

## **AMERICA ARRIVES!**

In this part of the course, we will study the story of colonization and the birth of the United States. As the Age of Discovery came to an end, Englishmen stopped looking at America as only an obstacle in the way of getting to Asia. It became a place to settle and build a new life. English colonies grew up on the east coast of America, with Spanish colonies to the south, and French colonies to the north. Not surprisingly, these colonies fought each other in colonial wars as their home countries fought in European ones. Finally, however, with the English king taxing colonists more and more for wars, American colonists rebelled in the name of their natural rights—to “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.” The United States of America was born!

### **I. England Decides to Colonize America**

#### A. The Idea of Colonization

1. In 1584, an English writer named Richard Hakluyt wrote “*A Discourse on Western Planting*”.
2. He wanted to “plant” a colony to:
  - a) create a base for further exploration
  - b) create a base for fishing
  - c) create a base for attacking Spanish colonies
  - d) begin spreading Anglican Christianity in the New World
3. Hakluyt’s main reason to create a new colony was to allow England to stop trading with other European countries.
  - a) Up to that point English merchants bought many goods from others countries, which they paid for in gold and silver.
  - b) The problem that Hakluyt saw in this was that the kings of other countries would be able to tax that gold from their citizens in case of war with England, but the English king would not have the same chance, because merchants who bought things from other countries were sending gold to those countries.
  - c) If colonies could be created to make goods in the place of the goods usually purchased by other countries, they could avoid the problem of losing gold.