

US History Overall Essential Understandings

- 1) Students will be able to utilize map and globe skills and identify major physical and political features. St. 1
- 2) Students will be able to explain the growth by political, economic, cultural, and social developments in society. St. 2
- 3) Students will evaluate the effects of American “discovery” and colonization. St. 3, St. 4
- 4) Students will be able to analyze the validity and reliability of key primary and secondary sources.
- 5) Students will analyze the issues and effects of prejudice and discrimination in the United States.
- 6) Students will be able to make personal connections from history to current events.
- 7) Students will be able to formulate and discuss opinions related to historical outcomes.

First Term Essentials

I can discuss the five themes of geography and give an example of each. (St. 1 Obj. 1)

I can define and use the following geographic terms: latitude, longitude, climate, elevation, scale, legend/key, and time zones.

I can identify and locate the following geographic features:

land and water borders - Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Gulf of Mexico, Canada, Mexico

major rivers – Ohio, Missouri, Mississippi, Rio Grande, Colorado

bodies of water – Great Salt Lake, Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario

mountain ranges – Appalachian, Rocky, Sierra Nevada, Cascade

plains – Coastal Plains, Central Plains Great Plains

I can describe the Mayan, Incan, and Aztec civilizations on the American continent.

I can describe life among the various native people on the North American Continent prior to European arrival.

I can explain reasons European nations searched beyond their shores and the technological advances which enabled their exploration to the Americas.

I can identify and describe the major contribution of European explorers including: Columbus, Cartier, Cabot, Hudson, Magellan, Pizarro, and Cortez.

I can describe the impact of European exploration on native people of the Americas and the emergence of African slavery.

I can explain the development of the thirteen original colonies, with emphasis on economic, political, and social patterns.

I can explain reasons for early conflict between American colonists and European powers, including the causes and outcomes of the French and Indian War.

I can describe the acts taken by the British government as they shifted from salutary neglect and implemented a plan of mercantilism with regard to their American colonies.

I can explain how taxation and lack of representation led to an outbreak of hostilities between the colonies and the British government.

I can identify individuals who played a key role in the Revolutionary conflict and explain their contributions, including George Washington, Thomas Paine, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams, and John Adams.

I can explain the major ideas expressed in the Declaration of Independence.

I can identify events of the Revolution and explain their significance, including Boston Massacre, Boston Tea Party, Lexington, Trenton, Valley Forge, Saratoga, Yorktown, and the Treaty of Paris.

Second Term Essentials

I can describe how the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation impacted the young nation and led to the Constitutional Convention.

I can identify the individuals who proposed and supported the Virginia Plan and explain the key elements and rationale of that plan.

I can identify the individuals who proposed and supported the New Jersey Plan and explain the key elements and rationale of that plan.

I can describe how the conflict between the Virginia and New Jersey Plans was resolved.

I can explain ways in which slavery was an issue at the Constitutional Convention and describe how slavery was dealt with in the document.

I can explain the qualifications, responsibilities, and selection process for the House of Representatives.

I can explain the qualifications, responsibilities, and selection process for the Senate.

I can explain the qualifications, responsibilities, and selection process for the President.

I can explain the qualifications, responsibilities, and selection process for the U.S. Supreme Court.

I can define treason.

I can explain the process for amending the U. S. Constitution.

I can explain the opportunities and responsibilities associated with freedom of speech and the limitations placed on that right.

I can explain the opportunities and responsibilities associated with freedom of press and the limitations placed on that right.

I can explain the opportunities and responsibilities associated with the free exercise of religion and the limitations placed on that right.

I can describe the establishment clause of the first amendment and apply this clause to government actions toward religion/religious practices.

I can identify the requirements for government authorities/agents to search persons and search/seize private property.

I can explain the Due Process protections of amendments five and fourteen.

I can identify the constitutional protections for individuals accused of and/or convicted of crimes.

I can describe the changes in voting rights throughout the history of the United States, referencing constitutional guidelines and amendments.

Third Term Essentials

I can identify the significant events of the Washington, Adams and Jefferson Administrations.

Washington

Precedents

Neutrality

Whisky Rebellion

Adams

Political Parties

XYZ Affair

Alien & Sedition Acts

Jefferson

Louisiana Purchase

Lewis & Clark

Jeffersonian Democracy (including Laissez Faire)

I can describe the advancements made through the Industrial Revolution including the shift from farm to factory and tying the country together through physical internal improvements (roads, canals, etc)

I can describe the Monroe Doctrine and its effect on foreign policy.

I can explain the causes and effects of the War of 1812.

I can describe the establishment of Judicial Review and a strong judiciary.

I can explain the immigration debate as it has developed from colonial America to the present.

I can explain at least two ways the Age of Jackson celebrated the concept of “The Common Man.”

I can show how protective tariffs increased feelings of sectionalism in the United States.

I can identify contributing factors to the Panic of 1837.

I can explain the Indian Removal Act, why it was put into place, and its effects.

I can identify the native tribe most impacted by the Trail of Tears and understand their plight.

I can list at least two ways placement on reservations changed the lives of Native Americans.

I can define Manifest Destiny as used in US during first half of the nineteenth century.

I can describe the events of Texas’ Annexation / War with Mexico / Mexican Cession Trails West (Mormons, Oregon, Gold Rush)

Fourth Term Essentials

I can recognize how inventions related to farming resulted in a shift in population from farms to the cities in order to find work.

I can explain the impact of the telegraph on the economy.

I can state the reasons that cotton was king in the South during the antebellum period.

I can explain how southerners justify the practice of slavery.

I can explain how slave codes and the abolitionist movement affected race relations in America.

I can describe the various reforms stemming from the Second Great Awakening, such as women's rights, prison, mentally ill, education and temperance movement.

I can identify the various growing divisions and compromises that led to the Civil War, such as the Missouri Compromise, Compromise of 1850, Kansas Nebraska Act/ Bleeding Kansas, Dred Scott decision, Election of Lincoln, Fort Sumter and John Brown

I can explain the rationale for Southern secession and the formation of the Confederate States of America

I can explain the significance of key battles in the Civil War, including Bull Run I, Shiloh, Antietam, Gettysburg, Vicksburg, Atlanta & Sherman's March to the Sea, Petersburg, and Appomattox.

I can explain the significance of key people in the Civil War, including Lincoln, Lee, Grant, Sherman, Jackson, and Davis.

I can explain the following key issues and concepts related to the Civil War: Border States, Emancipation, Economy/Inflation, Homefront (Draft Riots), Women's Involvement, changing strategies of the war.

I can describe the major events of Reconstruction of the South and the impeachment of Andrew Johnson.

I can describe westward expansion and the Native American conflicts of the second half of the 19th century.