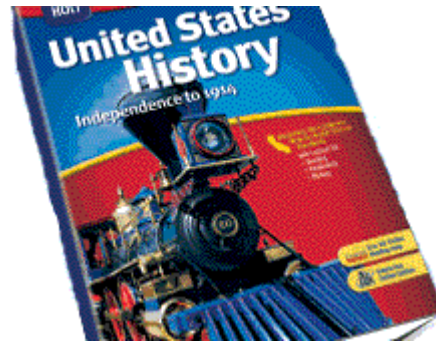


# United States History

## 8th Grade - Text

### Course Description

8th grade United States history focuses on the political, cultural, and social, development of the United States. The course begins with a brief review of early exploration and settlement, beginning with the prehistoric migration of Asiatic tribes, and concluding with the arrival of European settlers. The English colonies are investigated through their interactions with Native Americans, Their English rulers, and other economic trading partners. Conflicts with Britain and Enlightenment ideas lead to the American Revolution, and the course examines both the broader implications of the war on the United States and the pivotal events and people involved. Independence leads to an examination of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Western expansion, beginning with the Lewis & Clark expedition, is examined with a clear portrayal of the positive economic results it had on the country and the negative impact it had on Native American people and the environment. The course continues with the causes and results of the Civil War, immigration, industrialization, progressive reform, and foreign policy.



### Learning Objectives:

Students understand the major events preceding the founding of the nation and relate their significance to the development of American constitutional democracy.

Students analyze the political principles underlying the U.S. Constitution and compare the enumerated and implied powers of the federal government.

Students understand the foundation of the American political system and the ways in which citizens participate in it.

Students analyze the aspirations and ideals of the people of the new nation.

Students analyze U.S. foreign policy in the early Republic.

Students analyze the divergent paths of the American people from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced, with emphasis on the Northeast.

Students analyze the divergent paths of the American people in the South from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced.

Students analyze the divergent paths of the American people in the West from 1800 to the mid-1800s and the challenges they faced.

Students analyze the early and steady attempts to abolish slavery and to realize the ideals of the Declaration of Independence.

Students analyze the multiple causes, key events, and complex consequences of the Civil War.

Students analyze the character and lasting consequences of Reconstruction.

Students analyze the transformation of the American economy and the changing social and political conditions in the United States in response to the Industrial Revolution.

## Syllabus Sample

### Week 26

**Lesson Overview:** Pages 484-496 - The War in the West - Daily Life During the War

#### **Big Questions**

- ❖ **How did people in the West deal with the spread of the war?**
- ❖ **How did the Civil War affect the lives of ALL people living in the United States?**

#### **Assignments for Week 26**

1. Study pages 484 to 489.
2. Imagine that you are either a Confederate soldier or civilian in Vicksburg during the Union siege of the city. Write a letter to an imaginary friend or family member who lives elsewhere in the South, telling them about the experience. Include details such as the constant shelling, the lack of food and supplies, your feelings about the siege, and whether or not you think the South should surrender.
3. Study pages 490 to 496 and complete numbers 1-4 of the *Section 4 Assessment* on page 496.

### **Week 26 Assignment Checklist**

- Letter from Vicksburg
- Page 496, *Section 4 Assessment*, numbers 1 -4

## **Outline for United States History**

### **UNIT 1 - Connecting with the Past: Our Colonial Heritage**

#### **Lesson 1: Early Exploration and Settlement**

- A) Textbook Orientation
- B) Connecting with the Past
- C) The Earliest Americans
- D) The Age of Exploration

#### **Lesson 2: Early Exploration and Settlement**

- A) Spanish America
- B) The Race for Empires
- C) Chapter Review

#### **Lesson 3: The English Colonies**

- A) The Southern Colonies
- B) The New England Colonies
- C) The Middle Colonies

#### **Lesson 4: The English Colonies**

- A) Life in the English Colonies
- B) Conflict in the Colonies
- C) Chapter Review

#### **Lesson 5: The American Revolution**

- A) The Revolution Begins
- B) Declaring Independence
- C) The Declaration of Independence

#### **Lesson 6: The American Revolution**

- A) Patriots Gain Hope
- B) Independence!
- C) Milestone Assignment

## **UNIT 2 - A New Nation**

### **Lesson 7: Forming a Government**

- A) The Articles of Confederation
- B) The Nation faces Challenges

### **Lesson 8: Forming a Government**

- A) Creating the Constitution
- B) Ratifying the Constitution
- C) Chapter Review

### **Lesson 9: Citizenship and the Constitution**

- A) Understanding the Constitution
- B) Reading the Constitution

### **Lesson 10: Citizenship and the Constitution**

- A) The Bill of Rights
- B) Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship
- C) Chapter Review

### **Lesson 11: Launching the Nation**

- A) Washington Leads a New Nation
- B) Hamilton and National Finances

### **Lesson 12: Launching the Nation**

- A) Challenges for the New Nation
- B) John Adams' Presidency
- C) Chapter Review
- D) Milestone Assignment

## **UNIT 3 - The New Republic**

### **Lesson 13: The Jefferson Era**

- A) Jefferson becomes President
- B) The Louisiana Purchase

### **Lesson 14: The Jefferson Era**

- A) The Coming of War
- B) The War of 1812
- C) Chapter Review

### **Lesson 15: A New National Identity**

- A) American Foreign Policy
- B) Nationalism and Sectionalism
- C) American Culture
- D) Chapter Review

**Lesson 16: The Age of Jackson**

- A) Jacksonian Democracy
- B) Jackson's Administration
- C) Indian Removal
- D) Chapter Review

**Lesson 17: Expanding West**

- A) Trails of the West
- B) The Texas Revolution

**Lesson 18: Expanding West**

- A) The Mexican-American War
- B) The California Gold Rush
- C) Chapter Review
- D) Milestone Assignment

**UNIT 4 - The Nation Expands**

**Lesson 19: The North**

- A) The Industrial Revolution in America
- B) Changes in Working Life

**Lesson 20: The North**

- A) The Transportation Revolution
- B) More Technological Advances
- C) Chapter Review

**Lesson 21: The South**

- A) Growth of the Cotton Industry
- B) Free Southern Society
- C) The Slave System
- D) Chapter Review

**Lesson 22: New Movements in America**

- A) Immigrants and Urban Challenges
- B) American Arts
- C) Reforming Society

**Lesson 23: New Movements in America**

- A) The Movement to End Slavery
- B) Women's Rights
- C) Chapter Review

**Lesson 24: A Divided Nation**

- A) The Debate over Slavery
- B) Trouble in Kansas
- C) Political Divisions
- D) The Nation Divides
- E) Milestone Assignment

**UNIT 5 - The Nation Breaks Apart**

**Lesson 25: The Civil War**

- A) War Begins
- B) The War in the East

**Lesson 26: The Civil War**

- A) The War in the West
- B) Daily Life During the War

**Lesson 27: The Civil War**

- A) The Tide of War Turns
- B) Chapter Review

**Lesson 28: Reconstruction**

- A) Rebuilding the South
- B) The Fight over Reconstruction

**Lesson 29: Reconstruction**

- A) Reconstruction in the South
- B) Chapter Review

**Lesson 30: Reconstruction**

- A) Milestone Assignment

**UNIT 6 - A Growing America**

**Lesson 31: America Moves West**

- A) Miners, Ranchers and Railroads
- B) Wars for the West
- C) Farming and Populism
- D) Chapter Review

**Lesson 32: An Industrial Nation**

- A) The Second Industrial Revolution
- B) Big Business
- C) Industrial Workers
- D) A New Wave of Immigration
- E) City Life
- F) Chapter Review

**Lesson 33: The Spirit of Reform**

- A) The Gilded Age
- B) The Progressive Movement

**Lesson 34: The Spirit of Reform**

- A) Reforming the Workplace
- B) The Rights of Women and Minorities
- C) The Progressive President

**Lesson 35: America Becomes a World Power**

- A) The United States Gains Overseas Territories
- B) The Spanish-American War
- C) The United States and Latin America
- D) The United States and Mexico

**Lesson 36: America Becomes a World Power**

- A) Milestone Assignment - Research Report