

# Unit 7: Modern Borders and Social Change (Manifest Destiny)

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

## Transfer Skills

---

- The Second Great Awakening leads to vast social reform throughout the country.
- War and diplomacy bring about America's realization of her Manifest Destiny.

## Enduring Understandings

---

**Big Idea: Modern Borders and Social Change; Manifest Destiny.**

- A number of social reform movements, including the temperance and abolition movements, gained strength during this time.
- Justifying expansion proved problematic as the nation grapples with the social and economic impact of its actions.
- Manifest Destiny is an era characterized by an increasing sense of entitlement to North American lands.
- Political, social, and economic factors brought about American territorial expansion.
- Social and economic challenges can cause sectional tensions within a nation.

## Essential Questions

---

- How do the various reform movements illustrate democratic ideals?
- Which groups of people were impacted by westward expansion?
- How did “manifest destiny” capture the forces that led to continental expansion?
- How did westward expansion change the United States and its inhabitants?
- Who is an American?
- How was the Constitution used to interpret freedom and citizenship?
- What is freedom?

## Content

---

### Vocabulary:

sectionalism, manifest destiny, transcendentalists, abolitionists, Santa Ana, Sam Houston, James K. Polk,

Winfield Scott, Zachary Taylor, forty-niners, empresarios, tejanos, californios, prospectors,

### Significant People/Events:

Second Great Awakening; Temperance Movement, Reformers, Seneca Falls Convention, Declaration of Sentiments, Texas Revolution, Bear Flag Revolt, Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, Mexican War, Mexican Cession, Gadsden Purchase, Gold Rush, Sutter's Mill, *Amistad*, Dred Scott Case

### Skills

---

- Understand the sources, characteristics, and effects of antebellum reform movements.
- Compare and contrast the successes and failures of early reform efforts.
- Assess Western Settlement's impact on politics.
- Understand major political and social events and developments of this period.
- Determine the hardships faced by pioneers including the isolation of cultures.
- Evaluate the various justifications used to support slavery.
- Analyze how the *Amistad* and Dred Scott decisions impacted the abolitionist movement.

### Resources

---

### Standards

---

SOC.6.1.12.A.3.f	Compare and contrast the successes and failures of political (i.e., the 1844 State Constitution) and social (i.e., abolition, women's rights, and temperance) reform movements in New Jersey and the nation during the Antebellum period.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.h	Examine multiple perspectives on slavery and evaluate the claims used to justify the arguments.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.i	Examine the origins of the antislavery movement and the impact of particular events, such as the <i>Amistad</i> decision, on the movement.
SOC.6.1.12.C.3.b	Relate the wealth of natural resources to the economic development of the United States and to the quality of life of individuals.
SOC.6.1.12.D.2.d	Analyze arguments for new women's roles and rights, and explain why 18th-century society limited women's aspirations.
SOC.6.1.12.D.3.a	Determine how expansion created opportunities for some and hardships for others by considering multiple perspectives.
SOC.6.1.12.D.3.b	Explain how immigration intensified ethnic and cultural conflicts and complicated the forging of a national identity.

