

U.S. History Learning Targets

Semester 1

I. Democratic values and institutions

1. I can describe and analyze the roles and relationships of Europeans, Native Americans and Africans in the colonial period.
2. I can compare economic, social and political arrangements in the major regions of colonial America.
3. I can describe the causes and consequences of the American Revolution.
4. I can describe and analyze the ideas within the Declaration of Independence.
5. I can identify and explain the fundamental ideas, specific provisions and practical applications of the United States Constitution.
6. I can trace the development of the American political party system and analyze its impact on democracy.
7. I can discuss changes in attitudes toward political participation, including Jacksonian democracy and the women's rights movement.

II. Growth of the Nation (Land and expansion)

8. I can describe and explain the territorial expansion of the United States in the first half of the 19th century.
9. I can describe and assess the interrelationships between white settlers and the U.S. government on the one hand and Native Americans on the other .
10. I can explain the social, economic and intellectual causes of westward expansion.
11. I can describe the impact of American expansion on its relationships with other countries.

III. Sectionalism and Race

12. I can describe the major social, economic and political differences between the North and South in the antebellum period.
13. I can describe the institution of slavery and explain how it developed.
14. I can describe and explain the growth of abolitionism and other reform movements.
15. I can describe and assess the effectiveness of compromises between the North and South.
16. I can explain the importance of events leading up to the Civil War.
17. I can describe the analyze the importance of military, social, economic and political factors in the outcome of the Civil War.
18. I can describe the social and economic conditions of the North and South in the post Civil War period.
19. I can describe and critique the Reconstruction policies of the United States.

Semester 2

I. Industrialization and the American Dream

1. I can describe the American Industrial Revolution in terms of changes in technology, business organization, transportation systems and working conditions.
2. I can identify and critique the social and cultural changes brought about by industrialization, consumerism and mass culture.
3. I can demonstrate basic economic literacy, especially in terms of the relationship between the economy and the government.
4. I can describe and explain urbanization in America.
5. I can describe changes in patterns of immigration and assess their importance.
6. I can describe and explain the responses of labor, populists and progressives to industrialization, urbanization and other social changes.
7. I can explain how women got the right to vote.
8. I can analyze the factors that led to the prosperity of the 1920s and the subsequent Great Depression.
9. I can describe and assess the effectiveness of the New Deal.
10. I can identify post-WWII economic transformations and assess their impact on America.

II. America as a Global Power

11. I can define imperialism and identify its economic and political roots.
12. I can describe and assess American actions in Latin America and Asia in terms of imperialism.
13. I can explain America's involvement in WWI and analyze the effects on both the war itself and on subsequent American attitudes and actions.
14. I can describe America's involvement in WWII and explain the military, political and social impacts of that involvement.
15. I can define the Cold War and describe our involvement, including the arms race, Korea and Vietnam.
16. I can describe and evaluate America's role in the post-Cold War world, including the War on Terrorism.

III. Life in Post-WWII America

17. I can analyze the efforts of those who have worked for social change, with special emphasis on minorities, women and youth.
18. I can describe important demographic changes, including suburbanization, migration and immigration.
19. I can describe and explain significant political changes, including party realignments and constitutional crises.
20. I can describe the impact of changes in technology and mass media.

Common Core Skills (Assessed both semesters)

A. Write a coherent 5 paragraph essay using claim evidence warrant.

B. Interpret maps, charts, graphs and political cartoons.

C. Complete a research project.

D. Evaluate resources for relevance.

E. Analyze and organize information from sources.

F. Recognize differences between facts and opinions.

G. Write and defend a thesis.

H. Read and interpret an historical document

I. Write a historical identification that includes a paraphrased definition and analysis of historical significance.