

**NORTHERN BURLINGTON COUNTY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
2021 Course Map/Pacing Guide**

Department	Social Studies	Course	American History 8
-------------------	----------------	---------------	--------------------

Source of Standards (Hyperlink source Titles **NOT-number and full description**)

- New Jersey Student Learning [Standards 2020](#)
 - [Social Studies NJSLs 2020](#)
 - [English Language Arts](#) (Companion Standards for History, Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects)
 - College Board
- [Career Readiness, Life Literacies, and Key Skills](#);
 - All courses Focus on - 9.4 Life Literacies and Key Skills (p. 49)

Sequence- Unit Titles and Number of weeks per unit (total = 18 semester/ 36 year)

Unit 1: Colonization and the American Revolution (1754—1783) (4 weeks) - Students study disputes over political authority and economic issues that contributed to a movement for independence in the colonies.

Unit 2: The Constitution of the United States (1783 - 1800) (6 weeks) - Students study the fundamental principles of the United States' Constitution that serve as the foundation of the United States government today.

Unit 3: The New Nation (1789 - 1820s) (6 weeks) - Students study how and why constitutional civil liberties were impacted by acts of government during the Early Republic, the changes in America's relationships with other nations, and how political parties were formed and continue to be shaped by differing perspectives.

Unit 4: Expansion and Reform (1801-1859) (6 weeks) - Students study how westward movement, industrial growth, increased immigration, the expansion of slavery, and the development of transportation systems increased regional tensions.

Unit 5: Civil War & Reconstruction (1860-1877) (6 weeks) - Students study how the Civil War resulted from complex regional differences involving political, economic, and social issues, as well as different views on slavery. Students learn that the Civil War and Reconstruction had a lasting impact on the development of the United States.

Big Ideas/[Enduring Understanding](#) (link to guide)

- Geographic features and climate influenced British colonial settlement in America and led to the creation of regional differences.
- Early government structures developed due to necessity, which helped lay the foundation for American democracy.
- The interactions among African, European, and Native American groups began a cultural transformation within the colonies.
- The War for American Independence was the result of growing ideological, political,

geographic, and economic tensions resulting from Great Britain's centralization policies and practices toward its 13 colonies.

- The Declaration of Independence stated reasons for separation from Great Britain and provided a rationale for revolution.
- The fundamental belief that the government gains its power from the people contributed to the Revolutionary movement.
- Important factors such as strong leadership, strategy, propaganda, and foreign help all contributed to an American victory.
- The Articles of Confederation created a weak central government that could not unify the 13 colonies and led to the need for the Constitutional Convention.
- The United States Constitution and Bill of Rights were designed to provide a framework for the American system of government, while also protecting individual rights.
- The United States utilized the newly formed government to address internal and external conflict.
- Compromise played an integral role in the creation of the United States Government.
- Decisions of the Washington, Adams, Jefferson and Madison administrations help meet the goals established in the Preamble of the Constitution.
- The Election of 1800 represented the first of many peaceful transitions of power between two political parties.
- The War of 1812 helped solidify America's independence from Great Britain and promoted the idea of nationalism
- Pressure for more arable land caused the federal government to forcibly acquire Native American lands in the South.
- Manifest Destiny was a popular philosophy of the 1840s that supported the idea that the United States was destined to dominate the entire continent.
- Westward movement, the expansion of slavery, and the development of transportation systems increased regional tension as well as with Native Americans
- Jacksonian Democracy increased the political involvement of the citizens of the United States
- Controversy over slavery in the United States and economic policies brought major shifts in the nation's political parties.
- Economic, cultural and regional differences threatened to tear the new nation apart.
- Sectional differences between the North and South created through various compromises led to numerous conflicts leading up to the Civil War.
- Reliance on the institution of slavery and the evolving role of self-government lead to the unsolved divisions / conflict developed from the Declaration of Independence.

[Essential Questions](#) (link to guide)

- What factors influenced the economic, social and political development of the three regions?
- When do citizens have a right to question and act against government authority?
- What role does propaganda play in influencing society?
- How did the American colonists gain their independence and create a republican form of government?
- Which factor contributed most to the American colonists gaining independence?
- How should people govern themselves?
- How did the failures and successes of the Articles of Confederation lead to the creation of the Constitution?

- What role did compromise have in ratifying the constitution and what effects did they have?
- How did the Constitution create a strong government that allowed for change and met the needs of the people?
- What internal and external challenges might a new nation face?
- Should the political opposition have the right to criticize a president's foreign and domestic policy?
- How did the leadership deal with unresolved issues/problems from the Constitution?
- What impact did Manifest Destiny have on America and neighboring nations and other groups within society? Revision - To what extent is territorial expansion positive or negative?
- How did technological innovations influence society?
- How was the Antebellum Period a political, economic, and social turning point in American History?
- In what ways do cultural perspectives lead to division in society?
- In what ways did the country sacrifice it's livelihood to ensure it's values and liberties in our national identity were guaranteed for all?
- What is the governments' role in providing and securing the rights of the individual?

[Reporting Student Progress](#) (link to pyramid)

All courses follow a balanced assessment system with Practice and Assessments. Each category includes formative, summative and alternative assessments.

[Accommodations and Modifications](#) (link to menu)

Integrated accommodations and modifications for special education students, English language learners, students at risk of school failure, gifted and talented students, and students with 504 plans

Resources (Text and Technology)

- Textbook – *National Geographic, American Stories, Beginnings Through 1877*
- America: The Story of US - Rebels Episode
- TedED
- Boston Massacre Investigation website - teacher created
- Junior Scholastic
- Videos: Media Center catalog, United Streaming, Discovery Education, Ted-Ed, personal teacher collection, America: The Story of US series, Liberty's Kids
- iCivics.org
- Discovery Education
- Ted-Ed
- History Channel
- School House Rock
- YouTube
- CNN10
- Andrew Jackson Biography (History Channel)
- America: The Story of US
- Oregon Trail Simulation