**Making America**

Colonies and Tribes Project (1MG)

**PURPOSE:**

Students will work in groups to create a presentation that explains how their selected colony or tribe contributed to the American Identity. In addition to other criteria listed below, the presentation must address and specifically answer the following questions:

* How does your group contribute to our modern definition of America?
* How does your group view the concept of property rights?
* How does your group understand/define the concept of liberty?
* How does your group see the balance between the individual and community?
* How did your group leave a lasting impact on America culturally, politically, and geographically?
* How are the myths/beliefs of your group manifested today?

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. **Colonies and Tribes:**

Your group will randomly draw for one of the following groups of colonies or tribes when the project is assigned:

* The Iroquois Confederacy
* The Shawnee (may find them as The Delaware tribe)
* The Cherokee
* The Dutch
* The Spanish
* The French
* The New England Colonies (Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut)
* The Middle Colonies (New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania)
* The Chesapeake Colonies (Virginia, Maryland)
* The Southern Colonies (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia)

1. **Background Info**

Your presentation should include all of the following:

1. **Governmental organization**—Generally, how did the people in your group organize and govern themselves? What type(s) of government did they employ?
2. **Settlement patterns**—How did the people in your group organize their communities/towns? What were there patterns of settlement and development?
3. **Economic Model**—How did the people in your group exchange goods and services?
4. **Religious beliefs**—How did your group express themselves religiously? How did they see their place in the universe and their relationship to the rest of creation?
5. **Social indicators** (family, leisure, education)—What was the structure of family in your group? What did the people in it do for fun? How did the educate their children and pass on cultural knowledge?
6. **Present your information.** The group should organize the presentation in a way that includes all the required information, but that also conveys it in a way that is entertaining and supports the general thesis (colony or tribal group) was a significant contributor to the formation of American Identity.

This material can be presented in a variety of ways, including but not limited to:

* 1. Documentary
  2. TV infomercial
  3. Viral Marketing/Awareness campaign
  4. Website (like change.org or Zillo)
  5. Crash Course playlist
  6. Sitcom

1. **Electronically share your contributing factors.** All groups will share a synopsis of their tribe or colony’s contributions by uploading it through the AmStud website’s discussion board. (americanstudiespesh.weebly.com)
2. **Reflect on your colony or tribe.** After the presentation, there will be a reflection in which your group will need to defend and justify your choices. You will need to discuss the purposes of your choices, and both the short and long term effects of your colony. You will think about the process and effort of the project.

**Presentation Length**: 7 to 10 minutes. Your presentation will be stopped at 10 minutes and graded accordingly.

**Additional Requirements:** Each group will also be required to turn in an MLA-formatted Annotated Bibliography to show the sources used during the research phase of this project. You may use the textbook for a significant amount of information. Consult any MLA website for sample annotated bibliographies.

**Additional Information:** Creativity in addition to strong substance is an expectation. The more lively, organized, creative, and well-prepared the presentation is, the better grade you will earn. However, be careful that you don’t put style over substance. Your goal is to educate and convince your audience. Groups who make an entertaining presentation that does not fully address the issue will be penalized.

LATE PRESENTATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

**Phases of the Project:**

Assigned: August 24th

Presentation dates: September 6-7

Reflection: September 8