

**Honors American History I:  
The Founding Principles  
Fall 2019**

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**HONORS AMERICAN HISTORY I: THE FOUNDING PRINCIPLES** begins in 1492 AD with the European exploration of the New World and ends in 1892 AD by which time had expanded to the Pacific Ocean and the area of the modern-day lower 48 states had been settled.

This course has been designed to provide a framework for studying political, social, economic, and cultural issues, and for analyzing the impact these issues have had on American society over time. Students will learn about

- the origins of the United States from European exploration and colonial settlement to the Revolutionary and Constitutional eras
- the important political and economic factors that contributed to the development of colonial America and the outbreak of the American Revolution
- the consequences of the Revolution, including the writing and key ideas of the U.S. Constitution
- the establishment of political parties, America's westward expansion, and the growth of sectional conflict
- how sectional conflict led to the Civil War and about the consequences of the Civil War, including Reconstruction

This course is divided into eight units.

**UNIT 1: COLONIZATION, c. 1492-1763 AD** establishes the framework for the study of American History with a focus on the Founding Principles of the American Political, Social and Economic traditions. This unit begins with the colonization of the American continent by European powers.

**UNIT 2: REVOLUTION, c. 1763-1783 AD** explores the push for American self-government and independence from Great Britain.

**UNIT 3: CONSTITUTION, c. 1783-1789** studies how the legacy of British rule and the Enlightenment helped the colonists create a new Constitution.

**UNIT 4: THE FEDERALIST PERIOD, c. 1789-1815 AD** examines the new nation's first years from Washington's Administration through the War of 1812.

**UNIT 5: EXPANSION AND REFORM, c. 1815-1849** explores the growth of American nationalism following the War of 1812; economic and industrial development; and expansion of political participation. Students will also explore social and religious reform movements, westward expansion through the Mexican-American War, and the impact of American slavery.

**UNIT 6: CIVIL WAR, c. 1850-1865** explores the issues that led to division of the United States and the secession crisis, as well as the challenges faced by the United States and the Confederate States during the Civil War.

**UNIT 7: RECONSTRUCTION, c. 1865-1877** investigates the lasting effects of the Civil War and the struggles to rebuild the nation during the period of postwar Reconstruction.

**UNIT 8: THE WESTERN FRONTIER, c. 1862-1892** surveys conflicts between settlers, ranchers, miners, and Native Americans during the settling of the West.

## Expectations

1. Be kind! Demonstrate respect for yourself and others.
2. Act interested! Listen attentively. Participate politely. Ask insightful, relevant questions.
3. Follow directions!

## Rules

1. We are in a public space and polite, civil behavior is expected. Every member of the public has the right to education, and disruptions to others' ability to learn will not be tolerated.
2. Profanity, racist, sexist, homophobic, and other offensive or judgmental language will not be tolerated.
3. Respect others' personal space and do not touch other students.
4. Be on time. If you enter or leave the room once class has begun, don't make a grand entrance or exit.
5. Always ask permission before borrowing anything from anyone. Don't touch things that don't belong to you.
6. NEVER go behind my desk or sit in my chair without permission.
7. DON'T TOUCH THE THERMOSTAT! I keep the temperature around 70 degrees. If it's too cold for you, wear additional layers of clothing.
8. Email to me should be courteous, respectful, and professional in manner and tone. Anticipate 24-48 hours for a reply.
9. One individual is allowed to use the restroom at a time. Excessive restroom visits, failure to return quickly, or poor behavior will result in losing this privilege.
10. Drinks, food, and gum are not permitted.

## Electronics

- You are expected to immediately silence and store electronics when the bell rings to begin class. Do not wait for me to tell you.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices may not be used without express permission from me to use for a specific classroom activity.
- Cell phones and other electronic devices are not permitted to be visible if not in use for a class activity.
- Improper use of an electronic device will result in its confiscation.
- ***This is your only warning!***

## Class Supplies

You are required to bring these items with you to class each day.

- Blue or black ink pen
- Spiral notebook for note-taking and writing assignments
- Folder to collect handouts
- Pencil (required on test days)
- Special supplies may be necessary for projects

## Assignments

1. Complete work in blue or black ink only.
2. Homework assignments are due at the start of class. Anything submitted after assignment collection will be considered late. Late assignments will be accepted for a maximum of 70% credit.
3. Assignments without names will not be accepted.
4. Make-up work is acceptable only for excused absences. Make-up work is your responsibility. If you miss class, you must find out what you need to do.

## Testing, Extra Credit, and Cheating

1. Missed tests may be made up during SMART lunch.
2. Students with a score of 69% or below on a test may complete test corrections during Pride Time and then retest for a maximum test score of 70%.
3. Extra credit will not be offered.
4. Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in a discipline referral.

## Wakefield Honor Code

The students of Wakefield High School are committed to being honest and responsible in the completion of academic materials and interactions with the school administration and community. Cheating, stealing, plagiarism (passing off another's work, words, or ideas as one's own), and lying (including willful distortion or misrepresentation) are considered violations of the Honor Code. Through a joint fulfillment of this code, students and faculty will achieve their fullest potential in academic excellence and character.

## Grading

- 40% Tests and Projects
- 35% Classwork and Homework
- 25% Quizzes

## Absence Policy

Absent 1 day	1 extra day
Absent 2 days	2 extra days
Absent 3 days	3 extra days
Absent 4 or more days	2 days per day absent