

U.S. History I Honors

Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Number: SC3308H

Grade level: 8–10

Prerequisite Courses: None

Credits: 1.0

Course Description

From the first colonial settlements through the Gilded Age and industrialization, students will embark on a more rigorous yearlong study of the beginnings of our nation's history. Students investigate the political, social, cultural, intellectual, and technological revolutions of the United States that have helped to lay the foundation of our country. Units progress through the course by starting with an in-depth look at the first settlements and European explorations that eventually led to colonization. Students study the events and outcomes of the American Revolution, as well as the creation of the Constitution and the beginnings of our government. Manifest destiny and slavery are the next topics students analyze that lead into a closer look at the Civil War and how it changed our nation. From writing about the Lincoln-Douglas debates to analyzing the effects of immigration and urbanization, students are better equipped to understand what happened during our nation's beginnings.

Throughout this Honors course, students continuously analyze primary and secondary sources relating to the period of study. Incorporating activities from other disciplines gives students the opportunity to connect history to other subjects. Students read selections like "Your People Live Only Upon Cod," and poetry such as "The New Colossus" by Emma Lazarus. Activities such as writing a personal narrative as either a slave or newly freed person and analyzing a report on child labor encourage students to perform throughout the course at a higher level.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Describe the geographical regions of the United States and the influence of these regions on early settlements and the nation's development.
- Explore different cultures within U.S. history and how these cultures were changed by various influences, such as settlement, acts of government, and conflicts.
- Examine the importance of cultural and reform movements on U.S. government and society.
- Assess the political development of the United States, including the influence of democratic ideals, the changing role of government, and the development of the two-party system.
- Investigate and understand the reasons behind American involvement in wars and conflicts throughout U.S. history.
- Trace the economic development of the United States from an agrarian economy to an industrial economy.

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, e-mail, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on projects, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop your speaking and listening skills.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Quiz	20%
Test	30%
Exam	20%
Essay	10%
Assignment	10%
Additional	0%
Project	10%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. The units of study are summarized below:

Unit 1: The New World

Unit 2: The Thirteen Colonies

Unit 3: Road to Revolution

Unit 4: War of Independence

Unit 5: A New Nation

Unit 6: Jacksonian Democracy

Unit 7: Manifest Destiny

Unit 8: Sectionalism

Unit 9: Rising Tensions

Unit 10: The Civil War

Unit 11: Reconstruction

Unit 12: Industrialization and the West