

American History CR

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of American History. During this course, students will examine the political, economic, and social development of the United States from the formation of the land bridge through the causes that led the nation to engage in a volatile civil war. The content will focus on the origins of the nation's democratic principles and continue through present day domestic and foreign issues that affect American society. There will be a particular emphasis on the individuals and groups that have not only been impacted by the nation's development but those who have made contributions as well. Students will utilize critical thinking and problem solving skills as they participate in interactive discussions, individual research and complete assignments establishing real-world connections.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- Identify to origins of the United States
- Analyze significant documents that have impacted the development of the nation
- Identify key events in the nation's development
- Identify significant individuals that contributed to the nation's development
- Describe issues that have and still affect the nation both home and abroad
- Describe the causes and effects of the various wars that Americans have fought
- Discuss the characteristics that define the United States as World Power

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE LENGTH: Two semesters

REQUIRED TEXT: None

COURSE OUTLINE:

SEMESTER A

Unit 1: Settling of the America's (Pre-Columbian–1783)

- ◆ Section 1 - Pre-Columbian Era
- ◆ Section 2 - European Exploration and Colonization
- ◆ Section 3 - The New England and Southern Colonies
- ◆ Section 4 - The American Revolution
- ◆ Section 5 - Exam Preparation

Unit 2: The Growing Nation (1777–1830)

- ◆ Section 1 - Forming the New Republic
- ◆ Section 2 - Expanding the Republic
- ◆ Section 3 - Resistance, War, and Expansion
- ◆ Section 4 - Settling the Western Frontier
- ◆ Section 5 - Innovators and Inventions: The Course to Change
- ◆ Section 6 - Exam Preparation

Unit 3: The Dividing Nation (1808–1850)

- ◆ Section 1 - Divisions Among the Nation
- ◆ Section 2 - Nationalism
- ◆ Section 3 - Jacksonian Democracy and Beyond
- ◆ Section 4 - America and Reform Movements
- ◆ Section 5 - Exam Preparation

Unit 4: The Expanding Nation (1765–1849)

- ◆ Section 1 - Immigration and Divisions
- ◆ Section 2 - Spanish Influence in North America
- ◆ Section 3 - Trails, Texas, and Beyond

Unit 5: The Nation Torn Apart (1844–1865)

- ◆ Section 1 - Causes for Separation
- ◆ Section 2 - The Decline of the Nation
- ◆ Section 3 - The Civil War
- ◆ Section 4 - Exam Preparation

SEMESTER B

Unit 1: Reconstructing and Expanding America (1865–1890)

- ◆ Section 1 - Reconstruction
- ◆ Section 2 - U.S. Expansion Westward
- ◆ Section 3 - Innovations and Industry
- ◆ Section 4 - Big Business
- ◆ Section 5 - Unionization

Unit 2: From the Age of Extremes to a World Power (1880–1914)

- ◆ Section 1 - Immigration
- ◆ Section 2 - City Growth
- ◆ Section 3 - Culture and Politics
- ◆ Section 4 - Imperialist Attitudes
- ◆ Section 5 - World War I

Unit 3: Progressivism to Hard Times (1900–1932)

- ◆ Section 1 - Government Reform and Women's Rights
- ◆ Section 2 - Moral Issues and Conflicts
- ◆ Section 3 - Social and Cultural Trends
- ◆ Section 4 - Business, Economy, and Government Policy
- ◆ Section 5 - Depression and a New Deal

Unit 4: America: A World Leader Emerges (1933–1957)

- ◆ Section 1 - The Road to War
- ◆ Section 2 - The War in Europe
- ◆ Section 3 - The War in the Pacific
- ◆ Section 4 - World War II and the American Home Front
- ◆ Section 5 - World War II and Beyond

Unit 5: The Tumultuous Sixties (1957–1972)

- ◆ Section 1 - Kennedy and Johnson
- ◆ Section 2 - Foreign and Domestic Issues
- ◆ Section 3 - The Vietnam War and the Nixon Years

Unit 6: The Road to the Modern Era (1974–Present)

- ◆ Section 1 - The Ford and Carter Administrations
- ◆ Section 2 - The Reagan and George H.W. Bush Administrations
- ◆ Section 3 - The Clinton and George W. Bush Administrations