

COURSE: HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY I & II

COURSE LENGTH: Six weeks (120 hours)

DESCRIPTION

This course is designed as a survey of the significant developments in America's past. Specific attention is given to the growth of American society and the emergence of the United States as a world power. Activities are designed to provide exposure to the special tools useful for historical investigation.

OBJECTIVES

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- Identify some of the major themes in American life as demonstrated in the specific events of our past.
- Show how divergent peoples contributed to America's success.
- Trace the territorial expansion of the U.S. and how it eventually became recognized as a world power.
- Demonstrate the ways in which the national government was seen as a vehicle for positive change and as a threat to liberty.
- Demonstrate, through practice, the basic skills of an historian.

COURSE CONTENT

PART I

I. LESSON 1: ORIGINS OF A NEW SOCIETY, TO 1783

1. The Atlantic World, c. 700B.C.-C.A.D. 1600
2. European Colonization of the Americans, 1492-1752
3. Growth of the American Colonies, 1689-1754
4. The Road to Independence, 1754-1783
5. The Constitution of the United States, 1776-1800

II. LESSON 2: THE LIFE OF A NEW NATION

1. The Origins of American Politics, 1789-1820
2. Life in the New Nation, 1783-1830
3. The Market Revolution, 1812-1845
4. Religion and Reform, 1800-1850
5. Beyond the Mississippi, 1800-1860

III. LESSON 3: THE OLD AND THE NEW

1. The Coming of the Civil War, 1848-1861
2. The Civil War, 1861-1865
3. Reconstruction, 1865-1877
4. The Expansion of American Industry, 1850-1900
5. Looking to the West, 1860-1900

PART 2

IV. LESSON 4: AMERICAN IN THE MODERN AGE

1. Politics, Immigration, and Urban Life, 1870-1915
2. Daily Life in the Gilded Age, 1870-1915
3. Becoming a World Power, 1890-1913
4. The Era of Progressive Reform, 1890-1920
5. The World War I Era, 1914-1920
6. The Twenties, 1920-1929

V. LESSON 5: AMERICA AS A WORLD POWER

1. Crash and Depression, 1929-1933
2. The New Deal, 1933-1938
3. World War II, 1939-1945
4. World War II at Home, 1941-1945
5. The Cold War, 1945-1960
6. The Postwar Years at Home, 1945-1960

VI. LESSON 6: PERILOUS TIMES; AMERICA UP TO THE PRESENT

1. The Kennedy and Johnson Years, 1960-1968
2. The Civil Rights Movement, 1954-1968
3. Other Social Movements, 1960-1975
4. The Vietnam War and American Society, 1960-1975
5. The Nixon Years, 1968-1974
6. The Post-Watergate Period, 1974-1980
7. The Conservative Revolution, 1980-1992
8. Entering a New Era, 1992-Present