

nomadic or semi-nomadic American Indians, the first permanent town Jamestown 1607, escape religious restrictions, *Mayflower*.

The Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, the primary author Thomas Jefferson, *Common Sense*, To secure an alliance with France, Blame for King George III's role in the transatlantic slave trade, 1783, **War of the American Revolution**, taxation, frontier rules, Franklin and Adams

Constitution, the Articles of Confederation, Philadelphia in May 1787, September 17, 1787, 39 delegates, the House of Representatives(one representative per 30,000 people), the Senate(two per state), 9/13, "vote now, amend later"(Massachusetts), allowing the slave trade to continue until 1808, Federalists support, Anti-Federalists opposed it for resembling British rule and lacking a bill of rights

Thick Description, Ethnography, Gilbert Ryle, a text

1800-1890, Westward expansion, 1803 President Thomas \$15 million Louisiana Purchase, Lewis and Clark, journalist John O'Sullivan "manifest destiny" 1845, 1820 Missouri Compromise balanced slave and free state banned slavery north of the 36°30' parallel, 1836 independence of Texas, Mexican-American War (1846–1848), 1854 Kansas-Nebraska Act "Bleeding Kansas", 1830 Indian Removal Act Popular sovereignty "Trail of Tears", Mississippi Riverthe 1850 Compromise admitted California as a free state "popular sovereignty", laying the groundwork for the U.S. Civil War, the cotton gin, steamboat, steam locomotive, and telegraph, Oregon Trail and the California Trail.

American Culture - Core Concepts, "freedom of choice in how to live" , "land of opportunity" and "cradle of liberty"(freedom and independence), Cultural assimilation, **American Exceptionalism, Patriotism**, Indigenous peoples at least 15,000 years, Christianity 70%, Shared moral and political values, 84% of Americans link constitutional liberties to national character

75% white (21% of whom are Hispanic), 18.5% Hispanic/Latino(Mexican is the largest), 14.2% black/African-American, 6.8% Asian, 1.7% Native American/Alaska Native, 0.4% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and 5.5% other/multiracial (percentages exceed 100% due to multiracial self-identification). Asian: The fastest-growing racial group "American Dream"—the belief that upward mobility and success are achievable through hard work, regardless of background—remains iconic, especially for migrants. Many Americans identify as multiracial, Jim Crow segregation

1963 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., **I Have a Dream, Lincoln Memorial, Gospel singer Mahalia Jackson, helping pave the way for the 1964 Civil Rights Act,**

The Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, 1920. The Seneca Falls Convention

marked the start of the organized women's rights movement. Anthony co-founded NWSA with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and led the movement. Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify, meeting the required threshold.

"to volunteer" military service, Benjamin Franklin founded America's first volunteer firehouse, Revolutionary War (1773–1783, civilians volunteered for fundraising and patriotism); 1800s (religious revival spurred charitable orgs like YMCA (1851) and American Red Cross (founded by Clara Barton)); 20th century (founding of Rotary International, Lions Clubs, etc.; Peace Corps formalized international volunteering in the 1960s).

Asian, black and Hispanic families are more likely to live in multigenerational arrangements and have larger households than non-Hispanic white Americans, Higher marriage rates among LGBTQI+ couples (post-2015), nuclear family, **individualism**.

Elementary School (5-11 years, Kindergarten-Grade 5): Focuses on foundational skills (literacy, numeracy). Middle School (11-14 years, Grade 6-8): Expands to advanced subjects and electives. High School (14-18 years, Grade 9-12): Requires core subjects + electives; graduates earn a High School Diploma (mandatory for college/vocational training). Higher Education (18+ years): Offers Associate (2 years), Bachelor's (4 years), Master's (1-2 years), and Doctoral (3-6 years) degrees.

- Public Schools (90% of K-12 enrollment): Free for citizens/residents, follows state curriculums.
- Private Schools: Tuition-based, smaller classes, elite preparation.
- Charter Schools: Publicly funded but independent, flexible curriculums.
- Magnet Schools: Public, specialized (STEM/arts), merit-based admission.
- Homeschooling: Regulated by states, customized; 3.7 million students in 2023.
- International Schools: Global curriculums (IB/British), multicultural environments.

Key credentials: High School Diploma, AP courses (college credit with scores  $\geq 3$ ), IB programs (rigorous global qualification), SAT/ACT 1600 (college admissions tests, test-optional at many universities), GED (alternative to High School Diploma for adults).

NPS, 63 official national parks, **Yosemite National Park, Acadia National Park, Great Smoky Mountains National Park,**