

## **AMERICAN HISTORY 8A**

This course teaches the student how the history of the United States has developed within a broader context of human cultural development in the New World.

### Unit I - Prehistory and Colonial Exploration

1. Arrival and cultural pattern of prehistoric immigrants from Asia
2. Evolution of major Native American civilizations
3. Environmental effects on Native American culture
4. Early European exploration
5. Spanish settlement and exploration
6. The French Empire in North America
7. Other North American colonial settlements

### Unit II - The English Colonies

1. English explorations and the settlement of Virginia
2. The settlement of the New England colonies
3. New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware
4. The Southern colonies

### Unit III - The Colonial Way of Life

1. How and why people immigrated to America
2. Origins of the immigrants and settlement patterns
3. How people worked in the colonies, employment & economics
4. Education and cultural life in colonial America

### **Unit IV - The French and English Conflicts**

1. The early wars between the French and the British
2. The French & Indian War, the final struggle for control of North America
3. The beginnings of colonial resistance to Great Britain

### **Unit V - Revolution and Independence**

1. The beginning of armed conflict, the escalation of events culminating in the Lexington and Concord fights
2. The War for Independence-Washington takes command
3. War In the North-Saratoga and the New York and New Jersey campaigns
4. Colonial victory, the Western and the Southern campaigns, Yorktown
5. The first union of the states-the Articles of Confederation
6. The development of the new Constitution