

Fall 2024 DE Early U.S. History @ Cosby High School

Instructor	Email	Office Location & Hours
A. Hillery Griffin	griffinh@cocke.k12.tn.us	3:15-3:45, CHS RM 111, Daily

## General Information

**Required Text: Alan Brinkley, Unfinished Nation**

### Instructional and Evaluation Methods:

- Exams and quizzes, Essays and Assignments - 60%
  - All essays must be submitted via DropBox on eLearn. They will be rated by TurnItIn which checks for plagiarism. A TurnItIn rating greater than 50% will not be graded and the student will either accept a zero grade or resubmit the assignment.
  - Each student may choose to resubmit up to 3 essays to improve his/her grade.
- Participation and Discussion Board – 25%
  - Students will have a weekly discussion board, especially if the school/college is not meeting in-person.
  - Participation will involve in-class activities and cannot be made up if absent.
- National History Day – 15%
  - Students will complete an in-depth research project related to the theme “Frontiers in History: People, Places, and Ideas.”

Grades will be maintained on eLearn, not ASPEN.

**Grading Scale:**

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0-59

# Assignments/Projects:

## ESSAY TOPICS THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER

Compare the efforts of the Spanish, French, and British to explore and colonize the New World. What motivated each group? Where did they explore and settle? How did they interact with the native population? What types of settlements did they establish?

Discuss the factors that led to the American Revolution. What did the English do to anger the colonists? How did the colonists respond? How did the colonists' reactions lead to greater tension?

Describe the three major phases of the Revolutionary War. Who were the leaders involved in each phase on each side? What were the major events of each phase? How did Americans win the war?

Explain the problems that led to the drafting of a new Constitution. What occurred during the writing of the Constitution? Who was involved? What were the issues that emerged during the ratification process?

Describe the causes, course, and consequences of the War of 1812. What events led to the war? What were some of the major battles of the war (don't just list the battles, why were they important)? How did the war end? What problems were revealed by the war? What actions did the government take to resolve those problems during and after the war?

Discuss the history of the Bank of the US. Why was the First Bank chartered? What were some of the concerns about the First Bank? Why was the Second Bank chartered? What were the arguments of those who opposed the Second Bank? What actions did Andrew Jackson take against the Second Bank? What actions did Nicholas Biddle take in his attempts to protect the bank? What happened to the economy because of Jackson's actions?

How did the expansion of territory contribute to the sectional divisions in the United States? Give specific examples and explain how each problem was handled.

Choose a current world event/issue. How has the study of this period of American history helped to be able to better understand what is going on in the world today?

Choose an event we have studied this semester that is similar to a current event. Compare the two events.

I will be looking for you to write details in the essay, not generalities. Remember to cite any outside sources (news articles or reports, etc.) that you consult. **All Essays must be submitted via eLearn and have a Turn-It-In score lower than 50%.**

## Tentative Course Schedule

\*Subject to change per course news item\*

Week Of	Topic/Activity
Aug 12	Introduction, European Backgrounds Exploration and Settlement
Aug 19	Colonization
AUg 26	Colonial Culture
Sep 3	Toward the Revolution
Sept 9	The Revolution
Sept 16	Building a New Nation The Constitution Federalists vs. Republicans
Sept 23	The Age of Jefferson

Sept 30	The War of 1812 The Era of Good Feelings Growing Nationalism
Oct 15	Jacksonian Democracy
Oct 21	Culture and Economy
Oct 28	Reform & Slavery
Nov 4	The South
Nov 11	The Impending Crisis
Nov 18	The Civil War
Dec 2	Reconstruction
Dec 9	<b>Final Exam</b>