

# Unit # 3: United States History I - The Critical Period

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **US History 1**  
Time Period: **Semester 1**  
Length: **3 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Introduction

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**This unit will focus on the process by which the government of the United States coalesced and evolved between the years of 1785 and 1797. The Unit will also serve as an introduction to the manner in which the United States government functions.**

## Standards

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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.e	Examine the emergence of early political parties and their views on centralized government and foreign affairs, and compare these positions with those of today's political parties.
SOC.6.1.12.B.2.a	Analyze how the United States has attempted to account for regional differences while also striving to create an American identity.
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.

## L.A. Standards For History, Soc. St., Science & Technical Subjects

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LA.RH.9-10.2	Determine the theme, central ideas, key information and/or perspective(s) presented in a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.
LA.RH.9-10.3	Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; draw connections between the events, to determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.
LA.RH.9-10.5	Analyze how a text uses structure to emphasize key points or advance an explanation or analysis.
LA.RH.9-10.7	Integrate quantitative or technical analysis (e.g., charts, research data) with qualitative analysis in print or digital text, to analyze information presented via different mediums.
LA.RH.9-10.8	Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's

claims.

LA.WHST.9-10.1

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant sufficient textual and non-textual evidence.

## Essential Questions

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- How did the Constitution promote a Federalist government system while upholding individual liberties and states' rights?
- What role did state sovereignty play in the success and failure of the Articles of Confederation?
- Why and how did Americans come to believe a stronger central government was necessary?

## Goals/Objectives

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Students will be able to:

- Analyze historical events relative to the modern world
- Analyze social, political, and cultural change
- Apply problem-solving to develop solutions
- Evaluate communication of information for soundness of evidence and potential bias
- Evaluate concepts and themes through historical periods
- Examine source data to test credibility and evaluate bias
- Formulate questions from multiple perspectives, using multiple sources
- Identify key figures, issues, and events
- Reconcile primary and secondary source information

## Content

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- Accomplishments and Progressive Acts of the Articles of Confederation
- Disputes over state sovereignty and sectional division
- Significant and influential figures of the Constitutional Convention
- Significant debate and compromise of the Constitutional Convention
- Significant events leading to the downfall and ultimate replacement of the Articles of Confederation
- Strengths and weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation

## Skills

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- Analytical writing
- Analyze charts and tables
- Analyze political cartoons
- Assessing validity of sources
- Change and continuity over time
- Compare and Contrast
- Comprehension of geopolitical issues
- Critical thinking
- Data analysis
- Debate
- Develop a thesis
- Distinguish facts and opinions
- Drawing inferences
- Expressing issues clearly
- Identify main ideas and details
- Mastery of United States geography
- Mastery of World geography
- Media literacy
- Multi-media proficiency
- Online data based research
- Read for content mastery
- Recognize bias
- Role-play
- Speech to inform
- Summarizing from multiple sources
- Supporting positions
- Understand political, economic, and physical maps