Washington History

Course Description
This Washington History course is designed to provide a broad overview of Washington History from its early geographic formation to the present day. In this course students will learn about early indigenous peoples who settled the region as well as how European and American settlers integrated into the area. The growth of Washington into a territory and then into a State will be examined. Students will discover the impact of the Great Depression on the state as well as the significance of Washington’s role during World War II. The major industries of Washington will then be discussed, including forestry, fishing, and the technology industries. Finally, students will learn about the major issues facing the people of Washington today and how those issues impact them.

Course Objectives

▪ Compare the physical geography and climates of the regions of Washington.
▪ Compare and contrast the cultural characteristics of the Coastal and Plateau Indians.
▪ Construct an historical account of the Pig War using evidence from artifacts and primary sources.
▪ Summarize the reasons for European and American explorers to claim the area that became Washington.
▪ Identify how the British and Americans settled boundary disputes in the Northwest.
▪ Summarize the origin, growth and development of a city of Washington, including the major contributing events, industries, and people.
▪ Present a position on the causes and outcomes of the Indian Wars in Washington Territory demonstrating understanding of varying viewpoints of the conflict.
▪ Examine how Chief Joseph helped shape the development of the Pacific Northwest.
▪ Identify the organization and powers of the three branches of government.
▪ Describe the experiences of various immigrants in integrating with Americans in Washington.
▪ Explain the impact of the Klondike Gold Rush on the development of Seattle.
▪ Assess how the construction of railroads affected different areas of Washington, both positive and negative.
▪ Explain the influence of labor unions in reforming life for workers.
▪ Identify pivotal events in the women’s suffrage movement.
▪ Describe the major objectives of different organizations in Washington to solve economic problems brought about by the Great Depression.
▪ Summarize what the federal and state governments did to address the Great Depression.
▪ Explain why the population of Washington grew as a result of World War II.
▪ Discuss the roles and contributions of women during World War II.
▪ Describe the contributions of Hanford to winning the war.
▪ Describe the relocation process and experience for Japanese Americans.
▪ Understand why the 442nd Regimental Combat Team became the most decorated military unit in American Military History.
▪ Discuss the various impacts of suburban growth.
▪ Explain how Boeing became a leader in aviation technology.
▪ Create a presentation on the history of Microsoft.
▪ Explain the impact and outcomes of the conservation movement in Washington.
▪ Comparing and contrast the goals of the Washington Forestry Association and the functions of the Washington Department of Ecology.
▪ Write to a local representative regarding relevant issues.
• Explain the purpose and criticisms of the World Trade Organization.
• Identify the major trading partners of Washington.
• Explain the efforts to prevent the complete extinction of the salmon.
• Explain how attitudes regarding fire suppression changed over time and why.
• Identify the industries that are predicted to experience the most job growth as the state moves into the 21st century.
• Explain the issues that concern the state regarding taxes, the economy, and education.
• Present a summary of significant moments in Washington history.

COURSE OUTLINE:
Lesson 1  Introduction to Washington History
Lesson 2  Native Americans of the Pacific Northwest
Lesson 3  Interaction of Native Cultures & European Settlers
Lesson 4  Washington Territory
Lesson 5  Native American Treaties and Consequences
Lesson 6  Statehood and the Washington Constitution
Lesson 7  Railroads and Immigration
Lesson 8  Labor and Reform
Lesson 9  The Great Depression
Lesson 10  Washington State during World War II
Lesson 11  Relocation of Japanese Americans during World War II
Lesson 12  Post War Changes and the Growth of the Suburb
Lesson 13  Technology Industries
Lesson 14  Natural Resources and Environmental Destruction
Lesson 15  Washington State Government
Lesson 16  International Trade and Washington State
Lesson 17  Balancing Trade and Natural Resources
Lesson 18  Washington in to the 21st Century