

Survey of U.S. History

Course number: SS3313

Grade level: 9–12

Credits: 1.0

Prerequisite courses: None

Course Description

This course presents a cohesive and comprehensive overview of the history of the United States, surveying the major events and turning points of U.S. history as it moves from the Era of Exploration through modern times. As students examine each era of history, they will analyze primary sources and carefully research events to gain a clearer understanding of the factors that have shaped U.S. history. In early units, students will assess the foundations of U.S. democracy while examining crucial documents. In later units, students will examine the effects of territorial expansion, the Civil War, and the rise of industrialization as they assess the outcomes of economic trends and the connections between culture and government. As the course draws to a close, students will focus their studies on the causes of cultural and political change in the modern age. Throughout the course, students will learn the importance of cultural diversity while examining history from different perspectives.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet these goals:

- Assess the political development of the United States, including the influence of democratic ideals, the changing role of government, and the development of the modern two-party system.
- Explore the evolution of American culture and society, including the role of reform movements, from the colonial era to the present.
- Investigate and understand the reasons behind American involvement in wars and conflicts throughout U.S. history.
- Trace the economic development of the United States from an agrarian economy to an industrial economy to the leading economic force in the world.

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course would. Throughout the course, you are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on the following activities:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, e-mail, chat, and system announcements. Through this communication with your teacher, you will monitor your progress through the course and improve your learning by reviewing material that was challenging for you.

You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face-to-face, as you:

- Collaborate on projects
- Ask and answer questions in your peer group
- Develop speaking and listening skills

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

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|------------------|-----|
| Lesson Quizzes | 20% |
| Unit Tests | 30% |
| Cumulative Exams | 20% |
| Essays | 10% |
| Assignments | 10% |
| Additional | 0% |
| Projects | 10% |

Scope and Sequence

When you log into the Virtual Classroom, you can view the entire course map, which provides a scope and sequence of all topics you will study. Clicking a lesson's link in the course map leads to a page listing instructional activities, assignments, and learning objectives specific to that lesson. The units of study are summarized below.

- Unit 1:** The Thirteen Colonies
- Unit 2:** The American Revolution
- Unit 3:** A New Nation
- Unit 4:** Westward Expansion and Sectionalism
- Unit 5:** The Civil War and Reconstruction
- Unit 6:** Industrialization and the Gilded Age
- Unit 7:** Progressivism and Reform
- Unit 8:** Imperialism and the Great War
- Unit 9:** World War II
- Unit 10:** The Rise of the Cold War
- Unit 11:** Civil Rights
- Unit 12:** America in the Modern World