

We The People: A New Nation

First edition. May 2018.

STUDENT READINGS

Part I: The New Nation – Framing of the Constitution to Early Republic (1783-1800)

Selected Key Events	Selected Key People	Selected Key Terms
Treaty of Paris, 1763 Shays' Rebellion Constitutional Convention Jay Treaty Proclamation of Neutrality	James Madison George Washington John Adams Alexander Hamilton Eli Whitney	land ordinances Bill of Rights federalist/anti-federalist Alien, Naturalization, and Sedition Acts

Part II: The Expanding Nation – Election of 1800 through War of 1812 (1800-1819)

Second Great Awakening Louisiana Purchase Embargo Act War of 1812	Thomas Jefferson John Marshall Lewis and Clarke Tecumseh	Jeffersonian democracy cotton economy domestic slave trade Western Confederacy
--	---	---

Part III: The Changing Nation – 1819 to Jacksonian Democracy (1819-1835)

Panic of 1819 Missouri Compromise Era of Good Feelings	Henry Clay Andrew Jackson	American Colonization Society Indian removal
--	------------------------------	---

PRIORITIZING UNDER-REPRESENTED HISTORIES

- Understands the U.S. Constitution as an imperfect document that reflects the anxieties and the racial prejudices of the time period; uses the writing of the slave trade clause to illustrate the framers' thinking process and political concessions.
- Describes the expansion of slavery and how enslaved people experienced slavery, resisted, and used the Constitution to argue for abolition.
- Presents the dispossession of Native peoples as rooted in a quest for raw materials, foreign policy negotiations, and racism; the central role Native peoples played in the War of 1812; and the complex structures of Cherokee society.
- Illustrates the shift in U.S. policy from assimilation to violence over a 40-year period.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH LESSONS

A short description of each lesson can be found on the unit webpage [here](#).

Students will:

Apply map reading and primary source analysis protocols to understand treaty negotiations and Native peoples' points of view during the 1780s.

Trace the evolution of the slave trade clause to its final form in the Constitution through James Madison's notes.

Analyze economic and population data showing the growth of the cotton economy.

Compare and contrast the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

Evaluate continuity and change over time in the broadening of political and social rights to today through primary source excerpts.

Argue from primary source excerpts positions on the question, "What should be the relationship between religion and government in the new nation?"

Connect the United States to the Haitian Revolution through a Document Based Question (DBQ).

LINKS FOR FURTHER CURRICULUM EVALUATION

Videos - A free online [video collection](#) accompanies this unit, and the videos are incorporated throughout the Digital Editions. These selected videos highlight under-represented voices:

- [What are some common misconceptions about slavery in the United States?](#)
- [How did interactions between Indian and European groups in the West change after 1800?](#)
- [How did gender shape the experiences of slavery?](#)

Print Format - This unit [preview](#) includes the table of contents, a reading excerpt, and a sample lesson plan.

Digital Editions Format - Interested in what the Digital Editions format looks like? Check out our web-based curriculum [here](#).