

D.C. UNITED STATES HISTORY

2016-2017

I. History 151

Catalog Description: A study of the development of American political, economic, and social institutions from the early explorations and colonial settlements through Reconstruction.

Learning Objectives:

Explain the development of American institutions prior to 1877.

Explain the development of the American economy and its effect on the development of the United States prior to 1877.

Understand the social or cultural implications of events during the major periods of change in the U.S. prior to Reconstruction.

Understand the complexity of historical knowledge and identify various historiographical points of view.

Analyze events, actions, and ideas for historical significance.

Construct accurate and effective historical arguments.

II. History 152

Catalog Description: A study of the growth of the United States from 1877 to the present. The new industrialism, agrarian problems, depression, the New Deal, the two world wars, the Cold War, and similar topics are analyzed.

Learning Objectives:

Explain the development of American institutions from 1877 to the present.

Explain the development of the American economy and its effect on the development of the United States from 1877 to the present.

Understand the social or cultural implications of events during the major periods of change in the U.S. from 1877 to the present.

Understand the complexity of historical knowledge and identify various historiographical points of view.

Analyze events, actions, and ideas for historical significance.

Construct accurate and effective historical arguments.

III. Text and Supplemental Resources

A. Text:

Divine, Breen, Fredrickson, and Williams *America Past and Present*, Eighth ed., New York, Pearson Education, Inc. 2007.

B. Resources:

1. Gorn, Roberts, and Bilhartz, *Constructing America's Past*, Third ed, New York, Longman, Inc., 1999.
2. Hyser and Arndt, *Voices of the American Past*, Third ed., Belmont, CA, Thompson Wadsworth, 2005.
3. Oates and Errico, *Portrait of America*, Ninth ed., Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2007.
4. Johnson, Michael P., *Reading the American Past, vol. I, To 1877*, 2002
5. Spoehr and Fraker, *Doing the DBQ* 1995.
6. Various articles and essays.

C. Video

1. Ken Burns, *The Civil War*
2. Burns, *The West*
3. ABC, *The Century*

IV. Course Schedule

Unit 1: Exploration and Colonial Development

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 1-4
 "Voices of the American Past, vol. 1",
Petitions of an Accused Witch, (1692), and *Words of the Bewitched*, p 56
What is an American?, (1770)
 Handouts

Major Topics

- A comparison of the societies of West Africa, Europe, and Central America
- Motives for colonization by European nation
- Economic and political development of the English colonies

Activities:

1. Assigned summer readings
2. Short essays each chapter

Assessment:

Unit exam, chapters 1-4, given week 1, based on assigned summer readings

Unit 2: Rebellion to Independence

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 5
 "Voices of the American Past, vol. 1,"
The Boston Massacre (1770)

Origin & Progress of the American Revolution, Johnson, p86
A Loyalist Perspective of the Coming Revolution (1780)
Handouts

Major Topics

- The French and Indian War, Causes and results
- Colonial disputes with Great Britain from 1763-1774
- Military and economic advantages of each side at the start of the war
- Treaty of Paris
- The Revolution as a radical or conservative movement

Activities:

- Essay on one of the following:
 1. A one page editorial to a Boston newspaper calling for a break from England
 2. Compare and contrast the American Rebellion to the Russian and French Revolutions

Assessment:

Unit exam, multiple choice, and essay
Take home DBQ

Unit 3: The Early Republic, From Washington to Adams

Readings:

Text: *American Past and Present*, chapter 6-7
“Voices of the American Past, vol. 1”
The Northwest Ordinance (1787)
James Madison, *Federalist Number 10*, Johnson, p121
Alexander Hamilton Speaks in Favor of the National Bank (1791)
The Virginia Resolutions (1798)
Handouts

Major Topics:

- Weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation
- The Constitution and Bill of Rights
- Hamilton's Financial Plan and the Bank issue
- Debate and compromise over national power and states' rights
- The successes of the Washington and Adams administrations

Activities:

1. Students view scenes on Whiskey Rebellion from CBS series *George*

Washington, Forging a Nation.

2. Work in groups on major issues of states rights in 1790's or the use of implied powers by Hamilton over the National Bank

Assessment:

Quiz on each chapter and Unit exam on chapters 6 and 7

Unit 4: The Jeffersonian Era

Readings:

Text, *American Past and Present*, chapters 8 and 9

“Voices of the American Past, vol. 1”

Jefferson's Instructions to Robert Livingston, Minister to France, (1802)

Tecumseh on White Encroachment, (1810)

“Portrait of America”

The Duel by Joseph Ellis

Major Topics:

- The Jefferson Administration, achievements and setbacks
- Effects of the Louisiana Purchase, and the Corps of Discovery on national policies and western expansion
- Marbury v Madison* 1803 and judicial review
- War of 1812, causes, advantages, and results
- The Demise of the Federalist Party
- Major Supreme Court decisions of the John Marshall court
- Causes and outcome of the War of 1812

Activities:

1. Students work in small groups and examine an assigned case of the Supreme Court under John Marshall
2. Short essay on Jefferson's use of implied powers in the Louisiana Purchase, the successes of the Corps of Discovery, or the War of 1812

Assessment:

Quiz on each chapter

Unit exam on chapters 8 and 9

Unit 5: The Age of Jackson

Readings

Text, *American, Past and Present*, chapter 10 and 12
“Voices of the American Past, vol. 1”
South Carolina Nullifies the Tariff, (1832)
Opposing Perspectives of the Jacksonian Presidency
“Portrait of America”
The Trail of Tears by Dee Brown

Major Topics:

- The election of 1824
- Jackson and the triumphs of the Common Man
- The Second National Bank, the dispute over the Tariff of 1828, and *Cherokee Nation v Georgia*
- The rise of the Whig Party
- Panic of 1837 and the Van Buren Presidency
- Manifest Destiny and the American Spirit in the 1830's

Activities:

1. Debate on whether the Election of 1824 was a Corrupt Bargain or a good political deal
2. Essay on the Jackson's response and effects on the Bank War, the tariff fight with John Calhoun, or the Cherokee nation's attempt to keep their land

Assessment:

- Quiz on each chapter
- Unit exam on 10 and 12
- DBQ on the Jackson presidency (1990 DBQ as a take home assignment)

Unit 6: Era of Reform, 1830's and 1840's

Readings:

Text, *American, Past and Present*, chapter 11
“Portrait of America, vol. 1”
William Lloyd Garrison on Slavery (1831)
Horace Mann on Educational Reform (1840)
Seneca Falls Convention, Declaration of Sentiments (1848)

Major Topics:

- Religious revivals, Utopian societies, and Temperance
- Women's movements, Public Education, and Abolition
- Social, political, and educational reform movements and their effect on American society and culture
- Social and religious prejudice towards the Irish, Catholics, and Mormons in

the 1830's and 1840's

Activities:

1. Students to present opposing views on the benefits or problems of public education from a farmers viewpoint.
2. Students to watch parts of *The Abolitionists* on PBS

Assessment:

- Essay on assigned reform movements ((1981 DBQ)
- Unit exam on chapter 11

Unit 7: Decade of Crisis

Readings:

- Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 13 and 14
- “Voices of the American Past, vol. 1”
- Chicago Tribune on the Dred Scott v. Sanford Decision* (1857)
- John Brown, Father of American Terrorism* by Ken Chowder
(American Heritage article, handout)

Major Topics

- Sectional disputes and their effects on national unity
- Slavery’s effects on Southern society
- The 1850’s, from compromise to popular sovereignty to bloody Kansas
- Birth of the Republican Party
- Election of 1860, secession, and the first shots of the war

Activities:

1. Essays on the national political effects of the Compromise of 1820 and 1850
2. Discussion and debate on John Brown, traitor or dedicated zealot

Assessment:

- Unit exam on chapter 13 and 14

Unit 8: The Civil War

Readings:

- Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 15
- “Voices of the American Past, vol. 1”
- Mary Chesnut, the Attack on Fort Sumter* (1861)

New York City Draft Riots (1863)
General William T. Sherman on War (1864)
“Portrait of America, vol. 1”
Hayfoot, Strawfoot! by Bruce Cotton

Major Topics:

- Advantages and disadvantages of each side, goals, and strategies
- Major campaigns of the war
- Constitutional conflicts over Civil Liberties and Lincoln's war plans
- Emancipation becomes the moral cause
- Sherman and Grant, modern warriors
- Social, economic, and political changes due to the war
- Lincoln's assassination and the consequences

Activities:

1. Watch Burn's *The Civil War, episode 9, Assassination*
2. Discussion of Andrew Johnson's impeachment trial and effects

Assessment:

Unit exam on chapter 15

Unit 9: Reconstruction

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 16
“Voices of the American Past, vol. 1”
Northern Teacher's View of the Freedmen (1865)
The Ku Klux Klan During Reconstruction (1872)

Major Topics:

- Successes and failures of Reconstruction
- The Impeachment Crisis and effects on nation
- Grant Administration, successes and effects of scandals of administration
- The Disputed election of 1876 and its aftermath

Activities:

- Students pick essay question and work in pairs.
1. Was Reconstruction a sincere effort at social and political change or was it a political vendetta?
 2. Did the Compromise of 1877 actually strengthen the Democratic hold on the South?

Assessment:

Test on chapter 16 with choice of essay

Unit 10: The West

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 17

“Construction the American Past,” vol. 2

Letters from Reservations By U.S. Agents (1890)

Three Letters by Military Leaders (1890 & 1891)

Major Topics:

- Life and culture of the Plains Indians
- Settlers and hardships on the plains
- Heroes and villains of the West
- The impact of the Transcontinental Railroad

Activities:

- View *The West* by Ken Burns, *The Grandest Enterprise Under God* episode and write a letter home giving hardships in Nebraska during 1880s.
- Listen to music of the West

Assessment:

Unit exam of chapter 17

Mid-term exam, January of 2008

Unit 11: Industrial and Urban Growth

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 18 and 19

“Constructing the American Past,” vol. 2

From Strikers, Communists, Tramps, and Detectives, by

Allan Pinkerton

“Chicago Tribune Magazine, 1986,

Who Threw The Bomb? The Hay market Riot

Major Topics:

- The Robber Barons, captains of industry or ruthless tyrants?
2. American Labor in the late 19th century
3. Urban political machines and how they helped immigrants

join the American mainstream

Content:

- Trials of American labor
- Urban life and culture shock faced by immigrant communities, 1880-1914
- American urban political development

Activities:

1. Write editorial, The Robber Barons, captains of industry or ruthless tyrants?
- 2.

Assessment:

- Quizzes on each chapter
- Unit exam

Unit 12: Populist and Progressive Change

Readings:

- Text, *America Past and Present* chapters 20, 22 and 23
- “Constructing the American Past,” vol. 2
- Little Italy*, by Jacob Riis
- Biography of a Bootblack*, by Rocco Corresca

Major Topics:

- The Rise of the Populist Movement
 - Political scandal and deadlock in the late 19th century
- The rise of the Progressives and their effects on politics, society, and the economy
- The election of 1896 issues political impact
- Urban reformers and the late 19th century
- Major political reforms
- Theodore Roosevelt, domestic and foreign policy successes
- Progressive reforms under William Taft and Woodrow Wilson

Activities:

Assessment:

- Quizzes on each chapter
- Unit exam on 20, 22, and 23
- Take home essay assignments

Unit 13: The Age of Imperialism

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 21
“Constructing the American Past,” vol. 2
The Strenuous Life by Theodore Roosevelt

Major Topics:

- U.S. in the Spanish-American War /Long-termEffects
- Roosevelt’s foreign policy
- The Philippine Insurrection
- Wilson’s policies in Central America and Mexico

Activities:

View ABC, *The Century*, vol. 1

Assessment:

Unit exam on chapter 21

Unit 14: America in the Great War

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 24
“Constructing the American Past,” vol. 2
Selling the War, Recruitment Posters of WWI (1917-1918)
“American History Illustrated” (Handout)
Soldiers of the Lord, Alvin C. York

Major Topics:

- Factors that led to hostilities in 1914
- British propaganda and US involvement
- Background and motives for US entry into war
- Major U.S. battles on the Western Front
- The home-front, sacrifice and new opportunities
- Limits on U.S. civil liberties
- Woodrow Wilson’s peace plans and setbacks at Versailles

Activities:

-Students will view the documentary *World War I, the Trenches* from CBS-
News and scenes from *The Century*, vol. 1 *Shell Shock*

Assessment:

Test on chapter 24
Take home DBQ on Versailles Treaty

Unit 15: The Roaring Twenties

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 25
“Constructing the American Past,” vol. 2
Science on Trial, chapter 1

Major Topics:

- Post-war recession, labor issues, and the Red Scare
- Labor strife in 1919 strikes
- Political scandal in Washington and Ohio Gang
- Prohibition and organized crime
- The wave of intolerance in the early 1920's
- The Coolidge and Hoover administrations
- From Boom to Bust to disaster

Activities:

1. Watch ABC documentary, *The Century, vol. 1, Boom to Bust*.
2. Discussion on social and cultural debates in the 1920's over immigration, prohibition, morals, and fundamentalism

Assessment:

Take home essay on selected topics of the 1920's
Exam on chapter 25

Unit 16: The Great Depression and New Deal

Readings:

Text, *American Past and Present*, chapter 26
“Constructing the American Past,” vol. 2
Women on the Breadlines, by Meridel Le Sueur
Poems of the 1930's

Major Topics:

- How Hoover and FDR handled the Depression
- FDR's critics in politics and the High Court
- The labor battles of the 1930's
- The Bonus Army of 1932
- The long-term social, economic, and political impact of the Depression and

-the New Deal

Activities:

1. Watch the ABC documentary, *The Century, vol. 2, Stormy Weather* on Bonus Army
2. John L.Lewis, *The Steelworkers Organizing Campaign*, Boller

Assessment:

Exam on chapter 26

DBQ: Hoover and Roosevelt, Liberal or Conservative (1984)

Unit 17: World War II

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 27

“Constructing the American Past,” vol. 2

The War Letters of Skipper and Joy Bilhartz, 1943-1945

Major Topics:

- Major events and people that led to WWII
- Lend-Lease and push for neutrality
- Disaster in the Pacific, the early days of war
- Plans to win at home and the fronts
- Major European and Pacific campaigns
- The war back home and how it changed the nation

Activities:

-Watch the NBC documentary *Bataan, the Forgotten Hell*, 1982

-Watch scenes from *The Great Raid*, 2005

Assessment:

Exam on chapter 27

Unit 18: America, 1945-1960

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 28

“Constructing the American Past,” vol. 2

The Long Telegram by George Kennan

Handout: *Decision Not to Intervene at Dien Bien Phu* (1954)

by Dwight Eisenhower

Major Topics:

How the Containment Policy of Truman shaped the strategy of the

Cold War

How the G.I. Bill expanded the American middle class in Post-WWII America

The Truman Era, foreign policy and domestic agenda

Dwight Eisenhower's highway program that changed American demographics

The early Civil Rights movement, 1948-1960

Activities:

Students to watch parts of the ABC documentary, *The Century*, vol. 3 & 4

Assessment:

Exam on chapter 28

Unit 19: America 1961-1965

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 29

"Constructing the American Past," vol. 2

Reporting Freedom Summer 1964

Major Topics:

-The election of 1960

- The Bay of Pigs and the Missile Crisis/ What was at stake

-The Kennedy Administration, successes and failures

-The Civil rights movement of the 1960's

-Johnson's attempts to transform American society, politics, and the economy

Activities:

1. Students to watch parts of the ABC documentary, *The Century*, vol.4

2. Students to compare the Great Society programs with those of the New Deal of the 1930's. Was the Great Society a second New Deal?

Assessment:

Exam on chapter 29

Unit 20: Viet Nam and the Turbulent Sixties

Readings:

Text, *American Past and Present*, chapter 30

- How the Containment Policy influenced the early days Of the Vietnam War
- Johnson and the war from the Gulf of Tonkin to the Tet Offensive
- American divisions over Vietnam/Anti war movement
- The election of 1968 and the divided Democrats
- The Nixon Administration, 1969-1973
- Nixon in China/ accomplishments

Activities:

1. Watch ABC, *The Century*, vol. 4, *Poisoned Dreams*
2. Discussion on Domino Theory

Assessment:

Exam on chapter 30

Unit 21: America 1968-1980

Readings:

Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 31
 Handouts on the Vietnam War and its aftermath

1. 1968, the year that changed the nation by doomed the Democrats
2. Richard Nixon, foreign policy genius
3. Vietnam aftermath, the troops came home to an ungrateful nation

Major Topics:

- The close election of 1968/Causes and issues
- Nixon's Vietnam strategy of Vietnamization
- Cambodia and the new college protests
- Nixon China visit
- Nixon's draft lottery and the coming of the volunteer military
- Vietnam aftermath/Troops coming to an ungrateful nation
- Election of 1972 and the Watergate scandal
- The Ford presidency
- The election of 1976
- Carter, the Domestic and foreign policy disasters
- The Iran hostage crisis

Activities:

1. ABC documentary, *The Century*, vol. 5

Assessment:

- Quiz and chapter 31 test
- Essay on the Vietnam War

Unit 22: America 1980-2000

Readings:

- Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 32 & 33
- Handouts for reading on recent American History

Major Topics:

- The Reagan presidency and his domestic policies
- Reagan and the Evil Empire
- The election of 1988
- George Bush and the Gulf War
- The election of 1992
- The Republican Revolution and 1994
- Clinton and the War in Bosnia
- The Successes and failures of the Clinton years
- The terror strikes and limited response

Activities:

1. Watch parts of , vol 5

Assessment:

- Test on Unit 22

Unit 23: America in the 21st Century

Readings:

- Text, *America Past and Present*, chapter 33, the Presidency of George Bush

1. The 2000 election was not stolen
2. America and the new war against terror

3. The War in Iraq from the soldiers' point of view

Major Topics:

- The 2000 election and controversy
- The response to 9/11
- Bush and domestic policy
- The War in Iraq, success and failures
- The election of 2004
- Current issues facing America

Assessment:

- Unit exam on period 2000 to present
- Review course materials for exam

Post-exam:

- Cover current foreign and domestic policy issues