

# Unit 2: The Colonies

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **U.S. History 1 Honors**  
Time Period: **October**  
Length: **10 blocks**  
Status: **Published**

## Transfer

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The French and Indian War served as a catalyst for the implementation of the Enlightenment ideas and provided the the necessary military training that led to American independence.

## Enduring Understandings

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American colonies were geographically divided into three regions based on the contributions of natural resources which created different economies (NE, Middle, South).

Each region developed its own identity with varying governments, social classes, cultural norms based on these economies and their European roots.

The reasons for the settlers coming to the New World varied between the regions.

The interaction between settlers and Native American tribes sometimes led to cooperation and other times ended in conflict.

Independence is the freedom to act, think, speak without control and exercise sovereignty over one's destiny.

American economic independence led the colonies to refute British attempts to restrict and tax their freedom.

The ideologies of the early American doctrines were grounded in the theories of Locke and Rousseau.

Religious wars in Europe were a driving force in America's settlement and the desire to have freedom of religion resonated within early colonial governments and carried over into the Revolution.

## Essential Questions

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What are the similarities/differences in the problems faced by colonial settlers and those facing Americans today and how do the responses compare?

How does geography affect a people's cultural and economic development?

What does it mean to be independent?

What ideas and constrictions molded the American character and led to American Independence?

How did the European Enlightenment thinkers influence the formation of America's first government?

What role did religion play in pushing the Pilgrims and Puritan

## **Content**

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## **Resources**

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## **Vocabulary**

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Triangular Trade, Mercantilism, Huguenots, natural rights, sovereignty, squatters, militia, social contract, federalism, confederation, quartering, social, political, economic, cultural

## **People and Events**

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Revolutionary War, French & Indian War, Iroquois, Huron, William Pitt, Montcalm, Braddock, Wolfe, Greenville, North, Townshend, Declaration of Independence, Lexington & Concord, Bunker Hill, Saratoga, Princeton, Trenton, Monmouth, Southern Campaign – Yorktown, Articles of Confederation, Treaty of Paris

## **Learning Objectives**

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Correlate a geopolitical map of the 13 original colonies to the ethnic origin of the original settlers analyze how the geography of the land affected the economies, politics and social systems.

Create a definition of Independence and compare it to the freedom provided by the House of Burgesses and the MA government.

Draw conclusions with valid support as to how the economy shaped the social, political and cultural aspects of each region.

Asses the quality of the different reasons for Europeans venturing to the New World and rank each with justification from worst to best.

Distinguish the reasons behind the cooperative vs. aggressive relations between Native American tribes and colonial settlers.

Defend which acts most significantly fueled the need for independence.

Categorize, evaluate and justify the most significant leaders, events, battles of the Revolution.

Evaluate the importance of religious freedom in the founding of the colonies and the start of the war.

## Standards

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SOC.6.1.12	U.S. History: America in the World: All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions that reflect fundamental rights and core democratic values as productive citizens in local, national, and global communities.
SOC.6.1.12.A.1.a	Explain how British North American colonies adapted the British governance structure to fit their ideas of individual rights, economic growth, and participatory government.
SOC.6.1.12.A.1.b	Analyze how gender, property ownership, religion, and legal status affected political rights.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.a	Assess the importance of the intellectual origins of the Foundational Documents (i.e., Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights) and assess their importance on the spread of democracy around the world.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.b	Compare and contrast state constitutions, including New Jersey's 1776 constitution, with the United States Constitution, and determine their impact on the development of American constitutional government.
SOC.6.1.12.B.1.a	Explain how geographic variations (e.g., climate, soil conditions, and other natural resources) impacted economic development in the New World.
SOC.6.1.12.B.2.b	Evaluate the effectiveness of the Northwest Ordinance in resolving disputes over Western lands and the expansion of slavery.
SOC.6.1.12.C.1.a	Explain how economic ideas and the practices of mercantilism and capitalism conflicted during this time period.
SOC.6.1.12.C.1.b	Determine the extent to which natural resources, labor systems (i.e., the use of indentured servants, African slaves, and immigrant labor), and entrepreneurship contributed to economic development in the American colonies.
SOC.6.1.12.D.2.a	Analyze contributions and perspectives of African Americans, Native Americans, and women during the American Revolution.
SOC.6.1.12.D.3.d	Analyze the role education played in improving economic opportunities and in the development of responsible citizens.
SOC.6.1.12.D.3.e	Determine the impact of religious and social movements on the development of American culture, literature, and art.