



**SOCIAL STUDIES**  
 Course: United States History I  
 High School: Grade 10

**Essential Course Information**

- Course Revision
- Full Year - 5 Credits
- Required for Graduation
- Honors level requires Teacher Recommendation

**Course Overview**

In this course, students will examine the social, political, economic, and cultural history of the United States from the Colonial Era to the Gilded Age. U.S. History I examines colonization, revolution, the early republic, slavery, the Civil War, and the Reconstruction Eras. Themes include American culture, civil and human rights, technological change, economic change, immigration and migration, the expansion of the federal government, and the study of U.S. domestic and foreign policy.

Unit	Estimated Class Time	Overview
<b><u>Unit 1</u></b> <i><u>The Colonial Era</u></i>	5 weeks	European colonists in North America faced several challenges in establishing permanent settlements. From conflicts with Native Americans to developing a sustainable economy to creating governance structures, the original 13 British colonies developed varying solutions, which at times led to vast regional differences.
<b><u>Unit 2</u></b> <i><u>The American Revolution, the Constitution, and the New Republic</u></i>	8 weeks	Growing political and economic tensions between the American colonists and Great Britain sparked the American independence movement. Following independence, the new nation faced many challenges while trying to build a stable system of democratic governance for the newly established federal republic.
<b><u>Unit 3</u></b> <i><u>Building a Nation</u></i>	10 weeks	Debates about individual rights, states' rights, and federal power shaped the development of the political institutions and practices of the new Republic.
<b><u>Unit 4</u></b> <i><u>Antebellum Culture, Economy, and Reforms</u></i>	5 weeks	The rapid expansion and transformation of the American economy contributed to regional tensions, social reform, and the creation of a uniquely American culture.
<b><u>Unit 5</u></b> <i><u>Sectionalism and the Civil War</u></i>	7 weeks	As the nation expanded from sea to sea and exerted itself further on the global stage, growing sectional tensions—especially over slavery, the balance between states' rights and federal power, and economic governance—resulted in political and constitutional crises. These ultimately culminated in the United States Civil War.
<b><u>Unit 6</u></b> <i><u>Reconstruction, the West, and the Gilded Age</u></i>	5 weeks	Following the U.S. Civil War, the United States entered a period of Reconstruction. Federal policies revolving around economic and political reform resulted in the expansion of the economy and an expansion of constitutional rights. However, those rights were undermined, and issues of inequality continued for African Americans, women, Native Americans, Mexican Americans, and Chinese immigrants. In addition, the United States was transformed from an agricultural to an increasingly industrial and urbanized society. This transformation created new economic opportunities; however, it also created many societal problems.

# Content Continuum

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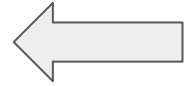
## Modern World History

Age of Revolutions through modern day

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## United States History I

Exploration, Colonization, and Settlement through the Emergence of Modern America



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## United States History II

Progressivism through modern day

### INSTRUCTIONAL / SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

1. Textbook: The Americans.
2. Supplemental readings and online resources to enhance understanding of course content and skills
  - DBQ Project
  - Thinking Like a Historian: Stanford History Education Group
  - New Visions
  - The Amistad Curriculum and others.

All existing resources will be evaluated for alignment to new curriculum

### KEY FEATURES OF REVISION

- Social studies curriculum was last revised in 2020.
- Student access to digital resources has expanded greatly.
- Modifications to performance based assessments and common writing tasks.
- Incorporations of activities and assessments that develop 21st century skills.
- Further alignment to all New Jersey mandates.

***LEP (Limited English Proficiency) and Special Education sections of United States History I are offered.***

***Differentiation strategies are included.***

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