COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course recounts the story of the United States by looking at the experiences of the many diverse races and nationalities that, woven together, have created this country. Students will learn to appreciate the contributions the various peoples have made to the American culture. Emphasis is placed on how both compromise and conflict have played major parts in American history.


Other Course Materials Required:

Initial instructions for beginning of class: GO TO BLACKBOARD AND REVIEW SYLLABUS

Testing regulations (included proctoring guidelines link):

Course Management System Information: BLACKBOARD

Student Learning Outcomes: STUDENT LEARNING TOPICS AND OBJECTIVES: EXPLORATION AND COLONIZATION Identify how the Native American civilizations subsisted in North America prior to European colonization. Describe the contributions of Native Americans, Europeans, and Africans to the creation of the North American colonies. Compare and contrast the goals, governments, social structures, and religions of the North American colonies. FROM BRITISH COLONIES TO THE UNITED STATES Describe how life in the British North American colonies contributed to the creation of a unique American identity. Summarize the causes of the growing tension between the American colonies and the British Empire. Analyze the philosophical ideals embodied in the Declaration of Independence. Explain why the Americans were able to defeat the British Empire. CREATION OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION Compare and contrast the governing philosophies of the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution. Identify the major arguments in favor and against ratification of the Constitution. THE EXPANDING NATION Trace the development of the first and second political parties. Identify significant events that marked the growth of American democracy. Evaluate how capitalism, agriculture, and industrialization contributed to economic development, regional specialization, and social reforms. Assess the impact of Manifest Destiny on American foreign policy. SECTIONAL TENSION AND WAR Analyze how sectional conflict after 1830, coupled with western expansion after 1840, contributed to sectional tensions over slavery. Explain how the events of the 1850s influenced the sectional crisis. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the Union and the Confederacy, and how they contributed to the Civil Wars outcome.

Useful Links:

Other:

DSPS Information: