## Assignment Description for Teaching American History Grant

**Colonial Period/Classroom Simulations** 

Assignment: Colonial Period Book Report II Assignment Title: LastName\_ColonialReview.doc Due Date: Friday, October 2, 2009, at 11:59 PM PDT 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 third part and conclusion of *The Birth of America*, by William R. Polk, and of Chapters 5-7 inclusive **and** epilogue of *First Generations: Women in Colonial America*, by Carol Berkin. The report and its component parts are due no later than 11:59 PM PDT on October 2, 2009. Your review should be approximately 1,500 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 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students about content related to Colonial America from the founding until the Revolutionary War.

The book report should include the following five sections:

- An **introduction** that summarizes the main thesis of the assigned chapters of the Polk and Berkin books;
- Section summaries (a 3-5 sentence summary on each of the chapters you are reviewing);
- **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,
- **Information** from the books that **relates to our two class meetings**, including lectures, simulations, and any documents.
- Information from the books that relates to all of the Colonial Period podcasts by Dr. Beachley and Dr. Green.

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	/55
	Explains the main thesis of the book	
	Quality synthesis of each chapter	
	Comparison with podcasts	
	Recommends methods for using chapters, introduction, and conclusion in	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , or 5 <sup>th</sup> grade classrooms	
	Information is accurate and aligns	
	Meets time and length requirements	