

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

History and Geography 500



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History and Geography 500 Course Overview

History and Geography 500 focuses on two major areas, American History and Geography. The course covers American History from early exploration through the Reconstruction, with special emphasis given to inventions and technology of the 19th and early 20th centuries, and geography of the Americas, with special emphasis on Mexico, Canada, and U.S. regional geography. These areas of focus target four major content strands: History, Geography, Government and Citizenship, and Social Studies Skills.

- **Unit 1:** Describe the early explorers and settlements in the New World
- **Unit 2:** Describe life in the American Colonies
- **Unit 3:** Explain the causes and results of the Revolutionary War
- **Unit 4:** Analyze the expansion into new territories and the causes/results of the Civil War
- **Unit 5:** Justify the aspects of technology and immigration that have helped the United States to grow
- **Unit 6:** Explain advancements in transportation and communication in the United States
- **Unit 7:** Identify and explain the unique geography, climate, population, and economy of each region of the United States
- **Unit 8:** Describe the geography, native cultures, and history of Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean
- **Unit 9:** Describe the geography, native cultures, and history of Canada
- **Unit 10:** Review the history of early America and its neighbors

Unit 1: Exploring the New World	
History and Geography 500	Assignments
	1. Course Overview
	2. Exploration Tools
	3. Maps
	4. Quiz 1: Exploration Tools
	5. Viking and Portuguese Explorers
	6. Spanish Explorers
	7. English Explorers
	8. French Explorers
	9. Dutch Explorers
	10. Quiz 2: European Explorers
	11. Early Settlements
	12. New England Colonies
	13. Middle Colonies
	14. Southern Colonies
	15. Project: Mapping*
	16. Quiz 3: Thirteen Colonies
	17. Special Project*
	18. Test
	19. Alternate Test*
	20. Glossary and Credits

Unit 2: Colonial American Life		
History and Geography 500	Assignments	
	1. Life in New England Colonies	11. Quiz 2: Life in the Middle Colonies
	2. Project: Family Tree*	12. Life in the Southern Colonies
	3. New England Clothing and Schools	13. Southern Activities
	4. New England Crafts	14. Essay: Historical Accuracy*
	5. New England Activities	15. Quiz 3: Life in the Southern Colonies*
	6. Quiz 1: Life in the New England Colonies	16. Special Project*
	7. Life in the Middle Colonies	17. Test
	8. Benjamin Franklin: A Successful Man	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Benjamin Franklin: A Good Citizen	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Essay: Franklin Proverbs*	

Unit 3: Thirteen Colonies Become a New Nation		
History and Geography 500	Assignments	
	1. A Search for Freedom	11. Quiz 3: A New Nation
	2. Problems with England	12. Democracy
	3. Quiz 1: A Search for Freedom	13. Project: Pledge of Allegiance
	4. War of Independence	14. Report: Government Leaders*
	5. Independence Declared	15. Quiz 4: Democracy
	6. A Turning Point Reached	16. Special Project*
	7. Essay: Revolutionary War*	17. Test
	8. Quiz 2: War of Independence	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Victory Declared	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. A New Nation	

Unit 4: New Lands and Troubled Times		
History and Geography 500	Assignments	
	1. The Louisiana Purchase	12. Project: Living on the Frontier
	2. Project: Colonies Map*	13. Quiz 2: Life on the Frontier
	3. The War of 1812	14. Problems Between the North and the South
	4. Project: Star Spangled Banner*	15. A Great Nation Divided by War
	5. Expansion from Sea to Sea	16. The Aftermath of the Civil War
	6. Project: Map of the United States*	17. Report: Colonial Perspective*
	7. Project: America the Beautiful*	18. Quiz 3: A Great Nation Divided by War
	8. Essay: Current Event*	19. Special Project*
	9. Quiz 1: Expansion from Sea to Sea	20. Test
	10. New England, Middle and Southern Colonies	21. Alternate Test*
	11. Life on the Frontier	22. Glossary and Credits

Unit 5: The United States Becomes a World Leader		
History and Geography 500	Assignments	
	1. Inventions and New Ideas	9. Immigration and Urbanization
	2. Development of Power	10. Essay: Biography
	3. Modern Explorations	11. Essay: Government Money*
	4. Essay: Conservation*	12. Quiz 3: Immigration and Urbanization
	5. Quiz 1: Inventions and New Ideas	13. Special Project*
	6. Industrialization	14. Test
	7. Power Struggles	15. Alternate Test*
	8. Quiz 2: Industrialization	16. Glossary and Credits

Unit 6: United By Transportation and Communication		
History and Geography 500	Assignments	
	1. Progress of Transportation in Early America	12. Printed and Postal Communication
	2. Land Transportation	13. Electronic Communication
	3. Water Transportation	14. Essay: Skit*
	4. Quiz 1: The Progress of Transportation in Early America	15. Modern Communication and the Government
	5. Essay: Family Travel*	16. Essay: Inventions
	6. Steamboat and Rail Transportation	17. Quiz 3: The Progress of Communication in the United States
	7. Essay: Tom Thumb*	18. Special Project*
	8. Progress of Transportation After 1800	19. Test
	9. Air Transportation	20. Alternate Test*
	10. Quiz 2: The Progress of Transportation After 1800	21. Glossary and Credits
	11. Progress of Communication in America	
Unit 7: The United States- One Nation with Many Regions		
History and Geography 500	Assignments	
	1. The New England States	11. Quiz 2: The Midwest and West
	2. The Middle Atlantic States	12. Alaska
	3. The Southern States	13. Hawaii and U.S. Island Possessions
	4. Report: State	14. Quiz 3: Alaska, Hawaii, and U.S. Island Possessions
	5. Quiz 1: the Northeast and South	15. Special Project*
	6. The Midwestern States (Part 1)	16. Test
	7. The Midwestern States (Part 2)	17. Alternate Test*
	8. Report: Captain's Diary*	18. Glossary and Credits
	9. Project: Atlas Work*	
	10. The Western States	
Unit 8: Our Southern Neighbors		
History and Geography 500	Assignments	
	1. Mexico: Contrasts in Geography	9. Central America: Contrasts in Daily Life
	2. Mexico: Contrasts in Cultures	10. Quiz 2: Central America: Region of Contrasts
	3. Mexico: Contrasts in Daily Life	11. Caribbean Islands
	4. Quiz 1: Mexico: Country of Contrasts	12. Quiz 3: Caribbean Islands
	5. Essay: Spanish and Native American Influence*	13. Special Project*
	6. Central America: Contrasts in Geography	14. Test
	7. Essay: Continental Divide	15. Alternate Test*
	8. Central America: Contrasts in Culture	16. Glossary and Credits
Unit 9: Canada: Our Northern Neighbor		
History and Geography 500	Assignments	
	1. Giant of the North	11. Spirit of Friendship
	2. Mosaic of People	12. Essay: Hudson Bay Company
	3. Essay: Inuits*	13. System of Government and Challenge of Unity
	4. Searchers of Gold, Glory, and Spices	14. Provinces of Canada
	5. Essay: Explorers Play*	15. Quiz 3: Modern Nation and Close Friend
	6. Quiz 1: Geography, People, and Early Exploration	16. Special Project*
	7. Glory of New France	17. Test
	8. A Century of Trial	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Canadian Confederation	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Quiz 2: Colonies: French and British	

Unit 10: Review	
Assignments	
History and Geography 500	1. European Countries and Explorers
	2. New World Colonies (Part 1)
	3. New World Colonies (Part 2)
	4. Quiz 1: Exploring and Colonizing the New World
	5. War for Independence
	6. Expansion and More War
	7. Quiz 2: The United States From Colony to Nation
	8. Industrialization, Immigration, Urbanization
	9. Communication and World Leadership
	10. The United States
	11. Quiz 3: The United States - A Great Nation and World Leader
	12. Mexico
	13. Central America, Caribbean Islands, Canada
	14. Essay: American's Creed*
	15. Quiz 4: Neighboring Nations
	16. Special Project*
	17. Test
	18. Alternate Test*
	19. Glossary and Credits

(*) Indicates alternative assignment