

United States History

Course Overview and Syllabus

Course Subject Code: 2325

Grade level: 8

Prerequisite Courses: None

Credits: 1.0

Course Description

United States History for eighth grade is a yearlong course that dynamically explores the people, places, and events that shaped early United States history. This course stretches from the Era of Exploration through the Industrial Revolution, leading students through a careful examination of the defining moments that shaped the nation of today. Students begin by exploring the colonization of the New World and examining the foundations of colonial society. As they study the early history of the United States, students will learn critical-thinking skills by examining the constitutional foundations of U.S. government. Recurring themes such as territorial expansion, the rise of industrialization, and the significance of slavery will be examined in the context of how these issues contributed to the Civil War and Reconstruction.

Course Objectives

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- Analyze the foundations of the United States by examining the causes, events, and ideologies which led to the American Revolution
- Compare and contrast the different motivations and choices that various colonial populations had regarding the War for Independence
- Explore the formation of the American system of government
- Explain the significance and impact of the Jacksonian Era
- Analyze the transformation of politics and society during the Reconstruction Era

The course objectives are implemented throughout specific lessons, which include examples of authentic, historic, and contemporary texts, and focus on grade-level writing and grammar skills.

The lesson objectives are assessed through assignments, quizzes, unit tests, and cumulative exams. Writing is assessed through short writing applications as well as full essay development.

Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from you as a traditional classroom course. Students are expected to spend approximately five to seven hours per week online on:

- Interactive lessons that include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks
- Assignments in which you apply and extend learning in each lesson
- Assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams

Communication

Your teacher will communicate with you regularly through discussions, e-mail, chat, and system announcements, and will provide you with hours of availability, contact policies, and any synchronous attendance requirements. You will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, as you collaborate on projects, ask and answer questions in your peer group, and develop your speaking and listening skills.

Grading Policy

You will be graded on the work you do online and the work you submit electronically to your teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	10%
Essays	20%
Lesson Quizzes	20%
Unit Tests	30%
Cumulative Exams	20%
Projects	0%

Scope and Sequence

When you log into Edgenuity, you can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics you will study. The units of study are summarized below:

Unit 1: Road to Revolution
Unit 2: War of Independence
Unit 3: A New Nation
Unit 4: The Jacksonian Era
Unit 5: Manifest Destiny

Unit 6: Sectionalism
Unit 7: Rising Tensions
Unit 8: The Civil War
Unit 9: Reconstruction

Standards Alignment

The course was designed to meet the requirements of the 2014 Oklahoma Academic Standards for Social Studies. The standards aligned to each lesson are available in the student portal in the lesson information panel.

Materials and Technology Requirements

All course materials are provided through the student portal. You will become familiar with them through an orientation video and the student handbook. These resources are available within the Student Organizer, where you can also check the status of your operating system, processor speed, plug-ins and connection speed.

Accessibility

The course is designed for accessibility to all students. The system provides features and accommodations to meet the needs of ELL and students with IEP's, 504 plans, and Section 508. These accommodations include addressing multiple learning styles, accommodations for assessments, video caption/transcripts, read-aloud and translation tools, and many other features/accommodations.