

Categories 1, 2, 3, & 4 – History, Geography, Culture, Government, & Economics During the Colonial Era: 1607-1759

EUROPEAN EXPLORATION AND COLONIZATION

colonialism: establishment of settlers and traders from a nation in an area outside the nation's boundaries; European nations established colonial empires for "gold, God, and glory" (economic, religious, and political or social reasons)

1607: first permanent British settlement in North America was founded at Jamestown, Virginia

1620: Pilgrims signed Mayflower Compact and arrived in Plymouth Colony. By 1733, there were 13 British colonies.



Map of North America, 1650

Reason Description political European rivalries caused nations to compete with each other to establish colonial empires throughout the world, extending their wealth and power (primarily via trade)

Example: New Netherland was founded by the Dutch. In 1664, it was surrendered to the British (without battle) and renamed New York.

religious some colonies were founded for religious reform or freedom to escape religious persecution (mistreatment)

Example: Puritans founded Massachusetts to reform Church of England

economic some colonies were founded as business ventures for gain; charter companies funded by private investors

Example: London Company (Virginia Company) founded Jamestown

social some colonies' laws created a different kind of society

Example: At the time of its founding, Georgia's laws allowed debtors to make a fresh start, limited farm size, and prohibited slavery.

IMMIGRANT GROUPS

During the colonial era, white immigrants were from British, Irish, Scottish, and Welsh, Dutch, or German, and Protestant. Most immigrants came for economic reasons and a better life compared to the poor working and living conditions in Europe.

indentured servant: person who worked for a number of years without wages in exchange for their passage to the colonies (servants)

Immigrants also came to the colonies for religious reasons.

Group Religious Reason for Migration Puritans to reform or purify Church of England in Massachusetts

Pilgrims to escape persecution and separate from Church of England

Quakers to escape religious persecution in England and Pennsylvania

Catholics to escape religious persecution in England and Maryland

TRANSATLANTIC TRADE AND SPREAD OF SLAVERY

Unlike indentured servants, slaves were forced to migrate to the colonies (ending in a horrible death) and they were not allowed to gain their freedom.

There were few slaves, but the demand for labor and the factors caused slavery to spread in the 17th and 18th centuries.



British Slave Ship Design

Plantation: large farm that produced "cash crops" for export, including tobacco, indigo, and rice. Southern plantations had much more than one farm.

Transatlantic trade: regular trade route moved slaves from Africa to the Americas, and manufactured goods from the Americas to Europe.

slave: person who was forced to work for another person without pay. Most African, and colored people were slaves.

CULTURE AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Migrants brought their cultures together. Examples: Indian, Native American, European, and African exchanged information, goods (crops, sea shells, furs). Slaves provided labor and skills, like ironworking.

Conflict Resolution some colonists disagreed with strict Puritan rule in Massachusetts establishment of colonial legislatures more political, religious freedom

William Penn wanted Indian lands treaty between Penn and Indians

fur traders and settlers conflicted with French and Indians in west French and Indian War; British won in 1759; France ceded land

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE THIRTEEN COLONIES

Most colonists lived on small, self-sufficient farms. A few small port cities connected the colonies to other, British, and other markets. Geographic, human, and economic differences existed among colonies.

Map: Thirteen British Colonies, 1754

Map of the Thirteen Colonies with legend: Western Border, Appalachian Mtns., Port City, New England Colonies, Middle Colonies, Southern Colonies. Includes text boxes for New England Colonies, Middle Colonies, and Southern Colonies.

New England Colonies: human characteristics: settled mostly by white Protestants of different faiths for religious and economic reasons

geography: good farm land, fur resources, and cool climate

economy: ship building, fishing, sailing, and crafts

Middle Colonies: human characteristics: settled mostly by white Protestants of different faiths for religious and economic reasons

geography: good farm land, fur resources, and cool climate

economy: farming, furs

Southern Colonies: human characteristics: settled mostly for economic reasons; slavery began in late 17th century

geography: good farm land, warm climate

economy: small farms; plantations exported cash crops

IMMIGRANTS AND ENVIRONMENT AND INNOVATIONS

Immigrants altered the environment in the colonies by clearing trees, cultivating farms, trading in fur, and creating port cities. They also introduced deadly diseases that killed many Indians, decimating tribes.

Benjamin Franklin's invention increased heat output; replaced fireplaces

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND FIRST GREAT AWAKENING

Religious persecution (like by Puritans) lessened and religious freedom grew as colonists accepted the presence of different (Christian) faiths.

Examples: Rhode Island Charter of 1663 separated church and state, where government addressed only "civil things." Maryland Toleration Act of 1649 protected Christian faiths, but not Judaism. Pennsylvania Charter of Privileges (1701) gave freedom of religion to all monotheists.

first great awakening: emotional sermons at revival meetings in 1730s; made faith more personal for many whites and blacks; some converted to certain Protestant faiths; first black Baptist churches were founded

FOUNDATIONS OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

representative government: power and right to govern come from the people who choose leaders to make and enforce the law on their behalf

Enlightenment: philosophy of reason (thinking) as guide for society; Montesquieu argued for separation of powers (executive, legislative, and judicial); John Locke argued for government by consent of the

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