

Developing Cultural Identity

In your historical essay readings this summer, you read about the ways in which the colonies began to create their own, unique cultures. Those essays looked at relations with Native American tribes, the relationship to the land, the differences between the different English colonies, as well as how the colonies began to separate culturally from Europe.

Your task for this essay, which will be due on _____, is to write a short essay in response to ONE of the prompts below:

- 1. What do the readings suggest about how and why the English colonists created a culture that was distinct from those of the neighboring Native Americans?**
- 2. What forces, trends, or people resulted in distinct “American” cultures emerging in the 17th and 18th centuries? (Hint: how were they different by region, or compared to Europe?)**

As you answer your chosen question, bear the following in mind:

- Your response should be between **500-750 words** (about 2-2.5 pages)
- Your response should be **typed, double spaced**, with reasonable margins
- You must use **TWO** of the following three summer readings:
 - a. Albion’s Seed* (at least one chapter)
 - b. Days of Destiny* (at least one of the two essays)
 - c. Changes in the Land*
- Your response must include **in-text citations** and a **bibliography** for your sources
- You should use **succinct quotations** when necessary; do not let the sources speak for you
- In your conclusion, be clear about how the **themes** addressed in the paper helped to **set precedents or trends** that continued into later American history.

- ❖ This essay will be worth a total of 50 points, based upon your analysis, use of evidence, organization, and proper editing and citation.