

American Studies I
Course Syllabus

Unit 1-Colonial America

Competency #1- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the historical, geographic, political, and economic issues that arose with the influence of European nations in North America with a focus on the English colonies.

The American Anthem Textbook Chapters:

- 2-The European Colonies
- 3-Colonial Life

Essay Question: What was the most significant difference between northern, middle, and southern colonies?

Unit 2-The American Revolution

Competency #2- Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the historical, geographic, political, and economic issues of the American Revolution.

The American Anthem Textbook Chapters:

- 4-The Revolutionary Era

Essay Question: Choose any founding father of the American Revolution. What was their most significant contribution to the revolution?

Unit 3-The Constitution

Competency #3-Students will demonstrate an understanding of the major issues, ideas, and events pertaining to the history of the United States Constitution, and will demonstrate an understanding of the major provisions of the Constitution and the organization and operation of the US government.

The American Anthem Textbook Chapters:

- 5-Creating a New Government

Essay Question: After examining all three branches of government, which branch of the federal government has the most power?

Unit 4-The New Nation

Competency #4-Students will demonstrate an understanding of the major issues and events related to the first 6 US presidents.

The American Anthem Textbook Chapters:

- 6-Forging the New Republic

Essay question: Was Jefferson's acquisition of the Louisiana territory constitutional? Or what was the most significant decision decided by the Marshall Supreme Court?

Unit 5-Nationalism and Sectionalism

Competency #5-Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how a national identity emerged in the United States and its impact on the economy. Students will focus on the view of democracy and the inclusion of the "Common man".

The American Anthem Textbook Chapters:

7-From Nationalism to Sectionalism

Essay Question: What was the most controversial aspect of Andrew Jackson's presidency? Or why was cotton/slavery vital to the entire country, and not just the Southern colonies/states?

Unit 6-The Reform Movements

Competency #6-Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how Americans in the 19th century attempted to address the problems plaguing society, and how successful these reform movements were.

The American Anthem Textbook Chapters:

8-A Push for Reform

Essay Question: Choose one of the reform movements in the 19th century, and evaluate its success. (What were people attempting to fix or change, and ultimately were they successful?)

Unit 7-Expansion and Conflict (Manifest Destiny)

Competency #7-Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of how Manifest Destiny impacted the geography, politics, and the economy of the United States.

The American Anthem Textbook Chapters:

9-Expansion leads to Conflict

Essay Question: Was the War with Mexico justified?

Unit 8-New Hampshire

Competency #8-Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the history, economy, and geography of the state of New Hampshire, and will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the structure and function of the NH Constitution.

No textbook work for this unit.

Essay Question: There is none.