



United States History Course Syllabus

Course Description:

In US History, students study the major turning points in American history in the twentieth century. The course begins with a review of the nation's beginnings and the impact of the Enlightenment on U.S. democratic ideals, and a continuation of the study of global industrialization from a world history course to understand the emergence and impact of new technology and a corporate economy, including the social and cultural effects. Students analyze the change in the ethnic composition of American society; the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. Students examine the major social problems and trace their causes in historical events. Students examine our rights under the U.S. Constitution and the responsibilities of all citizens in maintaining our democratic ideals.

Part 1: 5 credit hours

Part 2: 5 credit hours

Course Outline

California Standards

U.S. History, Part 1

Unit 1: Road to Independence and the Early Republic 1754-1801

- 1.1 The Enlightenment
- 1.2 The Great Awakening
- 1.3 The French and Indian War (Seven Years War) 1754–1763
- 1.4 The Road to Revolution and the Declaration of Independence
- 1.5 The American Revolution 1775-1783
- 1.6 America: A New Nation
- 1.7 The Constitution, The Articles of Confederation, and Federalism

In Unit 1 students will learn:

How the ideas of the Enlightenment shaped the foundation of American Democracy.
How conflicts between the American colonists and British crown led to Revolution and eventually the establishment of a new nation.
The process of establishing the Constitution and a working government that still exists today.
[11.1.1, 11.1.2, 11.1.3, 11.3.1,11.3.2]

Unit 2: Age of Jefferson and Pre-Civil War Years 1801-1861

- 2.1 The Second Great Awakening
- 2.2 Thomas Jefferson and His Democracy
- 2.3 The War of 1812
- 2.4 Westward Expansion and Manifest Destiny
- 2.5 The Andrew Jackson Era
- 2.6 19th Century Reforms

In Unit 2 students will learn:

How the United States grew in both size and prestige under Presidents Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe.
How the United States implemented more popular democracy under President Jackson.
How the United States greatly expanded its boundaries through settlement and war during the mid - 1800s.

- 2.7 War & Expansion: Texas and the Mexican American War
- 2.8 The Compromise of 1850 and the Events Leading to the Civil War

How new inventions and economic developments in the early 19th century began to transform American society.
[11.1.3, 11.3.1,11.3.2]

Unit 3: The Civil War and Reconstruction 1861-1877

- 3.1 Lincoln, Secession and Civil War
- 3.2 The Civil War 1861-1865
- 3.3 Lincoln: Gettysburg Address and Emancipation Proclamation
- 3.4 Reconstruction After the Civil War 1865-1877
- 3.5 The Compromise of 1877 and the End of Reconstruction

In Unit 3 students will learn:

How regional disagreements over slavery and states rights would lead to the breakup of the Union.
The start and end of Civil War.
The impact of the period of Reconstruction following the end of the Civil War.
[11.1.4, 11.2.2, 11.3.1]

Unit 4: The Progressive Era

- 4.1 Populism
- 4.2 Big Business and the Age of Railroads
- 4.3 The Gilded Age 1870-1900
- 4.4 The Progressive Era 1870-1900
- 4.5 Growth, Cities, and Immigration in the Late 19th Century
- 4.6 Life at the Turn of the Century

In Unit 4 students will learn:

How economic problems led to the Populist Movement.
How big business and the expansion of the transcontinental railroad impacted American society and economy.
The developments, problems, and changes during America's Gilded Age including growth of cities, large scale immigration, changes to American life, and the factors leading to the Progressive Era.
[11.2.1, 11.2.2, 11.2.3, 11.2.4, 11.2.5, 11.2.6, 11.2.7, 11.2.8, 11.2.9, 11.3.1, 11.1.7]

*U.S. History, Part 2***Unit 1: The Emergence of America as a World Power**

- 1.1 American Imperialism and the Spanish American War
- 1.2 Theodore Roosevelt's Square Deal and the Panama Canal
- 1.3 From Neutrality to World War I
- 1.4 America in World War I 1917-1918
- 1.5 The End of World War I

Unit 2: The Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression

- 2.1 The Roaring 20s
- 2.2 Economics and Politics in the 1920s
- 2.3 Changing Ways of Life
- 2.4 The Great Depression
- 2.5 Franklin Roosevelt and the New Deal

Unit 3: World War II and the Cold War

- 3.1 World at War
- 3.2 The Homefront During World War II
- 3.3 The Holocaust
- 3.4 The Cold War

In Unit 1 students will learn:

About the economic and cultural factors that fueled the growth of American Imperialism.
Causes of the First World War, including factors that led to the U.S. joining the War.
The end of World War I and the consequences of the war.
[11.2.6, 11.2.9, 11.4.1, 11.4.2, 11.4.3, 11.4.4, 11.4.5]

In Unit 2 students will learn:

How consumer goods fueled the business boom of the 1920's as American standard of living rose, but as the prosperity of the 1920's ended severe economic problems resulted.
How Americans experienced cultural conflicts as values and customs began to change.
How the post war experience led to a fear of communism and foreigners that resulted in policies of isolationism.
How American women pursued new roles, African-America ideas, art, literature, and music flourished, and mass media, movies, and sports influence an emerging popular culture.
How the New Deal was implemented and its impact.
[11.5.1, 11.5.2, 11.5.3, 11.5.4, 11.5.5, 11.5.6, 11.5.7, 11.6.1, 11.6.2, 11.6.3, 11.6.4, 11.6.5, 11.8.5]

In Unit 3 students will learn:

How the United States entered World War II and drastically effected the outcome.
How America mobilized on the homefront to support the war effort.
How Nazi Germany carried out the Holocaust.
How the Soviet Union and the United States emerged from WWII as superpowers and the conflicts and tensions of the Cold War resulted.
[11.4.6, 11.7.1, 11.7.2, 11.7.3, 11.7.4, 11.7.5, 11.7.6, 11.7.7, 11.7.8, 11.8.3, 11.8.5, 11.9.1, 11.9.2, 11.9.3]

Unit 4: Civil Rights and Changing Society

- 4.1 Civil Rights and the 1950's
- 4.2 Kennedy, Vietnam, and 1960's America
- 4.3 The Presidency of Richard Nixon 1968-1974
- 4.4 Ford, Carter and the Economic Malaise

In Unit 4 students will learn:

About life in the 1950's.

How civil rights activists broke through racial barriers.

How the Cold War heated up during the Korean War and Vietnam War.

How social protest and calls for change swept across the U.S.

The impact of the political, social, and economic events of the 1970s.

[11.9.3, 11.9.4, 11.10.1, 11.10.2, 11.10.3, 11.10.4, 11.10.5, 11.10.6, 11.10.7, 11.11.4]

Unit 5: Into Contemporary Society

- 5.1 The Reagan Revolution
- 5.2 George H. W. Bush and the End of the Cold War
- 5.3 The Clinton Years and the 1990s
- 5.4 Terrorism, War, and Bush 43
- 5.5 Obamanation

In Unit 5 students will learn:

How Presidents Reagan and Bush pursued a conservative agenda.

How the Cold War came to an end.

How changes in foreign policy resulted from a new state of the international political climate.

[11.11.2, 11.11.6]