Unit 2: Colonial America and the Roots of the Am. Rev.

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**
Course(s): **AP U.S. History**
Time Period: **September**
Length: **6 weeks**
Status: **Published**

Enduring Understandings

The North American Colonies were a perfect laboratory for the Age of Reason thinkers and implementers.

Colonial Americans showed a tendency for independence long before 1776.

Mercantilism was the economic driving force between the mother country and the colonies.

The Seven Years War had accelerated our desire to be free and independent from England.

The American Revolution had numerous causes that contained social, economic, and political aspects.

The American Revolution was lost more by the British than won by the Americans.

The Articles of Confederation were not designed to hold the country together post war.

The US Constitution is a series of hard fought compromises that resulted in a Democratic Republic.

George Washington helped define the early days of the new US Government and her policies.

Essential Questions

Which of the colonies most reflected the Enlightenment spirit?

Why was Bacon's Rebellion a sign of things to come?

How was mercantilism put into everyday practice?

Could a better man than George III have prevented the American Revolution?

How did the crowns practice of Salutary Neglect help cause the Revolution?

Is The French and Indian War the first "world war"?

What were the "baby-steps" towards open rebellion?

How did the Articles of Confederation fulfill the task at hand?

What is a Republic? What is a Democracy?

Is the Constitution alive?

What are the earmarks of a good political compromise?

How did George Washington set the standard for future American presidents?

Why is John Adams seen as a great man but poor president?

Content

Bacon's Rebellion, Slave Codes,

Locke/Hobbes, Adam Smith/Capitalism, Mercantilism,

Hard Currency, Proclamation of 1763,

Pontiac, James Otis/Sons of Liberty, Coercive Acts, Virtual Representation,

Federalism, Northwest Ordinance, Land Ordinance of 1785, Bi-cameral

3/5 Compromise, Great Compromise,

Loose v strict interpretation, Hamilton's Financial Plan, Precedent, Shay's Rebellion, Whiskey Rebellion,

Alien and Sedition Acts,

Proclamation of Neutrality, Federalists, John Marshall

Skills

Students will recognize how the Enlightenment played a crucial role in the development of an American identity.

Students will identify how the revolution happened in "mind" long before "body".

Define and compare mercantilism and capitalism in both the 18th and 21st centuries.

Analyze the political choices of England and their impact on her colonies.

Critically examine how The French and Indian War was a precursor to the Revolution.

Highlight the differences in political will, military tactics, and economic capabilities of England and the colonies.

Compare the US Constitution and AOC.

Trace the vision of Madison into the US Constitution.

Examine and evaluate the presidencies of Washington and Adams.

Resources

Standards

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.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.A.2.c	Compare and contrast the arguments of Federalists and Anti-Federalists during the ratification debates, and assess their continuing relevance.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.d	Explain how judicial review made the Supreme Court an influential branch of government, and assess the continuing impact of the Supreme Court today.