

The following descriptions represent the major concepts studied and assessed in this course.

Semester 1

Unit 1 **1865-1877 Reconstruction Era**

- Impact of Congressional Reconstruction on the South
- 13th, 14th, & 15th amendments

Unit 2 **1877-1900 Western Expansion, Industry, & Reform**

- Reasons for rapid industrial expansion and economic growth of late 19th century
- Role of major industries and leaders in transformation from rural/agricultural to urban/industrial nation
- Impact of industrial changes on working men and women in the United States
- Social impact of rapid industrialization
- Major parties and issues of Gilded Age Politics
- Growth and impact of the Populist movement
- The Progressive Movement

Unit 3 **1890-1920 – American Imperialism & World War I**

- Motivations and actions behind United States' expansion overseas
- Causes of Spanish-American war and important changes in US global role
- New foreign policy and impact on the Caribbean, Far East and Pacific
- Causes of United States entry into World War I
- Goals of Wilsonian diplomacy v. actual Treaty of Versailles
- Impact of World War I on next two decades of United States foreign policy
- Isolationism v. internationalism
- Impact of World War I at home

The following learning targets represent the major concepts studied and assessed in this course.

Semester 2

Unit 4

1920-1939 - Free Market Rollercoaster

- Politics of Harding, Coolidge and Hoover years
- New Economy of the 1920 and rise of consumerism
- Culture wars of the 1920s
- Causes of the Great Depression
- Goals of President Roosevelt and overall aims of the New Deal

Unit 5

1939-1960 – World War II & the Rise of the Cold War

- Causes of World War II and United States' entry
- United States role in Allied victory
- Origins of the Cold War
- Cold War policies of the Truman administration: basis for next 50 years
- Impact of World War II on home front
- Impact of Cold War on home front

Unit 6

1939-Present - Post 1939 domestic policies and issues in the United States

- Post World War II emerging social, economic and political issues
- Prosperity of 1950s and 1960s compared to other periods
- Social unrest of the 1960s and 1970s
- Presidency of Richard Nixon as a watershed event
- Presidencies of Gerald Ford and James Carter
- Conservative resurgence in the United States
- Major domestic accomplishments and shortcomings of the Reagan and Bush presidencies
- Major accomplishments and domestic policy trends of the Clinton presidency

Unit 7

1960-Present – Post 1939 foreign policy and issues in the United States

- Basic Cold War attitudes and actions: Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan and Bush
- Causes and implications of the Korean War: the “limited war” concept
- Vietnam as Cold War case study
- Major foreign policy success and failures: Carter, Reagan, Bush, Clinton, Bush II
- Terrorism as major foreign policy concern