Assignment Description for Teaching American History Grant

Colonial Period/Classroom Simulations

Assignment: Colonial Period Book Report I Assignment Title: LastName_Colonialreview.doc Due Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2009, at 4:00 PM PST Submission Instructions: Place your report into your assigned professor's folder within the "TAH Colonial Period" folder on InterAct.

Description:

You will prepare a book review of the first two parts of *The Birth of America*, by William Polk, and the first four chapters of Carol Berkin, *First Generations: Women in Colonial America*. The report and its component parts are due no later than 4:00 PM PST on September 16, 2009. Your review should be no more than 1,000 words.

The purpose of this assignment is for you to synthesize the content of the two texts, ensuring your knowledge of this period and subject, and allowing you to easily find specific information about colonial-related themes from this and other works in the future. Upon completion of this assignment, you should feel confident in your ability to teach 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students about content related to Colonial America from the founding until the Revolutionary War.

The book report should include four sections:

- 1. An **introduction** that summarizes the main thesis of these chapters of Polk's and Berkin's books;
- Section summaries (a 3-5 sentence summary on each of the chapters you are reviewing);
- 3. **Suggestions** for using the book **within your classroom instruction** (e.g., "How might you teach about Colonial America given the content from each of these sections?); and,
- 4. **Information** from the books that relates to our first class meeting, including any and all lectures, and any documents.

All participants must submit their own book reviews to their assigned folder within the TAH Colonial America InterAct folder. **You are expected to work alone**. That does not preclude you from talking with one another, but what you submit must be your own work in your own words.

Colonial Period Book Review Assignment Expectations

	Expectations	Your Score
Content	Clearly and professionally presented Explains the main thesis of each book Quality synthesis of each chapter Recommends methods for using chapters, introduction, and conclusion in 3 rd , 4 th , or 5 th grade classrooms Information is accurate and aligns	/45
	Meets time and length requirements	