

**Davison Community Schools**  
**8th Grade U.S. History**

**Course Outline**

- Unit 1: Foundations of a New Nation
  - Unit 2: Forming a New Nation
  - Unit 3: Launching the New Republic  
Alexander Hamilton biography Novel Study
  
  - Unit 4: Regional Growth
  - Unit 5: Economic Growth and Reform
  - Unit 6: Civil War and Reconstruction  
A Soldier's Heart Novel Study
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**Priority Standards**

F1.1 Describe the ideas, experiences, and interactions that influenced the colonists' decisions to declare independence by analyzing:

- colonial ideas about government.
- experiences with self-government.

Examples may include but are not limited to: limited government, republicanism, protecting individual rights and promoting the common good, representative government, natural rights, House of Burgesses and town meetings, changing interactions with the royal government of Great Britain after the French and Indian War.

F1.3 Describe the consequences of the American Revolution by analyzing and evaluating the relative influences of:

- Establishment of an independent republican government
- Creation of the Articles of Confederation
- Changing views on freedom and equality
- Concerns over the distribution of power within government, between government and the governed, and among people

8 – U3.3.3 Describe the major issues debated at the Constitutional Convention, including the distribution of political power among the states and within the federal government, the conduct of foreign affairs, commerce with tribes, rights of individuals, the election of the executive, and the enslavement of Africans as a regional and federal issue.

8 – U3.3.4 Explain how the new Constitution resolved (or compromised) the major issues, including sharing and separation of power and checking of power among federal government institutions; dual sovereignty (state-federal power); rights of individuals; the Electoral College; the Three-Fifths Compromise; the Great Compromise; and relationships and affairs with tribal nations.

8 – U4.1.2 Establishing America's Place in the World – assess the changes in America's relationships with other nations by analyzing the origins, intents, and purposes of treaties. Examples may include but are not limited to: The Jay Treaty (1795), French Revolution, Pinckney's Treaty (1795), Louisiana Purchase, War of 1812, and the Monroe Doctrine.

8 – U4.1.3 Challenge of Political Conflict – examine the origins and intentions of early American political parties, including how they emerged, who participated, and what influenced their ideologies. Examples may include but are not limited to: examine the competing ideas, experiences, and fears of Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton (and their followers), despite the worries the Founders had concerning the dangers of political division, by analyzing disagreements over relative power of the national government, the Whiskey Rebellion, Alien and Sedition Acts, foreign relations, economic policy, the creation of a national bank, assumption of revolutionary debt.

8 – U4.2.1 Comparing the Northeast and the South – compare and contrast the social and economic systems of the Northeast, the South, and the Western Frontier (Kentucky, Ohio Valley, etc.) with respect to geography, climate, and the development of:

- agriculture, including changes in productivity, technology, supply and demand, and price.
- industry, including the entrepreneurial development of new industries, such as textiles.
- the labor force, including labor incentives and changes in labor forces.
- transportation, including changes in transportation (steamboats and canal barges) and the impact on economic markets and prices.
- immigration and the growth of nativism.
- race relations.
- class relations.

8 – U4.2.2 The Institution of Slavery – explain the ideology of the institution of slavery, its policies, and consequences.

8 – U4.2.3 Westward Expansion – analyze the annexation of the west through the Louisiana Purchase, the removal of Indigenous Peoples from their ancestral homelands, the Mexican-American War, the growth of a system of commercial agriculture, and the idea of Manifest Destiny. Examples may include but are not limited to: The Indian Removal Act of 1830 (the Trail of Tears, the Trail of Death), the Treaty of Chicago (1833), the Treaty of Fort Wayne (1809).

8 – U4.3.2 Describe the formation and development of the abolitionist movement by considering the roles of key abolitionist leaders and the response of southerners and northerners to the abolitionist movement. Examples may include but are not limited to: John Brown and the armed resistance, Harriet Tubman, the Underground Railroad, Sojourner Truth, Maria Stewart, William Lloyd Garrison, and Frederick Douglass.

8 – U4.3.3 Analyze the antebellum women’s rights (and suffrage) movement by discussing the goals of its leaders and comparing primary source documents from this era to the Declaration of Independence. Examples may include but are not limited to: Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton; the Declaration of Sentiments, Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s Address on Women’s Rights (September 1848).

8 – U5.2.1 Discuss the social, political, economic, and cultural reasons for secession.

8 – U5.2.2 Make an argument to explain the reasons why the North won the Civil War by considering the following:

- critical events and battles in the war.
- the political and military leadership of the North and South.
- respective advantages and disadvantages of each side, including geographic, demographic, economic, and technological.

8 – U5.3.4 Analyze the intent and the effect of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution.

