. Republic

This chapter begins with an examination of Anglo-American reactions to Parliament's controversial 1774 passage of the Quebec Act, which legalized the practice of Roman Catholicism in the formerly French colony. Although scholars of the late-colonial period have long treated it as a minor factor in American revolutionary history, the Quebec Act actually took center stage in discussions of religious freedom and pluralism in the emerging United States. Through analysis of the Continental Congress's public responses to the act, I argue that the concept of national religious pluralism that would come to underpin U.S. liberal democracy developed in opposition to Anglo-American Protestant imaginings of French Catholicism. The process of U.S. nation-state development thus depended, I suggest, upon a marshalling of anti-Catholic discourse that positioned "Protestantism" as the guarantor of religious liberty. The chapter turns in its second section to the writings of Thomas Paine, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison and argues that as the discourse of national religious liberty forged during the Quebec crisis evolved into one of personal religious liberty, representations of Catholicism allowed political theorists to shift the burden of separating church and state from the state onto the private citizen. This first chapter sets the stage for the rest of the book by showing that early national discussions about the relationship between church and state are inextricable from contemporary fear of and hostility toward Catholicism.

Recognizing the influence of the political history I chart in chapter one on early U.S. literary and political culture, this chapter links the anti-Catholic anxieties evident in early national novels such as Charles Brockden Brown's *Wieland* (1798), James Fenimore Cooper's *The Pioneers* (1823), and Catharine Maria Sedgwick's *Hope Leslie* (1827) to Federalist-era debates about the relationship between a nation's territorial scope and its capacity to protect the individual liberties of politically and religiously diverse citizens.

If chapter three focuses on how Catholicism brings to light the pressures produced by representative government within the liberal democratic state, then this fourth chapter shows how renderings of Catholicism allowed mid-century writers to imagine solutions to the lingering problem of female citizenship. Specifically, the chapter argues that in novels such as Hawthorne's *The Marble Faun* (1860) and Augusta Evans's *Inez: A Tale of the Alamo* (1854), "Catholic" spaces such as Mexico and Italy serve as imaginary sites on which the problem of female citizenship—that is, citizenship without legal, public representation—can be tested.

This final chapter extends the argument of the penultimate chapter to show that by the end of the nineteenth century Catholicism came to represent not a threat to nor the limit of liberal democracy but rather the corruptions inherent within liberal democracy itself. Taking as its focus Adams's novel *Democracy* and Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, the anti-Catholicism of which has been long recognized but little remarked upon, this chapter shows that Adams's and Twain's self-conscious caricatures of the Catholic Church allow them to represent the corrupt and imperial impulses of the liberal state as affronts to democracy and freedom

Telling the Story

Let's draft this!

Chapter 1: write a brief 2-3 sentence summary

**Chapter 2 is similar/different from/builds upon
chapter 1 in the following ways:
(write 1 - 2 sentences)**

**Chapter 3 is similar to/different from/builds upon
chapter 1 and/or 2 in the following ways:
(1 - 2 sentences)**

**Chapter 4 is similar to/different from/builds upon chapters 1, 2, and/or 3 in the following ways:
(write 1 - 2 sentences)**