

Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) American History Learning Objectives¹

Unit 1: Reconstructing America, 1863-1900: South, West, and North		
Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
Race and Ethnicity	Explain the new meanings of freedom and citizenship created by the Civil War and Reconstruction as well as the racist and often violent counterrevolutions that arose in opposition to those changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • emancipation • Black Codes • Reconstruction Amendments • Buffalo Soldiers • Indian Wars and the Ghost Dance Movement • cowboys and multiculturalism • Native American boarding schools • Jim Crow • lynching and the anti-lynching campaign
Gender	Analyze the development of Black households and communities, cowboy masculinity, and women’s rights campaigns after the Civil War.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sharecropping • Rise of Black Churches • Ku Klux Klan • cowboys and ranchers • dissension within the suffrage movement over the 15th Amendment
Politics and Law	Assess how emancipation, western Indian Wars, and industrialization challenged a Republican political culture centered upon the free labor ideology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presidential Reconstruction • Congressional/Radical Reconstruction • The Reconstruction Amendments • creation of Native American reservations • The Dawes Act • disfranchisement (Williams v. Mississippi) • segregation (Plessy v. Ferguson)
Economics	Explain the transformation of American agriculture and the rise of industrial capitalism in the late 19th century.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sharecropping • New South • Transcontinental Railroads • Open Range Cattle • Coal Mining
Society and Culture	Identify the different historical memories and cultural ideals emerging out of the South and the West and analyze their impact on American society and culture around the turn of the 20th century.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lost Cause Myth • Vaudeville • Minstrel shows • Romanticism of the West (Cowboy stereotype, Rocky Mountain School-Bierstadt, Moran, Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show)
Unit 2: Industrial Capitalism, Organized Labor and Populism		
Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics

¹ The learning objectives focus on historical events and topics that have shaped the experiences of the nation’s diverse inhabitants. These objectives seek to equip all students with a factually accurate understanding of the country’s accomplishments and challenges. They consequently foster and encourage critical thinking about the complexity of the past to serve the broader civic objective of preparing students to secure American ideals and values in the future.

Economics	Explain the nation’s shift from an agricultural to an industrial economy along with the technological and business innovations that enabled this transition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • urbanization of America from both immigration and demographic shifts • technological advances (transportation, electricity, steel construction methods) that enabled the growth of the cities • specific industries and the individuals associated with them. (Steel-Carnegie, Railroads and Transportation-Cornelius Vanderbilt, Rockefeller, Morgan) • strategic tools employed by industrial magnates to build and control business empires (corporations, trusts, vertical and horizontal monopolies) • wealth inequality in the Gilded Age • Social Darwinism, Gospel of Wealth • major unions, leaders, and examples of industrial labor unrest (RR Strike, Haymarket, Pullman, Homestead, etc.)
Politics and Law	Analyze the efforts to address corruption in government and business, including efforts to educate the public about common practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tammany Hall and Boss Tweed • jobs and votes • major political scandals of the Gilded Age (Whiskey Ring, Gold Ring) • reform legislation (Pendleton Act, ICC, Sherman Antitrust Act) • populism • The Silver Question • fusion of Democrats and Populist Party
Race and Ethnicity	Relate the growing national diversity of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to urban development and the backlash against specific groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the “New Immigration” wave of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. • sources of immigrants at different times from the late nineteenth century into the early twentieth century • the Ethnic City as a result of both immigration and industrialization during the Gilded Age (assimilation and exclusion). • nativism • Chinese Exclusion Act
Gender	Articulate the relationship between industrialization, immigration, and urbanization and traditional gender roles, distinguishing between the impacts on upper-, middle-, and working-class women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Victorian concept of womanhood • gender- and class-based class differences • women in mass consumerism • The Domestic Sphere • early suffrage successes such as Women’s Suffrage in Wyoming (1869) and Colorado (1890) • women in the Granger Movement (Mary Lease) • the role of the WCTU as a women’s movement on social issues
Society and Culture	Associate the major movements of this era that shaped cultural trends and societal characteristics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rise of the Middle class • leisure (Vaudeville, Luna Park, phonograph, movies) • Third Great Awakening • The Social Gospel Movement • rise in Catholicism (overlap with immigration, parochial schools, colleges) • growing Jewish communities (overlap with immigration)
Unit 3: Imperialism and the Progressives		

Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
Economics	Analyze the economic factors that altered the American workforce and led to calls for reform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mass production • Taylorism • Ford’s Assembly line • welfare capitalism • Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire • Progressive labor reform • Imperialism as a path to cheap labor and increased access to markets
Politics and Law	Evaluate the nation’s debate over the expansion of the federal government’s role in regulating capitalism, solving social problems, and managing territory overseas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imperialism • Spanish American War • US territories, Philippine–American War • 17th, 18th, 19th Amendments • Theodore Roosevelt and conservation • Antiquities Act • Gifford Pinchot • John Muir • Hetch Hetchy • National Parks • Panama Canal • Pure Food and Drug Act / consumer protection • Coal Strike
Race and Ethnicity	Analyze how issues of race intersected with the contemporary topics of imperialism and progressive reform.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the debate over imperialism (Hawaii, Cuba, Philippines) • the debate over civil rights • W.E.B. DuBois and the NAACP • Booker T. Washington and the Atlanta Compromise • Black Women’s Club Movement • “Birth of a Nation”
Gender	Recognize influential events that advanced women’s political participation and public influence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • masculinity and imperialism • Settlement House Movement • Suffrage/19th amendment/white supremacy in women’s suffrage • New Women • birth control & Margaret Sanger • continuation of role of UDC and expansion of Lost Cause mythology
Society and Culture	Discuss the major trends of this era that shaped attitudes in American society, and the technology that impacted American culture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muckrakers (Upton Sinclair, Ida Tarbell, Jacob Riis) • urbanization and tenements • Social Justice • electricity • streetcars • Chicago, White City, 1893 • the Eugenics Movement • Yellow Journalism • Rise of Professionalism

Unit 4: America and the World (WWI and 1920s)

Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
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Economics	Identify the political and corporate policies that, by supporting the expansion of corporate and consumer capitalism, increased U.S. involvement in the global economy and created the illusion of widespread prosperity for most white Americans.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • economic causes of U.S. entry into WWI • post-war demobilization, economic recession, and labor strikes • Efficiency Progressivism • Republican presidential administrations and the “Business of America” • expansion of a credit economy • technological innovation, consumerism capitalism, and early suburbanization • welfare capitalism • agricultural depression
Politics and Law	Examine how the idealization of free markets and political self-determination prompted the U.S. to expand its international role during Woodrow Wilson’s administration, then analyze how WWI’s failure to achieve Wilson’s idealistic objectives instigated a Republican retreat into a post-war politics of diplomatic neutrality and technocratic efficiency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilsonian moral diplomacy and U.S. intervention in the Caribbean and Mexico • Wilsonianism and U.S. entry into WWI • the modernization of warfare and its psychological consequences • George Creel and the Committee on Public Information • Wilsonian liberalism, the Treaty of Versailles, and the League of Nations • interwar neutrality and the Kellogg-Briand Pact • Sedition Act and Schenck v. U.S. • Espionage Act and Eugene Debs • Red Scare • Herbert Hoover’s technocratic vision of government (associational state)
Race and Ethnicity	Explain how global war and economic modernization enabled black Americans to challenge the geographic, social, and legal boundaries of Jim Crow, while immigrants also struggled to assimilate into a society that resisted racial integration, ethnic diversity, and cultural transformation through nativist policies, racial terrorism, and scientific racism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Migration • African-American military service and the 92nd and 93rd divisions • lynching, the Red Summer, and the 1921 attack on Tulsa’s Greenwood district • The Harlem Renaissance and the “New Negro” • 100% Americanism • National Origins Act of 1924 • Second KKK and its women’s auxiliary
Gender	Assess how global war and consumerism created opportunities for white women to pursue new economic roles and public responsibilities in ways that both modernized and reinforced their duties to both home and family.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women’s Peace Party • Women’s mobilization during WWI • Katherine Magnolia Johnson and black women’s interwar activism • Alice Paul and the ERA • expansion of women’s professional and clerical employment • home economics movement and “Mrs. Consumer” • Fashion and Fun: the modernization of femininity • eugenics, birth control, and Buck v. Bell • from Babbitt to Babe Ruth: white masculinity in the 1920s
Society and Culture	Explore the numerous conflicts that divided a modernizing American society as it simultaneously became more demographically diverse and culturally homogeneous.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lost Generation and modernism • return to normalcy and middlebrow culture • consumerism and advertising • automobiles and radios • motion pictures and Hollywood

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • youth culture • Jazz • prohibition • Protestant fundamentalism and the Scopes Trial
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Unit 5: Crisis of Capitalism: From Hoover's New Era to FDR's New Deal

Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
Economics	Evaluate FDR's policies and New Deal programs in meeting the short-term and long-term effects of the Great Depression.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Hundred Days: Emergency Banking Act, FERA, CCC, AAA, NIRA • TVA and REA • Second New Deal: Wagner Act, FLSA, Social Security
Politics and Law	Discuss opposition to FDR's New Deal from both the Right and the Left, and FDR's plans to alleviate this opposition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Deal Coalition • Religious opposition: Father Coughlin • Huey Long • Francis Townsend • American Liberty League • Southern Tenant Farmers' Union • Second New Deal • Court-packing
Race and Ethnicity	Discuss how the Great Depression impacted American minorities during the decade of the 1930s, in what ways Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal programs sought to ameliorate these impacts for minorities, and resistance to the growing debate over equality for racial and ethnic minorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mexican Deportation 1930s • Federal Housing and Slum clearance • Scottsboro Boys
Gender	Examine the expanding role of women in the American political arena during the decade of the 1930s.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleanor Roosevelt • Frances Perkins • Mary McLeod Bethune • WPA and NYA
Society and Culture	Examine the impact of FDR's New Deal programs on American culture of the 1930s.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoovervilles/hoboes • Works Progress Administration: Federal Writers Project, Federal Arts Project, Federal Theater Project, etc., WPA posters • The Popular Front and popular culture (movies, folk music) • Great Depression Realism: photography, blues/country music • Dust Bowl and response: Farm Security Administration (Dorothea Lange, Walker Evans, Gordon Parks) • Civilian Conservation Corps and conservation (national/state parks)

Unit 6: World War to Cold War: American Hegemony in a New World Order

Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
Economics	Assess how America's involvement in WWII reshaped both domestic and international economies and examine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neutrality Act/Cash and Carry • Lend Lease Act • wartime tax increases

	how postwar American affluence transformed the country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GI Bill • Marshall Plan • 1950s economic boom • interstate system • The Sunbelt
Politics and Law	Discuss the US's broad political reasons for entering WWII and how those motivations and wartime experiences informed postwar policies and the Cold War.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • military course of the war • Manhattan Project • FDR 3rd and 4th term • United Nations • Partition of Germany • NATO • Korean War • Israel • McCarthyism • NSC 68 • CIA activity (Iran/Guatemala) • Containment Policy • military-industrial complex • JFK and the New Frontier • Berlin Wall • Cuba • Nixon and China • Space Race
Race and Ethnicity	Examine the varied roles race and ethnicity played during the Second World War, including as a causative factor of both the global war and violent division on the America home front and explore how Black Americans sought to redefine their place in society during and after the war.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attitude toward Jews during 1930s & WWII • Holocaust • Pacific theater • Japanese internment camps in America • Hispanic labor and the Bracero program • Race riots (Detroit, Zoot Suit Riots, Guam) • A. Philip Randolph • Mary McLeod Bethune and FDR's Black Cabinet • Jackie Robinson • growth of the NAACP and CORE
Gender	Describe the experience of women during WWII from both a military and domestic perspective and evaluate how gendered expectations changed following the conclusion of the war.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • women in military service • mass rape of civilians • Rosie the Riveter and femininity • television and the "American family" • 1950s masculinity
Society and Culture	Examine how America transformed from a culture of sacrifice during WWII to a culture of commercialization and consensus throughout the postwar period.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationing • portrayal of WWII in 1940s popular culture (music, fashion, film, comics) • the "Baby Boom" • impact of television • Car culture • Levittown and suburbanization • 1950s consensus culture • Hollywood Ten and Blacklisting • rock and roll/new music and art
Unit 7: The Second Reconstruction: Civil Rights Movement		

Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
Economics	Explain the economic challenges that minority groups faced in the mid-20th century, as well as the specific economic demands voiced by the people of color and describe the economic approaches and tactics used by various rights organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sit-ins, the Montgomery Bus Boycott • the Birmingham Crusade • Martin Luther King’s Poor People’s Campaign • suburban prosperity and urban decline • urban riots of the mid-1960s • Native American Movement’s goals • the National Farm Association boycotts led by Cesar Chavez
Politics and Law	Describe the landmark Civil Rights Supreme Court decisions and Congressional Acts of the 1960s and explain how these key acts and decisions resulted from the protests of everyday people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loving v. Virginia • 1964, 1965, and 1968 Civil Rights Legislation • legal victories for Civil Rights in the 40s, 50s & 60s • Students for a Democratic Society • the Supreme Court during the Warren years
Race and Ethnicity	Describe the social, political, and economic conditions the Civil Rights Protestors were reacting against as well as the specific goals they were working towards. Compare, contrast, and relate the African-American Civil Rights Movement to the Native American and Chicano-American Movements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cesar Chavez • Dolores Huerta • Johnson’s Immigration Act • Martin Luther King • SNCC and Ella Baker • John Lewis and Selma • sit-ins • Freedom Rides • Mississippi Freedom Summer • Fannie Lou Hamer and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party • American Indian Movement • Young Lords
Gender	Explain the multiple challenges faced by women of color and describe how the Civil Rights Movement helped lead to the Women’s Liberation Movement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pauli Murray • Jane Crow • Diane Nash • Emmett Till • Mississippi Freedom Summer
Society and Culture	Explain social and cultural racism in the mid-20th century and de-facto segregation; grasp how the legislative and judicial victories of the early 1960s led to increased demands for changing American society and culture in the late 1960s and understand the phrase, “the personal is political”.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malcolm X • The Vietnam War • Cassius Clay • racially-motivated police brutality • anti-gay police brutality • The Black Power Movement • The Black Panther Party • James Brown • Aretha Franklin • Soul music • the culture of protest, & the pride movements (black pride, gay pride, Native American pride, & women’s liberation) • impact of television

Unit 8: War at Home and Abroad: Vietnam, The War on Poverty, Black Power, and Women’s War against Patriarchy

Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
Economics	Explain the economic effects of the Cold War & the Vietnam War, as well as the rise of suburbs and the decline of American cities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Great Society's War on Poverty Medicare Medicaid the urban riots of the mid 1960s The Native American Movement The United Farm Workers
Politics and Law	Explain the significant Supreme Court decisions and legislative acts of the 1960s and the factors that led to these decisions and acts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earl Warren John F. Kennedy Lyndon Johnson the Free Speech Movement the Great Society Roe v Wade Equal Pay Act "Silent Spring" & the Modern Environmental Movement
Race and Ethnicity	Discuss the transition from the 1950s Civil Rights Movement to the Black Power Movement of the late 1960s.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malcolm X Kwame Ture (aka Stokely Carmichael) Students for a Democratic Society The Black Panthers the Black Power Movement the Poor People's Campaign the 1968 Olympics
Gender	Explain gender-based and sexual orientation-based protests for equality and the reasons and goals for those protests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feminine Mystique goals of the 2nd Wave of Feminism Mattachine Society, Stonewall & the emergence of Gay Power Phyllis Schlafly & the anti-Women's Liberation Movement the double struggle of women of color the legalization of birth control
Society and Culture	Discuss the factors that influenced American culture in the mid-1960s, and the cultural effects of the Civil Rights Movement, the Vietnam War, the baby boom, & the Cold War.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> early 1960s culture/the Folk Music Revival Port Huron Statement the Anti-War movement Kent State University killings Students for a Democratic Society The Weather Underground Hippies, Soul Music, & Black Power The Culture of Women's Liberation anti-war protest music

Unit 9: The Return to Conservatism: Economic Contraction and Cultural Reaction to the 1970s and 1980s

Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
Economics	Describe the changing economics of the 1970s and 1980s.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recession of the 1970s inflation the Oil Crisis Stagflation unemployment Regan-omics Trickle Down Economics

Politics and Law	Describe the circumstances leading to the election of Richard Nixon and his policies while in office. Additionally, students should be able to describe the downfall of Nixon and the rise of Reagan and New Conservatism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Silent Majority • the election of Richard Nixon • Nixon’s foreign policy of détente rather than containment • Watergate • impeachment • Gerald Ford becoming President • Jimmy Carter’s election • Carter’s foreign policy – Camp David Accords • Islamic Revolution in Iran • the Nicaraguan Revolution • the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan • the Iran hostage situation • election of Ronald Regan • New Conservatism • U.S. relations with the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War
Race and Ethnicity	Discuss the continued push for equal rights among many minority groups such as African Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans, focusing on the changes of each subsequent administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes to the government’s policies regarding the desegregation of schools • busing • Redlining • “White-Flight” • Nixon’s Law and Order policies • The United Farm Workers Union • Caesar Chavez • the War on Poverty • the War on Drugs
Gender	Discuss the changing roles of women in both the home and the workplace and explain what women were trying to accomplish with their continued activism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the continuation of 1960s activism in many minority groups • Esther Peterson and labor feminism • the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution • pushback from New-Right groups • Phyllis Schlafly and the fight to maintain traditional feminine roles, and the defense of “traditional family values,” • Roe v. Wade • Sandra Day O’Connor
Society and Culture	Describe the change from the 1960’s Counter-Culture to a more excessive-type lifestyle of the 1970s and explain the impact of new technology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disco • MTV • pop music • the computer • conservatism • Religious Right

Unit 10: Terrorism and the Security State: the Precarities of Globalization

Theme	Learning Objectives	Suggested Topics
Economics	Discuss the changing economic policies from Reagan to Clinton to George W. Bush and how these policies affected the economy, including the effect did that Clinton’s views on the economy differed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reagan-omics • Clinton’s economic plans • the change from supply-side economic policies • NAFTA

	and how his policies had an effect on the American job market and overall economic infrastructure.	
Politics and Law	Discuss the major political events of the late 1990s and early 2000s and how these still play a role in modern American politics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Gulf War • Election of 2000 • September 11, 2000 terrorist attacks • the Bush Doctrine • the War on Terror • the Patriot Act
Race and Ethnicity	Discuss the changing views on African Americans and immigrants, specifically, how the 9/11 terrorist attacks change how Americans viewed immigrants in America, particularly those of the Islamic faith.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LA Riots • OJ Simpson Trial • September 11, 2000 • the War on Terror • the Patriot Act
Gender	Discuss how the New Conservatism of the 1990s affected and changed society views of women, gays, and lesbians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Day O'Connor • Don't Ask, Don't Tell
Society and Culture	Discuss the major impact of technology, such as the internet, and a 24-hour news cycle on American society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • invention of the internet • the O.J. Simpson Trial • Monica Lewinsky Scandal • the Y2K Bug • 9/11 attacks