

Grade Ten – World History, Culture, and Geography: The Modern World

How did ideas associated with the Enlightenment, the Scientific Revolution, the Age of Reason, and a variety of democratic revolutions develop and impact civil society?
Why did imperial powers seek to expand their empires? How did colonies respond? What were the legacies of these conquests?
Why was the modern period defined by global conflict and cooperation, economic growth and collapse, and global independence and connection?

10-1 The World in 1750

How were most societies organized in the 1700s?
Who held power in the 1700s? Why?
What was the divine right of kings?

10-2 1750-1917: Revolutions Reshape the World; Democratic Revolutions

How were enlightened ideas a break from the past?
How did the “social contract” affect ordinary people?
Why did civic reformers argue for representative governments?
What are individual or natural rights? Who received those rights in the eighteenth century?
What were the consequences of trying to implement political revolutionary ideas in Europe, Latin America, and North America?
How do the French, American, and Haitian Revolutions compare to one another?
How is national identity constructed?

10-3 Industrial Revolutions

Should this era of industrialization be called an industrial revolution? Why or why not?
What were the results of the Industrial Revolutions? How was technology, and the environment transformed by industrialization?
How did industrial revolutions affect governments, countries, and national identity in similar and different ways?

10-4 The Rise of Imperialism and Colonialism

Why did industrialized nations embark on imperial ventures?
How did colonization work?
How was imperialism connected to race and religion?
How was imperialism similar and different between colonies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America?
What were the causes and effects of the Mexican Revolution?
How did native people respond to colonization?

10-5 Causes and Course of World War I

Why did The Great War become a World War?
How was World War I a total war?
What were the consequences of World War I for nations and people?
Why did the Russian Revolution develop and how did it become popular?

- 10-6 Effects of World War I
- How did World War I end? What were the consequences of the postwar agreement?
 - How did agreements dating from WWI and post-war period impact the map of the Middle East?
 - What were the effects of World War I upon ordinary people?
 - Why does the term “lost generation” refer to those that lived through or came of age during these years?
 - How did the post-World War I world order contribute to the collapse of the world-wide economy?
- 10-7 Rise of Totalitarian Governments after World War I
- Why did communism and fascism appeal to Europeans in the 1930s?
 - What were key ideas of communism? How were the ideas translated on the ground?
 - What was totalitarianism and how was it implemented in similar and different ways in Japan, Germany, Italy, and the Soviet Union?
 - How did Nazis come to power? Why did ordinary people support them?
- 10-8 Causes and Consequences of World War II
- Why was the death toll so high during World War II?
 - What were the key goals of the Axis and Allied powers? How was the war mobilized on different fronts?
 - How did technology affect World War II?
 - How was World War II a total war? How did World War II’s actors, goals, and strategies compare with World War I?
 - How was the Holocaust carried out?
- 10-9 International Developments in the Post-World War II World
- How did the Cold War develop?
 - How was the Cold War waged all over the world?
 - How did former colonies respond to the Cold War and liberation?
 - How and why did the Cold War end?
- 10-10 Nation-Building in the Contemporary World
- How have nations organized in the post-Cold War world?
 - How have nations struggled in similar and different ways to achieve economic, political, and social stability?
 - How have developing nations worked together to identify and attempt to solve challenges?
- 10-11 Economic Integration and Contemporary Revolutions in Information, Technology, and Communications
- How has globalization affected people, nations, and capital?
 - How has the post-Cold War world and globalization facilitated extremist and terrorist organizations?
- 10-12 The New Geopolitics
- The Impact of Globalization
 - Rights, Religion, and Identity
 - A New Role for the West

Grade Eleven – United States History and Geography: Continuity and Change in Modern U.S. History

How did the federal government grow between the late nineteenth and twenty-first centuries?
What does it mean to be an American in modern times?
How did the United States become a superpower?
How did the United States' population become more diverse over the twentieth century?

11-1 Connecting with Past Studies: The Nation's Beginnings

What are key tenets of American democracy?
How did the country change because of the Civil War and Reconstruction in the nineteenth century?

11-2 Industrialization, Urbanization, Immigration, and Progressive Reform

How did America's economy, industries, and population grow after the Civil War?
How did the federal government impact the country's growth in the years following the Civil War?
Who came to the United States at the end of the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century? Why did they come? What was their experience like when they arrived?
Why did women want the right to vote and how did they convince men to grant it to them?

11-3 The Rise of the United States as a World Power

How did America's role in the world change between the 1870s and 1910s?
Did the United States become an imperial power? Why or why not?
How did America change because of World War I?

11-4 The 1920s

How did culture change in the 1920s?
Were the 1920s a "return to normalcy?" Why or why not?
Why were the 1920s filled with political, social, and economic extremes?

11-5 The Great Depression and the New Deal

Why was there a Great Depression?
How did the New Deal attempt to remedy problems from the Great Depression?
How did ordinary people respond to the Great Depression?

11-6 America's Participation in World War II

Why did Americans not want to join World War II before the bombing at Pearl Harbor?
How did the American government change because of World War II?
How was the war mobilized and fought differently in the Atlantic versus the Pacific?
How did America win the war in the Pacific?
How did World War II serve to advance movements for equality at home and abroad?

Post-War America

11-7 Cold War Struggles Abroad

- How did American foreign policy shift after World War II?
- What was Containment? How was it employed?
- How did anti-communism drive foreign policy?
- Why was the period between 1946 and 1990 known as the Cold War?

11-8 Cold War Struggles at Home

- How was the Cold War fought domestically?
- How did the government work to combat the perceived threat of Communism domestically?
- How were American politics shaped by the Cold War?
- How did the Cold War affect ordinary Americans?

11-9 Movements for Equality

- Why was there a civil rights movement?
- What were the goals and strategies of the civil rights movement?
- Did the civil rights movement succeed?
- What does “equal rights” mean?
- How did various movements for equality build upon one another?
- How was the government connected to the movements for equality?
- How was the war in Vietnam similar to and different from other Cold War struggles?
- How did the war in Vietnam affect movements for equality?

11-10 Contemporary American Society

- How has the role of the federal government (and especially the presidency) changed from the 1970s through more recent times?
- What does globalization mean and how has it affected the United States?
- How did the Cold War end and what foreign policy developments came out of it?
- Why is the United States more diverse now than it was in the middle of the twentieth century?
- In what ways have issues such as education; civil rights for people of color, immigrants, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans, and disabled Americans; economic policy; the environment; and the status of women remained unchanged over time? In what ways have they changed?

Grade Twelve – Principles of American Democracy (One Semester)

What are the key elements of representative democracy and how did they develop over time?
What are the trade-offs between majority rule and individual rights?
How much power should government have over its citizens?
What rights and responsibilities does a citizen have in a democracy?
How do people get elected?
Why does the government work sometimes and not others?
What problems are posed by representative government and how can they be addressed?

12AD-1 Fundamental Principles of American Democracy

Why do we need a government?
How much power should government have over its citizens?
What do the terms liberty and equality mean and how do they relate to each other?
What are the dangers of a democratic system?
What are the trade-offs between majority rule and individual rights?

12AD-2 Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens in a Democracy

What rights and responsibilities does a citizen have in a democracy?
What does it mean to be a citizen?
How can citizens improve a democracy?

12AD-3 Fundamental Principles of Civil Society

What is a civil society and why do we want to have one?
What are the limits of individual liberty?
What are the dangers of majority rule?
What is the role of religion in a democracy?
How do government actions impact civil society?

12AD-4 The Three Branches of Government as Established by the U.S. Constitution

Why does the Constitution both grant power and take it away?
What is the most powerful branch of government?
Why is it so hard and take so long for government to act?

12AD-5 Interpreting the Constitution: The Work of the U.S. Supreme Court

What is judicial review and how does it work?
What makes a law or an action unconstitutional and does that determination ever change?

12AD-6 The Electoral Process

How do you get elected?
Who gets elected and who doesn't?
What impact do polls, political parties, and PACs have upon elections?
How can I get involved in a campaign?
Why should I vote?

12AD-7 Federalism: Different Levels of Government

Why are powers divided between different levels of government?
What level of government is the most important to me – local, state, tribal, or federal?
What level of government is the most powerful – local, state, tribal, or federal?

12AD-8 The Fourth Estate: The Role of the Media on American Public Life

To what extent are the press and the media fulfilling a watchdog role?

Do media outlets provide enough relevant information about government and politics to allow citizens to vote and participate in a well-informed way?

How has the Internet revolution impacted journalism and what are its effects on the coverage of public affairs and current issues?

12AD-9 Comparative Governments and the Challenges of Democracy

Do citizens have rights that the state must respect, and if so what are they?

What is the role of civil dissent and when is it necessary?

Why have some revolutions been followed by purges of dissidents, mass arrests of political opponents, murder of “class enemies,” suppression of free speech, abolition of private property, and attacks on religious groups?

Why do authoritarian governments spy on their citizens and prevent them from emigrating?

Why do they jail or harass critics of their government? Why is only one party allowed in an authoritarian state? Why do ordinary people risk their lives to flee authoritarian states?

How do individual countries combat terrorist organizations that don't recognize international norms or boundaries? How can individual citizens or non-governmental organizations improve civil society? How can multi-national alliances work together to combat climate change?

Grade Twelve – Principles of Economics (One Semester)

How is economics about scarcity, investment, growth, employment, competition, protection, entrepreneurship, and markets?

What is capitalism? What are its benefits and problems?

What does it mean to be financially literate?

How do worldwide markets affect me?

12E-1 Fundamental Economic Concepts and Reasoning

How are resources allocated?

What is a market economy?

12E-2 The American Market Economy

What are key components of the American economic system?

How are prices determined? Who determines prices?

How do banks and markets function?

12E-3 Government Influence upon the American Economy

How is the American government involved in the economy?

How has the American government been involved in the economy in the past?

How does the federal budget affect ordinary people?

What does it mean to pay taxes?

Why is there a Federal Reserve Bank? How does it function?

What does it mean to run a deficit?

12E-4 Labor Markets

What does it mean to work?

How does one compete in the labor market?

How are wages determined?

How and why do workers organize?

12E-5 Aggregate Economic Behavior

What is macro-economics and what does it reveal about the economy?

How does a cyclical economy function?

How does data help to tell the story of the economy?

12E-6 The Global Economy

What is globalization?

How does globalization affect international and national economies, and individuals?

Why are there critics of globalization?