

History of the United States

I. Early History of the United States

- European explorers came to America in the 1400's
- looking for goods in Asia (China and India)
 - A. Native American Groups of the East and Midwest
 - 1. Eastern Woodlands
 - a. grew crops, hunted, fished, built canoes
 - 2. Plains Indians
 - a. hunted buffalo and grew crops
 - b. lived in semi-permanent villages
 - 3. Nomadic
 - a. move around a lot
 - B. Native American Groups of the West
 - 1. harsh dry climate, hard to grow crops
 - 2. lived in small scattered groups
 - 3. built with stone and adobe
 - 4. got resources from the ocean and forests
 - C. First European Settlements
 - 1. Europeans settlements began in 1500's
 - 2. *Dissenters-*
 - 3. Jamestown, Virginia in 1607
 - 4. Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1620
 - D. The English Colonies
 - 1. New England
 - a. rocky soil, cold climate
 - b. fishing and trading
 - 2. Middle Colonies
 - a. rich soil for farming
 - 3. Southern Colonies
 - a. warm climate good for farming

- b. *Plantations* –
- c. *Cash Crops* –

II. A New Country

A. Government in the Colonies

1. Each colony had its own government
2. Britain and France fought over territory
 - a. Britain won and gained new territory
 - b. Britain taxed the colonists and made new rules
 - c. The taxes angered the colonists

B. American Revolution and Beyond

1. 1774 each colony sent a representative to a meeting
 - a. called Continental Congress
 - b. drafted the Declaration of Independence
2. 1783 the Revolutionary War ends and US gains independence
 - a. Constitution was created

III. Expansion and Growth

- United States stretches to the Mississippi River
- New States were created
- Conflicts with Native Americans

A. Westward Expansion

1. Americans headed westward to find wealth
2. 1803 Louisiana Purchase – doubled the size of US
3. *Manifest Destiny* –
4. Government signed (and broke) land treaties with NA
5. Forced NA to live on reservations

B. Internal Divisions

1. North opposed slavery, South wanted to keep slavery
2. Led to Civil War

C. The Industrial Revolution

1. New machines made farming easier
2. Canals, steamboats, railroads transported goods faster
3. Cities grew, economy expanded

IV. A Developing Power

- Immigrants poured into the US from other countries

A. The Role of Immigration

1. 1900's – many Europeans came to America (italian, polish, hungarian)
2. Came to find new opportunities (jobs, freedom, new life)

B. The Great Depression and World War II

1. Great Depression – banks closed, lost jobs, lost homes
2. New Deal- FDR created new jobs and rules for banks.
3. WWII
 - i. Japan bombed USA at Pearl Harbor – brought US into WWII
 - ii. US and allies won in 1945

C. Expanding Prosperity

1. USA is world super power – economy expanded
2. Civil Rights Movement – 1960's movement for equality
 - i. African Americans struggle for equality