

ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY SUMMER STUDY, 2010

COLONIAL AMERICA

You should prepare for AP United States History by reading **selected parts** of Alan Taylor's The American Colonies: The Settling of North America (New York: Penguin Press, 2001). It is edited by Eric Foner and is available very cheaply from Amazon.com (ISBN number: 978-0-14-200210-0). Alan Taylor is a Pulitzer Prize winning historian, and this book encompasses the entire colonial era, from 1492-1775, which is much of the first part of this course. It covers the diversity and environmental contrasts of all the continental and island settlements of North America. In addition it provides an excellent introduction to a variety of issues associated with American culture, politics, race, ethnicity, and gender.

The text is divided into three parts – Encounters, Colonies, and Empires. **Choose one chapter from each of the three parts of the book and respond to the questions or list of topics for those three chapters.** Short answer responses will be sufficient. Your answers to these questions will be assessed according to their clarity, succinctness, and extent to which they reflect a critical understanding of the content. Write in complete sentences (hand written or typed) and in your own voice.

PART ONE: ENCOUNTERS

Chapter One: Natives, 13,000 B.C.-A.D. 1492

- Old world explorers encountered in the new world complex and diverse people – who were they?
- Pre-Columbian America is “fraught with controversy.” What conflicts were they?
- Briefly outline Taylor's three ideas about migration.

Chapter Two: Colonizers, 1400-1800

- Why does Taylor make such a big issue about environmentalism?
- What does Taylor write about slavery in the New World?
- How significant was Renaissance science and technology for the colonizers?

Chapter Three: New Spain, 1500-1600

- Briefly summarize Taylor's assessment of **three** of the following:
 - Conquests
 - Conquistadores
 - Consolidation
 - Colonists
 - Empire
 - Gold and Silver

Chapter Four: The Spanish Frontier, 1530-1700

- Where did Hernando de Soto explore? What was his legacy?
- Why and how did Florida become the focus of New Spain?
- What was the Pueblo Revolt? How did it begin and what happened to cause the fanaticism?

Chapter Five: Canada and Iroquoia, 1500-1660

- What was the role of Canada in the development of New France?
- Analyze and characterize The Five Nation Iroquois.
- How did destruction befall the organized settling of the New World?

PART TWO: COLONIES

Chapter Six: Virginia, 1570-1650

- What was the social composition of the Virginia colony?
- What was the encounter between Powhatan Indians and the colonies, and, according to Taylor, who had the higher culture of the two peoples?
- What is the significance of tobacco?

Chapter Seven: Chesapeake Colonies, 1650-1750

- What were the significant differences between the Virginia and Chesapeake colonies?
- Why are labor, health, and profit the driving motives of Chesapeake settlers?
- Discuss the class structure in the Chesapeake colonies.

Chapter Eight: New England, 1600-1700

- Analyze and identify the Puritan values of period and place.
- What was the Great Migration all about?
- Compare and contrast family life in New England. Pay special attention to the role of women.

Chapter Nine: Puritans and Indians, 1600-1700

- What are Taylor's major concerns about the culture and contributions of Native Americans?
- Discuss the issues and causes of the Pequot War.
- Why did war break out in 1676 as King Philip's War? What type of war did it become, and what was the end result?

Chapter Ten: The West Indies, 1600-1700

- What was Taylor's motivation for this study of the West Indies?
- Why did the sugar industry become the economic backbone of the Indies?
- What does Taylor have to say about the importance of Jamaica? What is his central argument?

Chapter Eleven: Carolina, 1670-1760

- Why does Taylor have a section discussing the gun trade?
- Why did rice become the dominant crop of the Carolinas?
- What is Taylor's conclusion about the Carolinas during this century?

Chapter Twelve: Middle Colonies, 1600-1700

- What was Taylor's assessment of the Dutch Empire?
- How did Pennsylvania become the center of the Middle Colonies?
- What was the status of religion in the Middle Colonies?

PART THREE: EMPIRES

Chapter Thirteen: Revolutions, 1685-1730

- To what extent does Taylor agree with John Adams' argument that the revolution began in the hearts and minds of the colonists long before war broke out?
- Briefly summarize the historical significance and impact on colonial development of each of the following:
 - Glorious Revolutions
 - Colonial and Indian War
 - War of the Spanish Succession

Chapter Fourteen: The Atlantic, 1700-1780

- Briefly discuss the historical significance and impact on colonial development of **three** of the following:
- English Emigrants
 - Germans
 - Scots
 - Pluralism
 - Africans
 - "New Negroes"
 - African-Americans

Chapter Fifteen: Awakenings, 1700-1775

- Briefly discuss the historical significance and impact on colonial development of each of the following:
- Revivals
 - George Whitefield
 - Old Lights and New Lights

Chapter Sixteen: French America, 1650-1750

- Briefly discuss the historical significance and impact on colonial development of each of the following:
- Emigrants
 - The Upper Country
 - Louisiana

Chapter Seventeen: The Great Plains, 1680-1800

Briefly discuss the historical significance and impact on colonial development of each of the following:

- Horses and Guns
- Texas
- Comanche and Apache

Chapter Eighteen: Imperial Wars and Crisis, 1739-1775

Briefly discuss the historical significance and impact on colonial development of **three** of the following:

- Renewed War
- Balance of Power
- The Seven Years War
- Indian Rebellions
- Imperial Crisis
- Empire of Liberty

Chapter Nineteen: The Pacific, 1760-1820

Briefly discuss the historical significance and impact on colonial development of **three** of the following:

- Russians
- Alta California
- Crossings
- Missions
- Islands
- Nootka
- Kamehameha

When I see you in August you should have brief responses to the questions from one chapter from each of the three parts of the text. By doing this you will get a sense of colonial America without having to spend a huge amount of time this summer or having to read the entire text. This content is integral to much of the first three units of AP US History. Please don't hesitate to contact me during the summer if you have any questions. I can be reached at hurtj@siskorea.org or tony_hurt@hotmail.com

Have a wonderful summer, enjoy the reading, and I'll look forward to seeing you in August.

Best wishes,

Mr. Hurt

