

The American Yawp  
VOLUME I: to 1877

Cumulative Exam

*Were people in colonial and antebellum America motivated more by economic interest or cultural values?*

Answer the above question in an essay of between 2,000-2,500 words. Make sure your essay has a clear argument, convincing evidence, logical structure, and concise, polished prose. Use the primary sources that we have been reading throughout the semester as evidence.

Be sure to have a clear argument that you defend with relevant evidence. Organize your paper with a logical structure and use clear topic sentences and transitions to help your reader understand the logic of your organization. Edit your paper thoroughly to avoid errors and to improve readability. Give your paper a title that reflects your argument.

Grading criteria:

1. Argument – Does your paper have a clear, singular, specific argument that answers the question?
2. Evidence – Do you use all of the relevant evidence to defend your argument?
3. Organization – Does your paper have a logical structure and use clear topic sentences and transitions?
4. Concision – Is your paper efficient, avoiding passive voice and bloated prose?
5. Grammar – Is your paper free of spelling and grammatical errors?

Due **DATE** through **LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

**\* For this exam, you may only use assigned primary sources.**