
United States History

In this course, which is the second part of a two-year study of U.S. history that begins in Grade 8, students study the history of the United States since Reconstruction to the present. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to industrialization and urbanization, major wars, domestic and foreign policies of the Cold War and post-Cold War eras, and reform movements including civil rights. Students examine the impact of geographic factors on major events and analyze causes and effects of the Great Depression. Students examine the impact of constitutional issues on American society, evaluate the dynamic relationship of the three branches of the federal government, and analyze efforts to expand the democratic process. Students describe the relationship between the arts and the times during which they were created. Students analyze the impact of technological innovations on the American labor movement. Students use critical-thinking skills, including explaining and applying different methods, that historians use to interpret the past, including points of view and historical context.

To support the teaching of the essential knowledge and skills, the use of a variety of rich primary and secondary source material such as biographies and autobiographies; landmark cases of the U.S. Supreme Court; novels; speeches, letters, and diaries; and poetry, songs, and artworks is encouraged. Selections may include a biography of Dwight Eisenhower, Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*, and Martin Luther King's letter from the Birmingham City Jail. Motivating resources are also available from museums, historical sites, presidential libraries, and local and state preservation societies.

Susan B. Anthony (1820-1906) Susan B. Anthony was a leading force in the women's suffrage movement for 50 years. Born in Massachusetts to a Quaker family, she taught school and became convinced that society needed to be reformed and freed from slavery and alcoholism. She was president of the Canojoharie Daughters of Temperance in the 1840s. She met Elizabeth Cady Stanton in 1851 at an antislavery rally. They organized the Women's State Temperance Society of New York. Not until 1853 did Anthony support the cause of women's suffrage and equal rights, but she remained committed to the cause for the remainder of her life, contributing significantly to the effort to attain equal rights for women.

Omar Bradley (1893-1981) Omar Bradley was a U.S. Army general noted for his concern for individual soldiers and his ability to organaduring World War II, commanding divisions and serving as Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's "eyes and ears" in North Africa.

Bradley commanded the First Army in the D-Day landings and the Normandy campaign. He participated in Patton's march through France and Belgium to German and the battles in Ardennes areas. In April 1945 his army group drove through central Germany to the Elbe to join the Russians and push into Czechoslovakia at war's end. He headed the Veteran's Administration after the war, became U.S. Army Chief of Staff in 1948, and then became the first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He argued that a major land war in Asia in the 1950s would be "the wrong war, at the wrong place, at the wrong time, and with the wrong enemy." He retired in 1953 but served on the Senior Advisory Group to President Lyndon Johnson, advising him on the Vietnam war effort. In 1968 the group informed Johnson that the only way the United States could win the war was an invasion on the scale of a world war and the American people did not support that. In Bradley's opinion, the war was hopeless.

William Jennings Bryan (1860-1925) A noted politician and orator, William Jennings Bryan supported reforms

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benefiting ordinary people. He served as a representative to the Illinois legislature where he favored income tax, prohibition, and women's suffrage. He earned the Democratic nomination for president in 1896 but lost the race. He also lost in 1900 and 1908. He served as Woodrow Wilson's secretary of state but resigned in 1915 because he did not support Wilson's aggressive stance toward Germany. Bryan made a fortune in real estate deals in Florida. His last oration was as a spokesman for the prosecution in the Scopes trial in which he supported a literal interpretation of the Bible and denounced the teaching of evolution in the schools.

Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919) Andrew Carnegie's business acumen made him one of the richest men in the world and one noted for his philanthropic endeavors. Born in Scotland, Andrew Carnegie relocated with his family to Pennsylvania in 1848. He was a telegraph messenger, personal telegrapher to the superintendent of the Pennsylvania Railroad's western division, and eventually superintendent of the railroad's western division during the Civil War. Starting in 1856, Carnegie began investing in other companies. By 1863 he was earning \$40,000 a year from investments. He turned to manufacturing in 1872 and established Carnegie, McCandless and Co. in Pittsburgh to manufacture steel using the Bessemer process. In 1892 it became Carnegie Steel Co., Ltd. When he retired from business in 1901 he was one of the wealthiest men in the world. He shared his wealth through a range of philanthropic causes, granting more than \$350,000,000 to worthy causes aiding education, international peace, libraries, culture centers, research, and publications.

Shirley Chisholm (1924-) Shirley Chisholm was the first African-American woman elected to the U.S. Congress and the first to run as a candidate for president. Born in New York, she was elected to the New York state legislature in 1964 based on her own merits, and not as a player in the corrupt New York political machine. In 1968, using the slogan "Fighting Shirley Chisholm: Unbought and Unbossed," she defeated nationally known civil rights leader James Farmer for a seat in Congress. She was also the first African-American and the first woman to seek and receive a major party's nomination for president, and she ran as a Democratic candidate in 1972. She retired from public office in 1982. In 1984 she co-founded the National Political Congress of Black Women, which sent more than 100 women to the Democratic National Convention in 1988.

Clarence Darrow (1857-1938) The most renowned defense attorney of his time, Clarence Darrow was born in Ohio to a working-class family. He was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1878. He and his family moved to Chicago in 1887 to further his law career. He defended Eugene V. Debs in 1894 against charges of criminal conspiracy in relation to the American Railway Union strikes. His attraction to social con-

cerns prompted him to argue criminal conspiracy cases and cases involving union violence and labor rights. He opposed the death penalty and supported racial equality. In 1925, he defended John T. Scopes who was charged by fundamentalists for violating a Tennessee statute against teaching evolution in the schools. His closing arguments are models of expository speaking.

Eugene Debs (1855-1926) Eugene Debs supported unionization and labor reforms, opposed strikes, and favored negotiation as a means to improve the conditions for laborers. He founded the American Railway Union (ARU) in 1893 to organize railroad workers, coal miners, and longshoremen employed in the industry, regardless of their skills. Failure of the ARU in 1894 convinced Debs of the value of socialism as an economic system and he joined the Socialist Democratic Party (Socialist Party of America) in 1901. He ran for president five times on the socialist ticket, once from prison. He used his campaigns to further the causes of women's suffrage, the abolition of child labor, and shorter workdays.

William Edward Burghardt DuBois (1868-1963) W. E. B. Du Bois was a leading African-American intellectual. Born in Massachusetts, Du Bois entered Fisk University in 1885, his first involvement with other African-Americans his own age and his first exposure to southern racism. He entered Harvard in 1888, and became the first African-American to earn a Ph.D. His dissertation, *The Suppression of the African Slave Trade to the United States*, was published by Harvard in 1896. It was the first in a long career of scholarship and writing.

He believed in the ability of the Talented Tenth, the intellectual black elites, to advance the cause for all blacks. From 1897 to 1910 he headed the economic and history programs at Atlanta University. In 1903 he published *The Souls of Black Folk*, his best-known work, and was already challenging the ideas of Booker T. Washington. In contrast to Du Bois' radical ideas calling for immediate extension of rights to blacks so they could vote, take advantage of education, and use public facilities, Washington's conservative approach was called accommodationism. Washington supported industrial education and improved personal habits as a way to earn political and social equality. Washington remained the most influential black spokesman until his death in 1915. Du Bois was active in the formation of the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People). He served as director of publicity and research and edited *The Crisis* until 1934 when he broke with the organization. He increasingly favored black separatism. From 1934 to 1944 he pursued teaching at Atlanta University and writing. In 1961 he joined the Communist Party and moved to Ghana where he died at age 95.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969)

Dwight David Eisenhower served his country as a military leader, and as president from 1952 to 1960. Born in Texas, Eisenhower was raised in Abilene, Kansas. He graduated from West Point in 1915 and married Mamie Doud in 1916. Eisenhower served as General Douglas MacArthur's senior assistant in the Philippines when MacArthur was the army's chief of staff. MacArthur considered him the most capable officer in the army. General Eisenhower commanded Allied forces in Europe during World War II. He led the British-American invasion of North Africa which defeated Rommel's Africa Korps in 1943. On June 6, 1944, he commanded Allied forces on D-Day. He was appointed president of Columbia University in 1948 but was recalled to active military duty in 1950 to lead forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

He retired from the army in 1952 to make a bid for the Republican Party nomination for president. He was elected to the first of two terms. Americans hoped he would end the fighting in South Korea against communist China and North Korea. He did negotiate a peace settlement signed in 1953 but the fear of communism remained high in the United States. The cold war between the U.S.S.R. and the United States continued throughout his administration as he supported a foreign policy which encouraged cooperation and not conflict. He favored gradual domestic change. He ordered troops into Little Rock, Arkansas, to keep peace when the high school racially integrated, and he signed the civil rights acts of 1957 and 1960.

Henry Ford (1863-1947) Henry Ford helped create a mobile society by mass producing and marketing the Model T automobile, making it an indispensable part of American life. Through his efforts, the automotive industry became a world-wide phenomenon. Born on a farm near Detroit, Michigan, Ford worked on the farm, at a shipbuilding firm, and for a company which serviced steam engines. During the winters he experimented on building his own internal-combustion engines. He drove his first home-built automobile in 1896. The Ford Motor Company was founded in 1903 and he developed the Model T by 1908. Ford used mass production to reduce the price of the Model T, and he worked to perfect the assembly line. He retained complete company control and used it to amass billions of dollars.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968) A noted leader, Martin Luther King was one of several African-Americans concerned with reforming American society and gaining equal rights by using civil disobedience or non-violent action. He earned his Ph.D. from the School of Theology at Boston University. He was called to minister at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Despite opposition from his father who urged him to return to Atlanta, King moved to Montgomery in 1955, settling in just before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white passenger. King assisted in coordinating the bus

boycott which gained national and international attention. He gained visibility as a black leader, and experience in organization and leadership as a result. In 1957 he was instrumental in organizing the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, a consortium of churches and civic groups which supported activities to parallel those of the NAACP. The SCLC supported sit-ins, boycotts, and protest marches in Birmingham, Alabama beginning in 1963. In August, during the March on Washington in support of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, King set aside his prepared speech and rallied the 250,000 in attendance with "I have a dream today!" He was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee.

Robert LaFollette (1855-1925) A significant third party active during the 1920s was the Progressive Party, led by Robert LaFollette. He favored the breakup of corporate monopolies and trusts, public control of the nation's resources, farm relief, and reduced income taxes. The LaFollette Progressives earned 16.6 percent of the popular vote in the 1924 election.

Charles A. Lindbergh (1902-1974) Born in Detroit to a political family, Charles Lindbergh studied mechanical engineering and flying, gaining a reputation as a mechanic and pilot. He completed the U.S. Army Air Cadet program in 1925 and was made second lieutenant. He set a record in aviation history when he flew the specially built monoplane, The Spirit of St. Louis, nonstop from St. Louis to Paris on May 20-21, 1927. Afterward he served as a technical advisor to commercial airlines, testing new aircraft and developing viable routes. He favored neutrality before the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, then he supported the war cause, testing military aircraft and sharing technical knowledge. His interest in nature led him to support conservation efforts and he directed the World Wildlife Fund.

Henry Cabot Lodge (1850-1924) A senator from Massachusetts, Henry Cabot Lodge supported American expansion as a way to increase national pride, spread civilization, and thereby gain world power. He and Theodore Roosevelt, drawing upon the theories of naval historian Alfred Thayer Mahan, favored the "large policy." This depended on world trade and ship transport. An American-controlled canal through Central America was necessary as were coaling stations and naval bases in the Pacific, on Hawaii, Guam, Wake Island, and in the Philippines. A strong navy was required to protect the merchant marine as it sailed from North America to the Far East and points in between.

Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964) Douglas MacArthur was a soldier, graduate of West Point, and veteran of World Wars I and II, and the Korean War. In 1932 he led the troops that evicted the veterans who were camped in Washington D.C. protesting their treat-

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ment and conditions during the Great Depression. Because of his service in the Philippines prior to World War II, he was named commander of U.S. forces in the Far East. During World War II he commanded troops in the Southwest Pacific and presided over the Japanese surrender as the commander of Allied Powers. He was military governor of Japan from 1945-50 and then commanded the United Nations forces in Korea. Truman relieved him of command in 1951 because MacArthur's and Truman's tactics conflicted.

Alfred Thayer Mahan (1840-1914) Alfred Thayer Mahan was an admiral and naval historian whose theories on the relationship of sea power and world commerce influenced foreign policy development in the 1880s and 1890s. His theories were published in *The Influence of Sea Power upon History* (1890).

George Marshall (1880-1959) A soldier who graduated from the Virginia Military Institute, George Marshall became Gen. John Pershing's principal aide following the Meuse-Argonne campaign during World War I. He organized the Civil Conservation Corp, one of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs, and became chief of staff of the U.S. Army in World War II. As chief of staff he organized the training of troops, development of strategic plans, and appointment of top military personnel. President Harry S. Truman named him secretary of state and during his tenure Marshall implemented the Marshall Plan for the economic recovery of Europe. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1953 for his post-war efforts.

Georgia O'Keeffe (1887-1986) Born in Wisconsin, O'Keeffe became the most noted representational expressionist painter in America. Her most famous work concentrated on scenes of the southwest but she also painted scenes highlighting the industrialization of the northeast in the 1920s. She married artist-photographer Alfred Stieglitz in 1924. He coordinated her first solo show and supported her throughout her career until his death in 1946. She spent summers in New Mexico, at Taos, the artist colony favored by D. H. Lawrence, and then at nearby Ghost Ranch. There she painted, capturing the beauty of the desert in her unique expressive style.

George Patton, Jr. (1885-1945) A soldier and graduate of West Point, George Patton learned tank tactics during World War I. He held many commands during World War II, directed the amphibious landings on Casablanca and the campaign in North Africa, led the Third Army out of Normandy, assisted with the Battle of the Bulge, and marched on into Germany. He despised communists and he proposed, following the German surrender, that German and U.S. troops join forces against the Soviet Union. He favored retaining Nazis in some positions and as a result he was removed from command. He is considered one of the most successful Ameri-

can field commanders of any war.

Henry Ross Perot (1930-) Ross Perot was a successful businessman who garnered third-party support for his bid at the U.S. presidency in the 1990s. Born in Texarkana, Texas, Perot studied at the U.S. Naval Academy and was commissioned in the U.S. Navy in 1953. He worked as a salesman for IBM before starting his own business, Electronic Data Systems (EDS). He ran as an independent candidate for president in 1992 and again in 1996. After the 1992 election he organized the non-partisan political pressure group United We Stand. He was a vocal opponent of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and debated vice-president Al Gore on the issue in 1993.

John J. Pershing (1860-1948) Born in Missouri, John Pershing spent his life in the military. He graduated from West Point in 1886 and was commissioned second lieutenant of cavalry. He fought in the Indian Wars, commanded an all-black unit for a time, taught at West Point, and served as a military observer during the Russo-Japanese War in 1905. He spent nearly a decade in the Philippines and then was sent to Mexico to apprehend Pancho Villa in 1914. In 1917, Pershing was selected to lead the American Expeditionary Force to Europe during World War I. Pershing did not agree with French and British officers who sought to incorporate the U.S. troops into their units. Pershing insisted that Americans fight together. His troops were instrumental in the defeat of the Germans in the Argonne Forest, in the Meuse-Argonne region of France.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945) Born in New York to a wealthy family, Franklin Roosevelt entered politics in 1910 as a Democratic candidate to the U.S. Senate. He was a member of Woodrow Wilson's administration and was unsuccessful in a bid for the vice-presidency in 1920. In 1921 he contracted polio but struggled to overcome the physical limitations and maintain a public, political career. In 1932 he opposed Republican incumbent President Herbert Hoover and soundly defeated him. He began the New Deal in the first 100 days after his inauguration. His reforms, proposed to counteract the effects of the Great Depression, affected four areas: finance, industry, agriculture and relief (welfare). He strengthened government work programs. His executive orders and sponsorship of legislation in the national interest supported the weak economy and remained viable years after his death. Yet, critics worried that his growing executive authority might undermine the checks and balances of the three branches of government. This concern derived from Roosevelt's attempts to pack the Supreme Court with his own appointees. Congress eventually passed a court reform bill but it did not support Roosevelt's ideas. Conservatives in Congress reacted by passing few New Deal reforms after 1937.

By 1939, Roosevelt transferred his efforts from the

New Deal to a new diplomacy to counter the aggression of Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, and Tojo Hideki. American support for Roosevelt was high, and he dominated the political scene for four terms, the most of any U.S. president. The 22nd Amendment, adopted in 1951, often termed the anti-Franklin Roosevelt amendment, limited presidents to two terms.

Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919)

Born in New York, Theodore Roosevelt was the twentieth president. He graduated from Harvard, was elected to the New York legislature, wrote history and served as president of the New York police boards. He gained national attention as the leader of the “Rough Riders,” a volunteer cavalry unit which served in the Spanish-American War. He served as governor of New York and then as McKinley’s vice president. When McKinley was assassinated in 1901, Roosevelt succeeded to the presidency and was later elected to a full term in 1904. He supported expansionism, the development of a canal across Central America, and a powerful navy. Under Roosevelt’s direction the United States became the police of the western hemisphere and numerous reforms were enacted: he prosecuted big business for trust violations, supported passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act, and created national parks.

Harry S. Truman (1884-1972) Harry S. Truman assumed the presidency following the sudden death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt in 1945. Having served as a senator from Missouri, he knew little of the workings of the executive office. He had no time to learn. Within weeks he attended the founding of the United Nations; represented the U.S at the Potsdam conference where two European powers, the Soviets and the British, discussed post-war order; and authorized the use of the atomic bomb in Japan, first on Hiroshima on August 6 and then on Nagasaki on August 9. In response to the spread of Communism, Truman announced the Truman Doctrine on March 12, 1947, which pledged U.S. support to nations opposing Communism. The Cold War, characterized by the antagonistic conflict between two world powers, the Soviet Union and the United States, began during Truman’s administration. When the Communist North Koreans invaded South Korea in June 1950, Truman appealed to the United Nations, which dispensed forces to support South Korea. Truman’s refusal to commit more effort to win the war frustrated voters and they elected Dwight D. Eisenhower as president in 1952.

George Wallace (1919-) George Wallace was governor of Alabama in 1963 when African-American students sought admission to the University of Alabama. He literally barred the door, denying them admission. This prompted several non-violent protests including sit-ins, boycotts, and marches. Opposition to these tactics often became violent, especially in Birmingham and Selma. He later re-

canted his pro-segregationist stance and gained black support for his last election as governor. In 1968 he received the most votes of any third-party nominee for president, running against Democrat Hubert Humphrey and Republican Richard M. Nixon. He was shot and paralyzed as he campaigned for the 1972 election but this did not deter him from continuing in public office. He served two more terms as governor before retiring.