

This course traces the nation's history from the pre-colonial period to the end of the American Civil War. It emphasizes the colonial period and the creation of a new nation and examines the beliefs and philosophies that informed the American Revolution and the subsequent formation of the government and political system.

Students first explore the earliest points of contact between individuals from Europe, Africa, and North America. They then probe the economic, cultural, and social motives for the nation's expansion, as well as the conflicting notions of liberty that eventually resulted in the Civil War. Woven throughout this narrative history is a strong focus on the changing conditions of women, African Americans, and other minority groups. The ways in which Americans lived, ate, dressed, and interacted are also highlighted.

The course emphasizes the development of historical analysis skills such as comparing and contrasting, differentiating between facts and interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, and analyzing cause-and-effect relationships. These skills are applied to text interpretation and in written assignments that guide learners step-by-step through problem-solving activities.

The content is based on standards from the National Council for History Education (1997), the National Center for History in the Schools (1996), and the National Council for Social Studies (1994) and is aligned to state standards.

Length: One semester

UNIT 1: FIRST CONTACTS

LESSON 1: EUROPEANS IN THE NEW WORLD

Study: The First Americans

Learn how to study history and use your new skills to learn more about the first Americans.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The First Americans

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Discuss: Introduce Yourself

Introduce yourself to the other students in your class.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 15 points

Study: New Spain

Find out why many Europeans wanted to find, claim, and settle new lands.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: New Spain

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: FIRST CONNECTIONS

Study: Settling North America

Locate and describe early European communities in North America.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Settling North America

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Read: Columbus and Champlain

Learn about primary and secondary sources and use your new skills to understand the writings of Christopher Columbus and Samuel de Champlain.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Columbus and Champlain

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 10 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: Cooperation and Conflict: The Columbian Exchange

Discover the positive and negative results of continued contact between European settlers and Native Americans.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Cooperation and Conflict: The Columbian Exchange

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Life at Jamestown

Learn about the challenges early European settlers faced in Jamestown.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Life at Jamestown

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 3: THE ATLANTIC WORLD**Study: Trade Routes**

Learn about the economic and cultural ties that developed between North America, Africa, and the Caribbean.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Trade Routes

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Practice: Exploring Maps and Charts

Read maps, charts, and other primary sources and explain what you learned from them.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 30 points

Study: The Slave Trade

Learn about the role of slave labor from Africa in the development of the colonies.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The Slave Trade

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: The Effects of War

Learn about the conflicts that developed in Europe during the colonial period and how they affected the North American colonies.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The Effects of War

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 4: FREE AND FORCED LABOR IN THE COLONIES

Study: Work in Colonial America

Discover what daily life was like for North American settlers.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Work in Colonial America

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Journal: Gender and Labor

Compare the relationship between gender and labor in the 1800s with gender roles today.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Slavery

Learn about why landowners came to use slaves instead of indentured servants.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Slavery

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 5: FIRST CONTACTS WRAP-UP

Review: First Contacts

Get ready for the unit test by reviewing important ideas and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): First Contacts

Take a computer-scored test to check what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 40 points

Test (TS): First Contacts

Take a teacher-scored test to check what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

LESSON 6: DIAGNOSTIC

Diagnostic: First Contacts

Take a diagnostic test that will create a study plan based on your answers.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

UNIT 2: BECOMING AMERICAN

LESSON 1: EUROPEAN COLONIES IN NORTH AMERICA

Study: Northern Colonies

Learn about the northern colonies of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Northern Colonies

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Practice: Improving an Essay

Improve a draft of an essay.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 30 points

Study: Mid-Atlantic Colonies

Learn about the Mid-Atlantic colonies of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Mid-Atlantic Colonies

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Chesapeake Colonies

Learn about the Chesapeake colonies of Maryland and Virginia.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Chesapeake Colonies

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Southern Colonies

Learn about the southern colonies of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Southern Colonies

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: BRITISH NORTH AMERICA

Study: Turning on the Light

Compare the ideas of the Enlightenment and the Great Awakening. Examine how these ideas affected colonial life.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Turning on the Light

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Trouble in the Colonies

Learn about the events that led to trouble between the British king and North American colonies.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Trouble in the Colonies

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Troubles Lead to War

Learn how trouble between the British king and his North American subjects resulted in war.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Troubles Lead to War

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 3: THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Study: Taking Sides

Examine why the British colonists declared independence and the early stages of the Revolutionary War.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Taking Sides

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Discuss: Becoming American?

Discuss what it meant to be "American" at the time of the Revolution and what it means to you today.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 15 points

Read: The Declaration of Independence

Read the Declaration of Independence and learn more about why the Patriots wanted to end British rule.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The Declaration of Independence

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 10 mins Scoring: 10 points

Study: The War's Conclusion and Consequences

Examine what helped the Americans win the Revolutionary War.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The War's Conclusion and Consequences

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 4: EXAMINING THE CONSTITUTION

Study: Life after the Revolution

Learn about the challenges the nation faced in the decades following the Revolutionary War.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Life after the Revolution

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Making the Constitution

Learn about the Constitution and what makes it special.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Making the Constitution

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Making the Constitution Work

Examine the agreements that were made during the writing of the Constitution.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Making the Constitution Work

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Journal: Your Bill of Rights

Prepare to learn about the Constitution by identifying rights that are important to your daily life.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 5: BECOMING AMERICAN WRAP-UP

Review: Becoming American

Get ready for the unit test by reviewing important ideas and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): Becoming American

Take a computer-scored test to check what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 40 points

Test (TS): Becoming American

Take a teacher-scored test to check what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

LESSON 6: DIAGNOSTIC

Diagnostic: Becoming America

Take a diagnostic test that will create a study plan based on your answers.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

UNIT 3: AMERICA IN THE AGE OF JACKSON

LESSON 1: LIBERTY, POWER, AND PARTY POLITICS

Study: The Virginia Presidents

Learn about the Virginia-born presidents who led the country during its first years.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The Virginia Presidents

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: From Regional to Party Politics

Look at the conflicts that gave rise to the first American political parties.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: From Regional to Party Politics

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Discuss: Evaluating the Two-Party System

Debate the effectiveness of our two-party political system.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 15 points

Study: Voting and Gender

Examine the roles of men and women of the 1800s and how these roles affected voting laws.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Voting and Gender

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: THE FIRST INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Study: The Nation's Early Growth

Examine the reasons for and the results of expansion during Jefferson's presidency.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The Nation's Early Growth

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Transportation Revolution

Find out how advances in transportation changed how Americans lived.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Transportation Revolution

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Economics and Party Politics

Compare the economic policies of the Democrats and the Whigs.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Economics and Party Politics

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Practice: Democrats and Whigs

Use a graphic organizer to compare the Democratic Party with the Whig Party.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 30 points

LESSON 3: FORCED AND VOLUNTARY MOVEMENT

Study: Slavery in the South

Find out how slavery shaped the Southern economy and affected African Americans.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Slavery in the South

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Role Play: Trail of Tears

Learn about the effects of the nation's growth on Native Americans through a role-play activity.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Journal: Your Experiences on the Trail

Describe what you experienced during the role-play activity about the Trail of Tears.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

Quiz: Trail of Tears

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: New European Arrivals

Discover why many Europeans came to the United States in the mid-1800s.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: New European Arrivals

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 4: BUILDING NEW COMMUNITIES

Study: City Culture

Find out what life was like in an early 19th-century American city.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: City Culture

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Discuss: Then and Now: Women at Work

Discuss the gender roles of 19th-century workers and compare them with the gender roles of workers today.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 15 points

Study: Second Great Awakening

Find out why mid-19th-century Americans took a new interest in religion. Learn how the Second Great Awakening affected American society.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Second Great Awakening

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Read: Beecher and Grimké

Read letters from Catherine Beecher and Angelina Grimke on the role of women in the abolition movement.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Beecher and Grimké

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 10 mins Scoring: 10 points

LESSON 5: AMERICA IN THE AGE OF JACKSON WRAP-UP**Review: America in the Age of Jackson**

Get ready for the unit test by reviewing important ideas and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): America in the Age of Jackson

Take a computer-scored test to check what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 40 points

Test (TS): America in the Age of Jackson

Take a teacher-scored test to check what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

LESSON 6: DIAGNOSTIC**Diagnostic: America in the Age of Jackson**

Take a diagnostic test that will create a study plan based on your answers.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

UNIT 4: NORTH-SOUTH CONFLICT**LESSON 1: GROWTH AND CONFLICT****Study: Manifest Destiny**

Discover why many Americans supported national growth.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Manifest Destiny

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Hispanic Americans

Examine how the United States gained control of land from Mexico, and how this affected the people who already lived there.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Hispanic Americans

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Consequences of Compromise

Learn how the nation's growth led to arguments about the growth of slavery.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Consequences of Compromise

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Journal: Debating Popular Sovereignty

Write down your opinion of the doctrine of popular sovereignty.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 2: EARLY ANTISLAVERY

Study: African Americans Fight Slavery

Discover how African Americans worked to escape or end slavery.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: African Americans Fight Slavery

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Read: Views For and Against Slavery

Use primary sources to evaluate arguments for and against slavery.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Views For and Against Slavery

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 10 mins Scoring: 10 points

Practice: Slave Rebellions

Use primary sources to learn about the effect of Nat Turner's rebellion.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 30 points

Study: Northerners Fight Slavery

Learn about Northerners' efforts to end slavery.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Northerners Fight Slavery

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 3: THE UNION IN CRISIS

Study: Northern and Southern Cultures

Compare the economic, political, and cultural characteristics of the Northern and Southern states.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Northern and Southern Cultures

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Parties in Crisis

Examine the issues that changed political parties and created conflict between the North and the South.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Parties in Crisis

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: The Road to Civil War

Examine the political conflict that led Southern states to consider leaving the Union.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The Road to Civil War

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Discuss: Fighting Violence with Violence

Discuss the strategies of John Brown and others who used violence to try to end slavery.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 15 points

LESSON 4: THE CIVIL WAR

Study: Civil War Breaks Out

Examine the events that resulted in war between the North and the South.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Civil War Breaks Out

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: The War at Home

Look at how the war affected daily life in the North and the South.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: The War at Home

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

Study: Final Days of the War

Look at the factors that resulted in the Union victory in the war.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Quiz: Final Days of the War

Take a quiz to check your understanding of what you have learned.

Duration: 0 hrs 20 mins Scoring: 20 points

LESSON 5: NORTH-SOUTH CONFLICT WRAP-UP

Review: North-South Conflict

Get ready for the unit test by reviewing important ideas and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 0 points

Test (CS): North-South Conflict

Take a computer-scored test to check what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 40 points

Test (TS): North-South Conflict

Take a teacher-scored test to check what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

LESSON 6: DIAGNOSTIC

Diagnostic: North-South Conflict

Take a diagnostic test that will create a study plan based on your answers.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 25 points

UNIT 5: U.S. HISTORY SEM 1 REVIEW AND EXAM

LESSON 1: U.S. HISTORY SEM 1

Review: U.S. History Sem 1

Get ready for the exam by reviewing important ideas and skills covered in this semester.

Duration: 1 hr Scoring: 0 points

Exam: U.S. History Sem 1

Take a computer-scored exam to show what you have learned in this semester.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 50 points

Final Exam: U.S. History Sem 1

Take a teacher-scored exam to show what you have learned in this semester.

Duration: 1 hr 30 mins Scoring: 100 points