



54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Standards & Learning Objectives

A.P. U.S. History

THEME 1: AMERICAN AND NATIONAL IDENTITY (NAT) This theme focuses on how and why definitions of American and national identity and values have developed among the diverse and changing population of North America as well as on related topics, such as citizenship, constitutionalism, foreign policy, assimilation, and American exceptionalism.

THEME 2: WORK, EXCHANGE, AND TECHNOLOGY (WXT) This theme focuses on the factors behind the development of systems of economic exchange, particularly the role of technology, economic markets, and government.

THEME 3: GEOGRAPHY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (GEO) This theme focuses on the role of geography and both the natural and human-made environments in the social and political developments in what would become the United States.

THEME 5: POLITICS AND POWER (PCE) This theme focuses on how different social and political groups have influenced society and government in the United States as well as how political beliefs and institutions have changed over time.

THEME 8: SOCIAL STRUCTURES (SOC) This theme focuses on how and why systems of social organization develop and change as well as the impact that these systems have on the broader society.

Historical Developments

KC-5.2.II.D Abraham Lincoln's victory on the Republicans' free-soil platform in the presidential election of 1860 was accomplished without any Southern electoral votes. After a series of contested debates about secession, most slave states voted to secede from the Union, precipitating the Civil War.

KC-5.3.I.A Both the Union and the Confederacy mobilized their economies and societies to wage the war even while facing considerable home front opposition.

KC-5.3.I.D Although the Confederacy showed military initiative and daring early in the war, the Union ultimately succeeded due to improvements in leadership and strategy, key victories, greater resources, and the wartime destruction of the South's infrastructure.

KC-5.3.I.B Lincoln and most Union supporters began the Civil War to preserve the Union, but Lincoln's decision to issue the Emancipation Proclamation reframed the purpose of the war and helped prevent the Confederacy from gaining full diplomatic support from European powers. Many African Americans fled southern plantations and enlisted in the Union Army, helping to undermine the Confederacy.



NCSS Themes

- 1 CULTURE
- 2 TIME, CONTINUITY, AND CHANGE
- 3 PEOPLE, PLACES, AND ENVIRONMENTS
- 4 INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT AND IDENTITY
- 5 INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS

COMMON CORE

Common Core – English Language Arts and History/Social Studies

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9-10.1
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9.10.4
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.9-10.10
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.1
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.4
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.5
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.8
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.10

Learning Objectives:

At the end of this lesson:

Students will be able to describe when and how African-American troops fought in American military forces prior to 1900.

Students will be able to name 3 African-American military figures of the Civil War.

Students will be able to explain the relationship between the Emancipation Proclamation and African-American military involvement.

Students will be able to explain the origin and significance of the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry.

Students will be able to name and describe a battle in which the 54th Massachusetts Infantry participated.

Students will be able to interpret the meaning and symbolism of a poem commemorating the 54th Infantry.

Vocabulary

Integrated	Parapet	Lauded
Loyalist	Mutiny	Galvanized
Abolitionist	Guerilla	Infamously
Regiment	Compunction	Captive
Inciting	Contemporaries	Renowned
Insurrection	Jayhawker	Valor
Battery	Vigilante	Iconic
Ambivalent	Siege	Composite
Infantry	Barrage	