

Economy

Everything related to how people in society make and spend money.

Immigration

The act of permanently moving from one's home country to another country.

Empresario

A land agent hired by the Mexican government to bring Anglo-American settlers to Texas.

Cash Crop

A plant that farmers grow in large quantities to make money, like cotton in Texas.





Constitution

A document that sets up a government, tells how it will run, and who has what powers.

Federalism

A type of government in which the states share power with the national (or federal) government.

Republic

A type of government in which people can vote to elect representatives to work for them in government.

Congress

A group of people elected to make laws.





The Colonization Laws

State and Federal requirements to settle in Texas that required speaking Spanish, becoming a Mexican citizen, settling a certain number of people, and not bring enslaved people into Texas.

The Empresario System

Mexico's plan to increase the population of Texas by inviting Anglo-American immigrants to settle in Texas, primarily to grow cotton.

Moses Austin

The first Anglo-American to receive permission to settle American families in Texas. He died in 1821.

Stephen F. Austin

Sometimes considered "the Father of Texas" because he settled the first 300 American families in Texas. He was the most successful empresario.





"The Old 300"

The original families that came to settle in Texas in Austin's colony.

Green DeWitt

An Anglo Empresario who immigrated to Texas in 1825. He established the city of Gonzales to the east of San Antonio and settled Anglo families in that area.

Erasmo Seguin

A Tejano who helped Austin locate the best land, served as an intermediary between Austin and the Mexican government, and advocated for Anglo colonization in Texas while serving as the Texas delegate to the Mexican Congress in 1824.

Martin de León

One of the only Mexican empresarios to colonize Texas. He settled 200 mostly Mexican families and raised thousands of cattle as an experienced rancher. He and his wife Patricia also founded the city of Victoria in 1824.





The Federal Constitution of 1824

This document set up the Mexican government, ensuring states would share power with the national government and guaranteeing certain rights to Mexican citizens.

Coahuila y Tejas

Under the Mexican Federalist Constitution of 1824, these two states were joined into one because Texas was not populated enough to be its own state.

Anglo

The term used to refer to the White American settlers in Texas. Later they are also referred to as *Texians*.

Tejano

A Mexican person born in Texas, or who calls Texas home.





Haden Edwards

An Anglo-American empresario who attempted to claim the land he was granted as free and independent of Mexico during the Fredonian Rebellion.

The Fredonian Rebellion

An attempt to rebel from
Mexico and declare the
eastern part of Texas
independent from Mexico. It
was forcefully ended by the
Mexican military with the
help of Stephen F. Austin.

The Mier y Terán Report

A report commissioned by the Mexican government after the Fredonian Rebellion to investigate Anglos in Texas. The report discovered that Anglos outnumbered Tejanos 10 to 1 and many of them were breaking the law.

The Law of April 6, 1830

Following the Mier y Terán report, Mexico passed laws prohibiting immigration from the U.S. into Texas, enforcing new taxes, establishing military forts in Texas, and terminating unfulfilled empresario contracts.





Repeal

To take away or end a law. Many Anglos wanted the Law of April 6, 1830 taken away.

Abolish

To completely eliminate something. The Congress of Coahuila y Tejas tried to completely eliminate slavery throughout the state.

The Disturbances at Fort Anahuac

Conflict that broke out between some Anglo colonists and some of the Mexican military at a fort.
This conflict led to a meeting at the Turtle Bayou.

The Turtle Bayou Resolutions

This document was written to explain why the Anglos had taken part in the conflict at Fort Anahuac. They claimed they were fighting against the centralist leader at the fort.





The Conventions of 1832 & 1833

Two meetings of 50 Anglo delegates led by Stephen F. Austin. The delegates made several requests of the Mexican government including separate statehood for Texas. Austin brought the requests to Mexico City.

Arrest of Stephen F. Austin

A letter encouraging Texans
to create their own
government despite not
receiving permission from
the Mexican government was
intercepted and the action
was seen as treason.

A Civil War

When the Federalist President Antonio López de Santa Anna joined a Centralist take-over of the government, states across Mexico broke out into war between federalists and centralists.

Battle of Gonzales

Mexico ordered the people of an Anglo town to return a cannon they had borrowed years earlier. They refused, Mexico sent troops to retrieve the cannon, and a battle broke out.

