

# U.S. History

## Lesson 1

*Date: September 08, 2023*

### Introduction

- a. Classroom preparation: Read pages xi-xiv in the McClay textbook.
- b. Expectations, *earning* grades, tests, and a 2-page paper on a subject to be determined.
- c. Why is the study of history important?
- d. What period of history will we be covering and why it is important.
- e. What happened in Europe to cause explorers to navigate the seas?

## Lesson 2

*Date: September 15, 2023*

### The Pilgrims & “Native” Americans

- a. Classroom preparation: Read pages 3-13 in the McClay textbook.
- b. The Aztecs, Incas, & Mayas. The Spanish, the French, and the late-comers to the party: the English. (Graff, *America: The Glorious Republic*, 44-61.)
- c. Who were the explorers before the Pilgrims arrived?
- d. England’s First Colonies.
- e. Why did the Pilgrims come to America? (Read the Mayflower Compact. You can access it here: ([www.gilderlehrman.org/sites/default/files/inline-pdfs/The%20Mayflower%20Compact.pdf](http://www.gilderlehrman.org/sites/default/files/inline-pdfs/The%20Mayflower%20Compact.pdf).)
- f. What did the Pilgrims believe? Why is that important? (Boorstin, *The Americans*, 5-28).
- g. The shaping of *British* North America.
- h. Who are the “native” Americans?
- i. How did the people we call “Indians” get here and why are they called “Indians”?
- j. Who brought the first slaves to America?
- k. At the height of slavery in the US, what percentage of the slaves throughout the world did the Americans own?
- l. How many Africans owned slaves? (82,000). Is slavery still a problem in the world today? Where does slavery still exist?

### **Lesson 3**

*Date: September 22, 2023*

#### **The Spirit of America & the Revolution of Self-Rule**

- a. Classroom preparation: Read pages 14-28 in the McClay textbook.
- b. The habit of self-rule molded the Spirit of America.
- c. How did the French and Indian War (1754-1763) cause British taxation of the colonists? What was this war called in Europe?
- d. What was the Stamp Act?
- e. What was the British view of the colonists?
- f. Why were British soldiers quartered in MA?
- g. What was “the Boston massacre”? What was the “Boston Tea Party”?
- h. Who were the “Sons of Liberty”?
- i. Describe Paul Revere’s ride.
- j. Homework: Read pages 28-51 in the McClay textbook.

### **Lesson 4**

*Date: September 29, 2023*

#### **The War of Independence**

- a.
- b. What does the Declaration of Independence state? (You can access it here: [https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript.](https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/declaration-transcript))
- c. George Washington on Leadership.
- d. The major battles won and lost.
- e. Crossing the Delaware.
- f. Valley Forge.
- g. Graff, 148-157.

*Date: October 06, 2023*

### **Fall Break**

*Date: October 13, 2023*

### **Lesson 5**

## **The War of Independence (II)**

- a. Classroom preparation: Read pages 52-73 in the McClay textbook.
- b.

### **Lesson 6**

*Date: October 20, 2023*

## **The Experiment Begins**

- a. Classroom preparation: Read pages 74-92 in the McClay textbook.
- b. The Articles of Confederation. (You can access this document here: <https://uscode.house.gov/download/annualhistoricalarchives/pdf/OrganicLaws2012/confederation.pdf>.)
- c. The Federalists & the Anti-Federalists.

## **Mid-Term Exam**

### **Lesson 7**

*Date: October 27, 2023*

### **Lesson 8**

*Date: November 03, 2023*

### **Lesson 9**

*Date: November 10, 2023*

### **Lesson 10**

*Date: November 17, 2023*

*Date: November 24, 2023*

## **Thanksgiving Break**

### **Lesson 11**

*Date: December 01, 2023*

## **Lesson 12**

*Date: December 08, 2023*

## **Final Exam**

### **Recommended Further Reading**

- Ahlstrom, Sydney, *A Religious History of the American People*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1972.
- Avlon, John, *Washington's Farewell*. NY: Simon & Schuster, 2017.
- Boorstin, Daniel J., *The Americans*. The Colonial Experience. NY: Vintage Books, 1958. (Winner of the Bancroft Prize in 1959).
- Boorstin, Daniel J. & Kelley, Brooks Mather, *A History of the United States*. Needham, MA: Prentice Hall, 1989.
- Borneman, Walter R., *The French and Indian War*. NY: Harper Perennial, 2006.
- Brookhiser, Richard, *George Washington on Leadership*. NY: Basic Books, 2008.
- Evans, M. Stanton, *The Theme Is Freedom*. Washington, D.C.: Regnery Publishing Inc., 1994.
- Graff, Henry F., *America*. The Glorious Republic. Vol. 1. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1986.
- Huntington, Samuel P., *Who Are We?* NY: Simon & Schuster, 2004.
- Johnson, Paul, *A History of the American People*. NY: Harper Perennial, 1997.
- McCullough, David, *1776*. NY: Simon & Schuster, 2005. (Pulitzer Prize Winner)
- Schweikart, Larry & Allen, Michael, *A Patriot's History of the United States*. NY: Sentinel, 2004.
- Shaara, Jeff, *The Glorious Cause*. NY: Ballantine Books, 2002. (Excellent historical novel.)
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Rise to Rebellion*. NY: Ballantine Books, 2005. (Another excellent historical novel.)