

Topic #1 Overview

Main Themes:

1. The origins and objectives of England's first settlements in the New World.
2. How and why English colonies - mainland and Caribbean -- differed from one another in purpose and administration.
3. The problems that arose as colonies matured and expanded, and how colonists attempted to solve them.
4. How the Spanish colonial system functioned and thrived, and its impact on the British colonies.
5. The impact that events in England had on the development of colonies in British America.

Objectives: [You should be able to explain each of these in some detail]

1. The differences between the Jamestown and Plymouth colonies in terms of objectives, types of settlers, early problems, and reasons for success.
2. How the lives of colonists were shaped by contact with Native Americans and how the Indians' world was also transformed.
3. The causes and significance of Bacon's Rebellion.
4. The background of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and its founders, the Puritans.
5. The conditions in Puritan Massachusetts Bay that spawned such dissenters as Robert Williams and Anne Hutchinson.
6. The expansion of the original settlements and the influence of the New World frontier on the colonists.
7. The significance of the Caribbean colonies in the British-American colonial system.
8. How the Spanish colonies in the Caribbean and in North America continued to flourish and the impact this had on the British-American colonial system.
9. The reasons for the founding of each of the original thirteen colonies and the West Indian provinces.
10. The early economic, religious, and political factors in the colonies that tended to produce sectional differences.
11. The effect of the Glorious Revolution on the development of the American colonies.