

American History II AI and AII

This syllabus adheres to the New York State Board of Regents requirements. The course is designed to familiarize students with a knowledge of what has preceded in order to understand the present, and future, of this nation. This course will examine the development of the United States from the Industrial Revolution to the present, a nation very different from the one that existed previous to the Civil War. The uniquely democratic flavor of America's development will be explored as the explosive growth of this nation is traced. Special emphasis is placed on the governmental structures of the United States and the economic issues that the nation has faced during the past. Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to demonstrate the ability to make rational and informed decisions about economic, social, governmental and political questions confronting the individual, the society, and the interdependent world. Such decisions should draw upon the lessons of history and social science.

Knowledge Objective of the Course

1. The rise of big business and the resulting mass production that vaulted the United States in the forefront of the industrialized world. The benefits and problems inherent in this rapid expansion.
2. The changes in the United States Democratic nature that resulted from the industrial revolution.
3. The positive and negative effects of the increased urbanization of the U.S., particularly in the political and social arena.
4. Political Reform Movements of the late 19th and early 20th century.
 - a. Populism
 - b. Progressivism-Direct Democracy
5. The expansion of the U.S. abroad, politically, economically, and militarily.
6. The United States Involvement in World War One, and its retreat into isolationism.
7. The Stock Market and the Crash of 1929
8. The Great Depression
9. FDR and the New Deal; Relief, Recovery, and Reform
10. World War II: Pearl Harbor to Hiroshima and Nagasaki
11. The U.S. as a Superpower and the Cold War; Deterrence, Containment and collective security.
12. The Civil Rights Movement
13. The Baby Boom and the rise of mass media.
14. Kennedy and the New Frontier; LBJ's Great Society
15. The Vietnam War and Student protest
16. Nixon, Watergate and the new cynicism of America
17. Ford, Carter, Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Clinton, George W. Bush
18. New Challenges to the U.S.

American History II AI and AII Course Outline

Textbook: A History of the United States, by Boorstin Kelley

First Trimester:

9/11 and War on Terror Overview

UNIT ONE: U.S. Imperialism (Foreign Policy: 1867-1914)

UNIT TWO: Progressive Movement (1901-1921)

UNIT THREE: World War I (The Great War): 1914-1918

UNIT FOUR: The Roaring Twenties

UNIT FIVE: The Great Depression/New Deal

UNIT SIX A and SIX B: World War II

Second Trimester:

UNIT SEVEN: Harry S. Truman

UNIT EIGHT: Dwight D. Eisenhower

UNIT NINE: John F. Kennedy (1960-1963)

UNIT TEN: Lyndon B. Johnson (1963-1968)

UNIT ELEVEN: Civil Rights Movement

UNIT TWELVE (A): Richard M. Nixon

Third Trimester:

UNIT TWELVE (B) : Carter -Ronald Reagan

UNIT THIRTEEN: George H.W. Bush – William J. Clinton

UNIT FOURTEEN: George W. Bush, Barack Obama and The New Millennium