

# U.S. History to 1865- Study Guide – 2023 standards

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## STANDARD USI.5 – SHAPING COLONIAL AMERICA

### USI.5A - NEW ENGLAND, THE MID-ATLANTIC, AND THE SOUTHERN COLONIES

Colonies	Geography & Climate	Economy & Specialization	Social & Religious life	Political / civic life
<b>New England</b> (Massachusetts, New Hampshire)	Rocky soil, forests, long winters, short growing season  <b>Plymouth Colony</b> was settled by <b>separatists</b> from the <b>Church of England</b> who wanted to avoid <b>religious persecution</b> . <b>Massachusetts Bay Colony</b> was settled by the <b>Puritans</b> to avoid <b>religious persecution</b> .	Fishing, shipbuilding, logging, whaling, small-scale farming	Very religious (mostly Puritans), close-knit communities	Town meetings
<b>Mid-Atlantic</b> (e.g., New York, Pennsylvania)	Rich soil, moderate climate, navigable rivers  <b>Pennsylvania</b> was settled by the <b>Quakers</b> , who wanted freedom to <b>practice their faith</b> without interference.	Grains (called the "breadbasket"), livestock, iron, trading	Diverse religions (Quakers, Catholics, Jews), mix of rural & urban life	Market towns
<b>Southern Colonies</b> (Virginia, Georgia)	Fertile soil, warm climate, long growing season  <b>Roanoke Island</b> (Lost Colony) was established as an economic venture. <b>Jamestown Settlement</b> , the first permanent English settlement in North America (1607), was an <b>economic venture</b> by the <b>Virginia Company</b> . <b>Georgia</b> was settled by people who had been in <b>debtors' prisons</b> in England. They hoped to experience economic freedom and start a <b>new life</b> in the New World.	Large plantations (tobacco, rice, indigo), slavery, cash crops	Anglican Church (Church of England) common, spread-out farms, elite plantation culture	Counties

### USI.5b – Virginia's Importance

b) explaining Virginia's importance as one of the **most populous and wealthiest colonies**

#### 🔑 Why Was Virginia So Important?

- Founded in 1607,**  
**Jamestown** was the first permanent English settlement in North America.
- It became wealthy due to the **tobacco industry**, which made Virginia a center of trade and agriculture.
- The colony's success **encouraged the growth** of other English colonies.
- Virginia had the **largest population** and the most land, giving it **power and influence**.



#### 🏛️ Early Government

- In 1619, Virginia created the **House of Burgesses**, the first **representative assembly** in the colonies.
- This gave colonists a voice and helped shape the **idea of self-rule**.



## USI.5c - LIFE IN COLONIAL SOCIETY

c) compare life from the perspectives of various groups including, but not limited to large landowners, farmers, artisans, clergy, merchants, women, indentured servants, and enslaved and free Blacks;

The colonies were made up of different groups of people whose lives varied greatly depending on their social position.

### Large landowners

- Lived predominately in the **South**
- Relied on **indentured servants and/or enslaved African Americans** for labor

### Farmers

- **Grew crops** for local use, owned small plots of land
- Relied on family members for labor



### White Women

- Had few legal rights; managed homes and helped on farms or in businesses
- Were **not allowed to vote**

### Freed African Americans

- Were able to **own/inherit land in some cases**
- Had **limited rights**, but some owned businesses or land, especially in the North

### Indentured servants

- Worked for 4–7 years in **exchange for passage** to America
- Were **free** at the end of their contract

### Enslaved African Americans

- Were **captured** in their native Africa and **sold** to slave traders; then were shipped to the colonies where they were **sold into slavery**
- Were **owned as property** for life and did not have **any rights**.



### Clergy

- Religious leaders, very respected

### Artisans

- **Skilled workers** like blacksmiths, carpenters, and shoemakers



### Merchants

- Traded **goods** and managed **businesses**
- Lived in towns and cities

## USI.5D - SPECIALIZATION AND INTERDEPENDENCE

d) explain the specialization and interdependence of the regions

Economic specialization and interdependence existed among the colonies in the production of goods and services.

### 🔑 What Is Specialization?

**Specialization** means focusing on **producing one or two main products** or services.

- Ex: The South specialized in **tobacco**, while New England specialized in **shipbuilding**.

### 🔒 What Is Interdependence?

**Interdependence** means relying on each other for goods and services.

- New England needed **food from the South**.
- The South needed ships and **tools from New England**.

### 💡 Why It Mattered

- **Specialization** improved **productivity** but created a need for **trade** between the regions.
- It also tied the **colonies more closely together**—and to **Great Britain**.

Colonies	Specialization	Examples of Interdependence
<b>New England</b>	Fishing, shipbuilding, naval supplies, metal tools and equipment	The New England colonies <b>depended</b> on the Southern colonies for <b>crops</b> such as tobacco, rice, cotton, and indigo. They <b>depended</b> on the Mid-Atlantic colonies for <b>livestock and grains</b> .
<b>Mid-Atlantic</b>	Livestock, grains, fish	The Mid-Atlantic colonies <b>traded</b> with the Southern and New England colonies to get the products they did not produce. The Mid-Atlantic colonies <b>depended</b> on the Southern colonies for tobacco, rice, indigo, and forest products. They <b>traded</b> with the New England colonies for <b>metal tools and equipment</b> .
<b>South</b>	Tobacco, rice, indigo, forest products (lumber, tar, pitch)	The Southern colonies <b>depended</b> on the New England colonies for <b>manufactured goods</b> , including <b>metal tools and equipment</b> . They <b>depended</b> on the Mid-Atlantic colonies for <b>grains and other agricultural</b> products not plentiful in the South.

## STANDARD US1.5E

### RELATIONS BETWEEN COLONIES & GREAT BRITAIN

e) explain the changing political and economic relationships between the colonies and Great Britain including, but not limited to representative government and self-rule in the colonies.

Great Britain established and attempted to maintain control over the colonies.

#### Economic relationships

- Great Britain imposed **strict control over trade**.
- Great Britain **taxed the colonies** after the French and Indian War.
- The colonies **traded raw materials for goods** made in Great Britain.



#### ☞ The French and Indian War (1754–1763)

- Fought between Britain and France (and their Native allies) over land in North America.
- Britain won**, but it was expensive.
- To pay off war debts, Britain started **taxing the colonies**, like the **Stamp Act** and **Tea Act**.

#### ★ Results

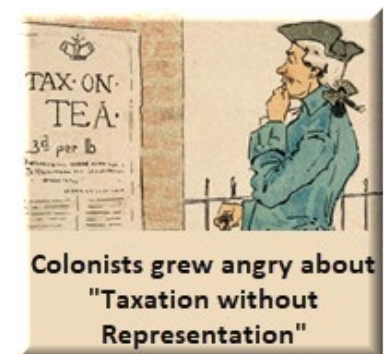
- Colonists became angry at **“taxation without representation.”**
- Britain **tightened control**, limiting colonial assemblies and increasing British troops.
- Tensions** grew and eventually led to the **American Revolution**.

#### Political relationships

- Colonists had to **obey British laws**, which were enforced by governors.
- Colonial governors** were **appointed by the king** or by the proprietor.
- A **colonial legislature** made laws for each colony but was **monitored** by the **colonial governor**.

#### 🏰 Before the French and Indian War

- Great Britain allowed **some self-rule**, such as in Virginia’s House of Burgesses.
- The colonies sent **raw materials** to Britain and bought **manufactured goods** in return.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

### *What nations colonized North America?*

Mainly **England**, **France**, and **Spain**.

### *How did geography affect development?*

It shaped what people **grew**, **made**, and **traded**.

### *What role did religion play?*

It influenced daily life, education, and laws—especially in **New England**.

### *What were colonial social structures?*

Society was divided by **wealth**, **race**, **gender**, and **status** (e.g., free vs. enslaved).

### *How did the colonies and Britain interact economically?*

Colonies provided **raw materials**; Britain sold them **finished goods**.

### *What caused changes in their relationship?*

The French and Indian War and **new British taxes** on the colonies.

### *What is specialization and interdependence?*

**Specialization** is focusing on one product; **interdependence** is relying on trade with others.

### *Why was Virginia important?*

It had wealth from **tobacco**, a large **population**, and early **self-government**.