

APUSH Concept Standards for Unit 2: 1607 - 1754

Europeans and American Indians maneuvered and fought for dominance, control, and security in North America, and distinctive colonial and native societies emerged.

Key Concept 2.1:

Differences in imperial goals, cultures, and the North American environments that different empires confronted led Europeans to develop diverse patterns of colonization.

I. Seventeenth-century Spanish, French, Dutch, and British colonizers embraced

different social and economic goals, cultural assumptions, and folkways, resulting in varied models of colonization.

II. The British–American system of slavery developed out of the economic, demographic, and geographic characteristics of the British-controlled regions of the New World.

III. Along with other factors, environmental and geographical variations, including climate and natural resources, contributed to regional differences in what would become the British colonies.

Key Concept 2.2:

European colonization efforts in North America stimulated intercultural contact and intensified conflict between the various groups of colonizers and native peoples.

I. Competition over resources between European rivals led to conflict within and between North American colonial possessions and American Indians.

II. Clashes between European and American Indian social and economic values caused changes in both cultures.

Key Concept 2.3:

The increasingly political, economic, and cultural exchanges within the “Atlantic World” had a profound impact on the development of colonial societies in North America.

I. “Atlantic World” commercial, religious, philosophical, and political interactions

among Europeans, Africans, and American native peoples stimulated economic growth,

expanded social networks, and reshaped labor systems.

II. Britain’s desire to maintain a viable North American empire in the face of growing

internal challenges and external competition inspired efforts to strengthen its imperial

control, stimulating increasing resistance from colonists who had grown accustomed to

a large measure of autonomy.