

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: HIS 281 **Credits:** 3

Course Title: History of Virginia

Course Description:

Examines the cultural, political, and economic history of the Commonwealth from its beginning to the present.

General Course Purpose:

Satisfy Social Science elective for all transfer programs. Also use for teacher recertification

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

None

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- Identify and describe the role of race, class, gender and religion in shaping the cultural, economic, political, military, religious, social, intellectual, and institutional developments in Virginia history;
- Identify and describe the chronological context of such developments;
- Identify and describe the values of other peoples and explain how they differ from the student's own values in an objective manner;
- Explain how the history in their textbook is assembled from the selected arguments and interpretations of its authors, and express the limitations inherent in its account;
- Identify and select, from the materials offered in this course, the relevant information needed to support their own interpretation of a particular historical question;
- Determine whether certain conclusions or consequences are supported by the information provided;
- Construct and present historical arguments based the available evidence in good written academic form;
- Distinguish between primary and secondary sources; and
- Compare and contrast historical concepts to the present day.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- Pre-Colonial Virginia
- The Settlement of Jamestown
- Origins and development of representative government
- Bacon's Rebellion
- Origins and Growth of Slavery
- The Golden Age of Colonial Virginia
- Virginia During the Revolutionary War
- Virginia Under the Articles of Confederation and first state constitution
- Virginia's Role in the Development of the U.S. Constitution

- Virginia Under the Federal Constitution (1787-1861)
- Secession and the Civil War
- Virginia During Reconstruction and the Era of Jim Crow
- Constitution of 1901 and Rise of the Byrd Machine
- Segregation in 20th Century Virginia (1900-1970)
- Virginia Since the End of Segregation

Effective Date/Updated: August 1, 2023