



Class Title: Orange US History: Foundations of America

Teacher Name: Candice Braun

Class Day: Friday

Class Size: 15

Class Cost: \$25

Class Fee: \$96

Ages or color group served: Orange

What level is this class: Level 3

Prerequisites: NA

Graduation Requirements: - HCU Attendance Policy

- 80% Homework Completion

- Final Project / Presentation

Homework Requirements: Students will complete a 1-page weekly journal response and a final research project (2–3 page paper or presentation).

Class Description:

****Class can be taken for a high school credit. Meeting content standards and will feature assessments.****

Students will explore the foundations of America from the first colonies through the Constitution by examining history through a moral and practical lens. Using a combination of engaging video resources, guided note sheets, and focused readings, students will learn how everyday choices and national decisions were shaped by both ideals and survival needs.

Each week, students will:

- Watch a video segment in class and complete guided notes.
- Respond to a weekly journal prompt (1 page) comparing moral vs. practical motivations.
- Participate in class discussion to build critical thinking skills.

At the end of the course, students will complete a final project based on a particular colony and its history.

Week 1:

Foundations

Jamestown & Pocahontas → motives for colonization

Week 2:

Foundations

Plymouth & Puritans → community & belief shaping society

Week 3:

Foundations

Colonial regions & slavery begins → moral vs. practical growth

Week 4:

Seeds of Independence

French & Indian War → taxes, Britain's debt, rising tensions

Week 5:

Seeds of Independence

Tea Party, Intolerable Acts, First Congress

Week 6:

Seeds of Independence

Patrick Henry, Midnight Ride, Lexington & Concord

Week 7:

Revolution

Fort Ticonderoga, Bunker Hill, Washington takes command

Week 8:

Revolution

Week 9:

Revolution

Moral vs. practical debate → "Was the Revolution won more by ideals or by strategy?"

Week 10:

Building a Nation

Articles of Confederation & Shays' Rebellion

Week 11:

Building a Nation

Constitution & Bill of Rights

Week 12:

Building a Nation

Final class: Debate or presentations