

U.S. History: Colonial America to Present

Unit 1: Union in Peril, Union Restored: The Civil War and Reconstruction

Investigative Question: How did the environment, diverse peoples, and economic exchange shape colonial society and its future?

1. The First Settlements: Jamestown and Plymouth
 2. Focus on Geography: Colonial Economies
 3. Slavery in the Colonial Era
 4. Cooperation and Conflict: Relations with Native Americans
 5. Seeds of Self-Government
 6. Religious Diversity and Revivals
-

Unit 2: From Colonies to Country: Revolution and the Founding of America

Investigative Question: How did the struggle for independence and the debates over government shape the founding promises—and contradictions—of the United States?

1. The Road to Revolution
 2. The Fight for Independence
 3. Unsung Heroes
 4. Creating a New Government
 5. The Debate Over Ratification
 6. Principles and Promises of the Constitution
-

Unit 3: The Early Republic: Presidents, Power, and Promise

Investigative Question: How did the policies, court decisions, and political conflicts of the early republic shape the new nation and influence its future?

1. Washington Leads a New Nation
2. Rise of Political Parties



3. The Marshall Court and Judicial Review
 4. Adams & Jefferson: Free Speech and an Expanding Nation
 5. Madison & Monroe: War, Identity, and a New American Role
 6. Jacksonian Democracy and the Limits of Equality
-

Unit 4: Expansion and Reform: Growth, Conflict, and Change

Investigative Question: How did territorial expansion, slavery, and reform movements expose the challenges of uniting a diverse and divided nation?

1. Manifest Destiny: Dreams and Disputes
 2. Westward Settlement: The Cost of Growth
 3. Revival and Reform in a Changing America
 4. Cotton and Commerce
 5. From Rebellion to Reform
 6. Regionalism vs. American Identity
-

Unit 5: Union in Peril, Union Restored: The Civil War and Reconstruction

Investigative Question: How did the Civil War and Reconstruction resolve conflicts while creating new struggles for equality and national identity?

1. Overview of the Civil War
2. Reconstruction and Plans to Reunite the Country
3. Reconstruction Reforms
4. The Reconstruction Amendments
5. Successes and Failures of Reconstruction
6. The End of Reconstruction and Its Legacy



Unit 6: The Gilded Age

Investigative Question: How did industrialization, urbanization, immigration, and expansion bring changes to American society?

1. Pull of the West
2. Key Inventions and Their Impact on Life in the United States
3. Immigration and Urbanization
4. The Pros and Cons of Big Business
5. Native American Policies
6. Political Machines and Efforts at Reform

Unit 7: Age of Expansion

Investigative Question: How did the United States become an international power?

1. Expansion
2. Spanish-American War
3. Open Door Policy
4. Debates over Imperialism and Annexation of the Philippines
5. Building the Panama Canal
6. Foreign Policy: Might, Money, and Morals

Unit 8: Age of Reform

Investigative Question: To what extent did the Progressive Era solve the problems caused by rapid growth in cities and industrialization? What groups benefited? What groups were left out?

1. Populism and the Election of 1896
2. Muckrakers and Reform Leaders
3. The Rise of Jim Crow and Calls for Reform
4. Progressive Era Reforms



5. Teddy Roosevelt in the White House
 6. Taft and Wilson
-

Unit 9: America in World War I

Investigative Question: How was the United States forever changed economically, socially, and politically from participating in World War I?

1. From Neutrality to War
 2. Fighting the War
 3. On the Home Front
 4. The Great Migration
 5. Wilson's Fourteen Points and the Treaty of Versailles
 6. The Legacy of World War I
-

Unit 10: Prosperity and Problems

Investigative Question: How did the economic and cultural changes of the 1920s create both opportunities and challenges in American society?

1. The Roaring Twenties
 2. New Technologies and Consumer Culture
 3. The Harlem Renaissance
 4. Cultural Conflict in the 1920s
 5. Causes of the Great Depression
 6. The Stock Market Crash
-

Unit 11: Depression and Global Conflict

Investigative Question: How did economic crisis and global war transform the United States and its role in the world?



1. Surviving the Great Depression
 2. The New Deal
 3. From Isolation to War
 4. Fighting World War II
 5. The Home Front During World War II
 6. The Holocaust and the End of the War
-

Unit 12: Cold War and Contemporary America

Investigative Question: How have conflict, cooperation, and social change shaped the United States and its role in the modern world?

1. The Origins of the Cold War
2. The Civil Rights Movement
3. The Vietnam War and Social Change
4. The End of the Cold War
5. America in the Twenty-First Century
6. Challenges and Opportunities in the Modern World

