

Middle School U.S. History

Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Number: SS1106

Grade level: 6–8

Prerequisite Courses: None

Credits: 1.0

Course Description

Offering an interactive and comprehensive overview of American history, this course engages and inspires students to learn about the rich and diverse history of America’s native peoples, early European colonization and settlement in America, and the creation of a new nation through the American Revolution. Middle school students enrolled in this course will closely examine major changes brought about by the nation’s reconstruction, industrialization, urbanization, and progressive reforms and will consider the implications each of these events had on the expansion of the United States’ global influence through modern times. Over the course of two semesters, interesting course content encourages students to think carefully about the challenges and opportunities facing the United States in the 21st century.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Understand the geographical regions of the United States and the influence of these regions on early settlements and the nation’s development
- Describe the role of immigration and migration in the development of the nation, and identify common push and pull factors affecting these trends in United States history
- Explore different cultures within American History and how these cultures were changed by various influences such as settlement, acts of government, and conflict
- Examine the importance of cultural and reform movements on American government and society
- Describe 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, by analyzing the documents and decisions that have shaped American government
- Investigate and understand the reasons behind American involvement in wars and conflicts throughout United States history
- Trace the economic development of the United States, including its shift from an agrarian to an industrial economy, its emergence as a leading economic force in the world, and its role in the global economy today

Student Expectations

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

- 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, email, chat, and system announcements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on project, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and 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.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	10%
Lesson Quizzes	20%
Unit Tests	50%
Cumulative Exams	20%
Additional	0%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. The units of study are summarized below:

Unit 1: Understanding the History of the United States (Beginnings to 1620)

Unit 2: Colonization and Settlement (1585–1763)

Unit 3: Revolution and the New Nation (1754–1820s)

Unit 4: Expansion and Reform (1801–1861)

Unit 5: Civil War and Reconstruction (1850–1877)

Unit 6: The Development of the Industrial United States (1870–1900)

Unit 7: The Emergence of Modern America (1890–1930)

Unit 8: The Great Depression and World War II (1920–1945)

Unit 9: Postwar United States (1945 to early 1970s)

Unit 10: Contemporary United States (1968 to the Present)