

The Colonial Period a.k.a. “Rationalism”



1746-1800

Fundamental Ideas of the Colonial Period

1. Reason over religion

--People believed that reason was a God-given gift and that we should try to understand and find order in the universe.

2. Progress

--new inventions, education, government

3. People are basically good

--This is different from the Puritan view that people are basically sinners by nature

Types of Writing

- Poetry
- Autobiographies
- Historical documents

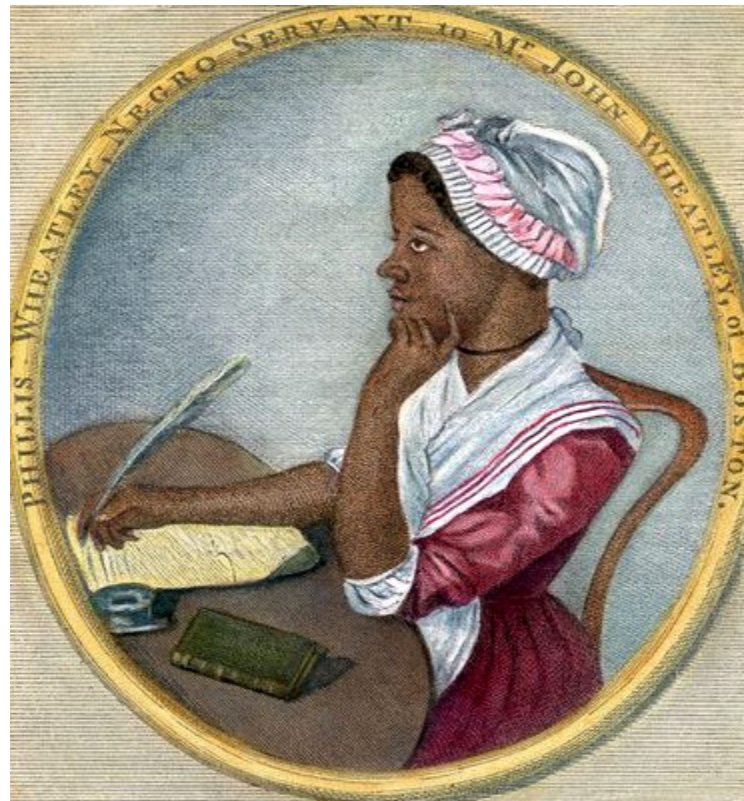


Writers from the Colonial Period

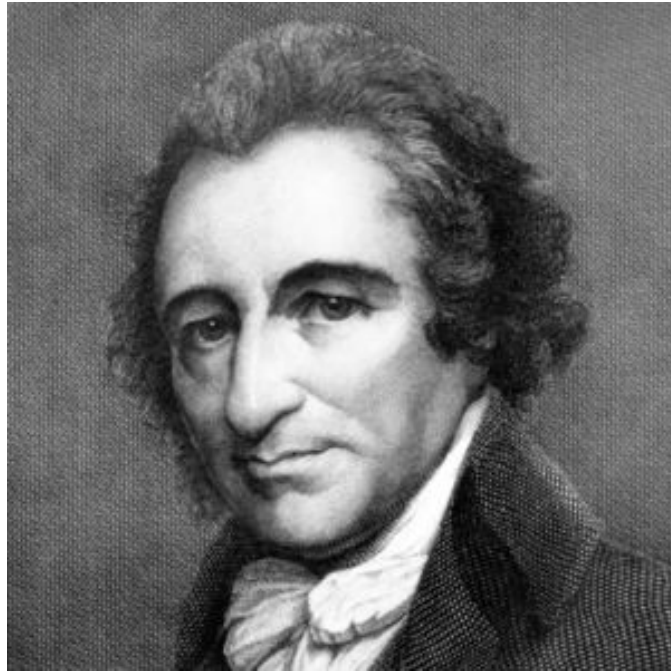
Ben Franklin



Phillis Wheatley



Thomas Paine



Patrick Henry

