



8th Grade American History

The purpose of this course is for students to develop a knowledge and understanding of American History. We will closely examine the people, places and events that have shaped our nation from the Colonial Era to Western Expansion and the idea of Manifest Destiny. This course utilizes a critical thinking, and narrative approach to history. It places an emphasis not only on what took place, but also on why certain things occurred, what the ramifications of those events were, as well as how those experiences may impact us today. Each unit has been prepared to meet the Pennsylvania State Standards for Social Studies.

Units of Study

1. Colonial America
2. Road to Revolution
3. Revolutionary War/Declaration of Independence
4. The U.S. Constitution
5. Citizenship
6. A New Nation
7. The Era of Jefferson
8. The Age of Jackson
9. Western Expansion

Activities

Primary Source Analysis
Readings
Research
Discussions
Debate
Presentations
Videos

Assessments

Document Based Questions
Quizzes
Chapter Tests
Research Papers
Group Projects
Individual Projects
Homework
Final Exam

Standards

- Identify and explain the political and cultural contributions of individuals and groups to United States history from beginnings to 1824
- Identify and explain primary documents, material artifacts and historic sites important to United States history from beginnings to 1824
- Explain how continuity and change has influenced United States history from beginnings to 1824
- Identify and explain conflict and cooperation among social groups and organizations in United States history from beginnings to 1824
- Identify and analyze the political and cultural contributions of individuals and groups to United States history from 1787 to 1914
- Identify and explain primary documents, material artifacts and historic sites important to United States history from 1787-1914
- Explain how continuity and change has influenced United States history from 1787 to 1914
- Identify and explain conflict and cooperation among social groups and organizations in United States history from beginnings to 1824