

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

Course Prefix and Number: HIS 281

Credits: 3

Course Title: History of Virginia I

Course Description: Examines the cultural, political, and economic history of the Commonwealth from its beginning to the present. Part 1 of 2. HIS 281 and 282 do not have to be taken in sequence. Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: Students can use this course to satisfy a social/behavioral science elective. Students in the Liberal Arts AA or Social Sciences AS could also use the course to satisfy a history requirement.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: Placement in ENG 111 or placement in Co-requisites ENG 111 and ENF 3

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. 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;
- b. Identify and describe the chronological context of such developments;
- c. Identify and describe the values of other peoples and explain how they differ from the student's own values in an objective manner;
- d. 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;
- e. Identify and select, from the materials offered in this course, the relevant information needed to support their own interpretation of a particular historical question;
- f. Determine whether certain conclusions or consequences are supported by the information provided;
- g. Construct and present historical arguments based on the available evidence in good written academic form;
- h. Distinguish between primary and secondary sources; and
- i. Compare and contrast historical concepts to the present day.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Pre-colonial Virginia
- b. The settlement of Jamestown
- c. Origins and development of representative government
- d. Bacon's Rebellion
- e. Origins and growth of slavery
- f. The Golden Age of Colonial Virginia
- g. Virginia during the Revolutionary War
- h. Virginia under the Articles of Confederation and first state constitution
- i. Virginia's role in the development of the U.S. Constitution

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: December 9, 2015