

Course Outline

Unit 1: Colonial History (12 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 1-5

Selections from *The American Spirit Vol 1* Ch 1-4

Excerpts from *American Slavery American Freedom*

Themes:

The emergence of diversity in colonial American culture, demographic changes in North America, The economic transformation of colonies

Key Topics: Pre-Columbian, North American societies, early explorations, Spanish, French, and English reasons for colonization, introduction and spread of slavery and slave societies, comparing Northern, Middle, and Southern Colonies, religious diversity of the colonies, The Enlightenment and Great Awakening, colonial government and imperial policy in British North America

Unit 2: Seeking Independence (10 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 6-8

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 1* Ch 5-7

Excerpts from *The Radicalism of the American Revolution*

Themes:

Evolving citizenship in America and the changing political landscape, The birth of American identity, The American Revolution on the world stage

Key Topics: The French and Indian War, Proclamation of 1763, Acts imposed by Parliament, American reactions to Acts, First Continental Congress, political divisions, battles of the American Revolution, women during the war, France involvement in revolution, changing society during the war and peace, Yorktown and Peace of Paris

Unit 3: A New Nation (10 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 9

Selections from *The American Spirit Vol 1* Ch 5-7

Excerpts from *Capitalism and a New Social Order*

Themes: The rise of American identity, Reforming the first government, Economic problems help transform government, America's relationship with the major powers in the world

Key Topics: *Articles of Confederation*, State Constitutions, economic problems during confederation, diplomatic relationships, Shay's Rebellion, Constitutional Convention, U.S. Constitution and ratification

Unit 4: The New Republic and the Rise of Political Parties (with unit 3)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 10-12

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 1* Ch 9-12

Excerpts from *The Rise of American Democracy*

Themes: Exchange of power between political parties, U.S. defeats a major power in the world, Geographic landscape of U.S. increases, Competing economic ideas confront one another, American Identity

Key Topics: Washington's America, President's Cabinet, economic plans of Hamilton, Whiskey Rebellion, relations with France, Jeffersonian democracy, Louisiana Purchase, conflict with Native Americans, War of 1812, American System, Era of Good Feelings, Marshall Court, Monroe Doctrine

Unit 5: The Jacksonian Era (10 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 13

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 1* Ch 13

Excerpts from *The Rise of American Democracy* and *Liberty and Power, Andrew Jackson vs. Henry Clay*

Themes: The "Common Man's" role in American politics and American identity, Reform movements in early America, Geographic and economic changes in the U.S.

Key Topics: President Jackson, Common Man, extension of White Male Democracy, spoils system, Native American removal, Bank War, Nullification Crisis, Emergence of Whigs, Texas Question, Mass Democracy and Two-Party System

Unit 6: Market Revolution and Social Reform (with unit 5)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 14-15

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 1* Ch 14-16

Excerpts from *Cradle of the Middle Class* and *The Rise of American Democracy*

Themes: Industrial changes bring about economic transformations, Diversity leads to social classes, Reform movements seek better conditions

Women try to obtain a voice

Key Topics: transportation, industrialization, European immigration, inequalities of social classes, reform movements, Women's rights

Unit 7: The South and the Slave Controversy (15 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 16

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 1* Ch 17

Excerpts from *The Peculiar Institution, The Slave Community, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, Narrative of Frederick Douglass, Within the Plantation Household*, and *Roll, Jordan, Roll*

Themes: Economic differences of states, Abolition as a reform movement

Slavery becomes political

Key Topics: profits of slavery, lives of slaves, slaveholding minority, abolitionist crusade, southern response, abolition and northern conscience

Unit 8: Manifest Destiny (with unit 7)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 17

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 1* Ch 18

Themes: Geographic expansion across the continent, Culture conflicts, Demographic growth leads to diversity in the U.S.

Key Topics: Manifest Destiny, Native Americans of the Plains, people of the Southwest, War with Mexico, Oregon Fever

Unit 9: The Impending Crisis (with unit 7)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 18-19

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 1* Ch 19-20

Excerpts from *The Impending Crisis* and *Origins of Southern Radicalism*

Themes: Economic, social, and political effects of internal migration, patterns of resistance and the long-term economic, political, and social effects of slavery

Key Topics: slavery in territories, Fugitive Slave Act, Wilmot Proviso, Compromise of 1850, “Bleeding Kansas”, Dred Scott Case, Lincoln-Douglas Debates, John Brown, Uncle Tom’s Cabin, Harper’s Ferry, Election of 1860, secession

Unit 10: The Civil War and Reconstruction (13 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 20-22

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 1* Ch 21-22

Excerpts from *Battle Cry of Freedom* and *Free Soil, Free Labor, Free Men*

Themes: Challenges of War, Transforming the Old South, Struggle for equality, Economic transformations during and after the war

Key Topics: Civil War leaders and battles, economic issues in the North and South, Lincoln as President, freedman, Presidential and Congressional Reconstruction, Rise of KKK, Redemption, Compromise of 1877

Unit 11: The Gilded Age (10 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 23-26

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 23-24

Excerpts from *Social Darwinism in American Thought*, *The Myth of the Robber Barons*, and *The Souls of Black Folks*

Themes: America becomes more diverse, American identity evolves, Government's role in economics, Economic issues brought to center stage of politics

Key Topics: Industrialization, New South, racial conflicts in the South, immigration, nativism, Native Americans, "robber barons", monopolies, trusts, partisan politics, economic issues, The "New Woman", Washington v. Du Bois, The Great West and the Agricultural Revolution, Populism

Unit 12: Foreign Policy (9 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 27

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 27-28

Excerpts from *Social Darwinism in American Thought*

Themes: The role of the U.S. in world affairs changes, Political and economic motives affect U.S. policy, U.S. international policy affects lives of women and minorities at home

Key Topics: Imperialism, U.S. intervention in the Caribbean and South America, Hawaii, Philippines, Roosevelt Corollary, WWI, Women and minorities during the war

Unit 13: The Progressive Era (with unit 12)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 28-29

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 25-26, 29

Excerpts from *The Jungle*

Themes: Government's role in economics, Reform movements bring about change, Immigration brings about diversity and changes American identity, Reforms transcend political parties

Key Topics: Reform movements, labor demands, expanding the Women's sphere, Women and children legislation, public education, moral crusades, Woman Suffrage, state governments, T. Roosevelt and the Modern Presidency, Corporate legislation

Unit 14: WWI (10 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 30

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 30-31

Themes: The role of the U.S. in world affairs changes, Political and economic motives affect U.S. policy, U.S. international policy affects lives of women and minorities at home

Key Topics: America goes to war, Wilsonian idealism and Fourteen Point, on the Home Front, League of Nations, Treaty of Versailles

Unit 15: The Roaring '20's (with unit 14)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 31-32

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 32-33

Excerpts from *Flapper*

Themes: Urban expansion creates conflict between classes and impacts the Environment, "The Great Migration" causes demographic changes, Economic prosperity affects culture and American identity, Religion and Science clash over ideas, American literature, music, and art show the diversity of America

Key Topics: Republican administrations, Government corruption, Resd Scare, urban sprawl, advertising, changes in the arts, Scope's Trial, Ku Klux Klan, prohibition and crime, Coolidge and Hoover, Good Neighbor Policy

Unit 16: The Great Depression and New Deal (6 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 34

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 34

Themes: Economic problems affect every aspect of life and almost all groups, Economic problems affect families, Depression causes population shifts, Government's role in reforming economics and society, Environmental impact of farming practices

Key Topics: Stock Market Crash, families during the Depression, Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, The First and Second New Deals, Supreme Court, Women and Minorities in the New Deal, impact of the New Deal on the environment

Unit 17: World War II (9 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 35

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 35-36

Themes: U.S. tries neutrality in world affairs, U.S. response to attack by foreign force, Women and Minorities find opportunities during war, War brings about economic transformation, Japanese Americans become interred during war, America becomes a world power

Key Topics: neutrality, war in Europe, Pearl Harbor, Japanese Internment, war, economy, D-Day, major WWII battles in Europe and Pacific, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, peace

Unit 18: The Cold War Beginnings (18 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 36-37

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 37-38

Excerpts from *The Cold War*

Themes: U.S. as a world power, Expansion of government into private lives, U.S. foreign policy towards communism, American families experience transformation, Teenage culture in America changes

Key Topics: origins of Cold War, Truman Doctrine, nuclear arms race, Red Scare, McCarthyism, Eisenhower, The Fifties

Unit 19: The Stormy Sixties (with unit 18)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 38

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 39

Excerpts from *The Cold War* and *Fever*

Themes: U.S. foreign policy towards communism, Minorities seek equality, Culture of the South is challenged, Americans protest government policies, Reform brings about changes in society and culture, Women seek equality

Key Topics: Kennedy and Cold War, Johnson and Great Society, Election of Nixon, counter-culture movement, Vietnam, Civil Rights Movement, Feminist Movement

Unit 20: The Stalemate Seventies (with unit 19)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 38-39

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 40

Excerpts from *The Cold War*

Themes: U.S. foreign policy, impact of war on foreign policy, politics, economy, and society, environmental movement

Key Topics: Economic stagflation, Nixon: Soviet Union and China, Nixon domestic program, Israelis, Arabs, and oil, Watergate, Presidential resignation, election of Carter, OPEC and energy crisis, Iran-Hostage Crisis, Environmental movement

Unit 21: Resurgence of Conservatism (12 days)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chp. 40

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2* Ch 41

Themes: U.S. foreign policy changes, Political parties have differing views of U.S. foreign policy, Economic crisis affect Americans political alignment
American culture becomes more conservative

Key Topics: Reagan, Reaganomics, Thawing of Cold War, Iran Contra scandal, Conservatism in the courts, the Cold War ends, Women's Rights, unions, George H.W. Bush, Persian Gulf War

Unit 22: America in a Post-Cold War World (with unit 21)

Readings: *The American Pageant*, chps. 41-42

Selections from *The American Spirit vol 2 Ch 42*

Themes: globalization, reforms in gay rights, public health, and government, politics of distrust, technology in economy, immigration and assimilation

Topics: election of Clinton, Post-Cold War foreign policy, impeachment, 2000 election, September 11, Iraq, multicultural society, cities and suburbs