

United States History II Honors
Summer READING Assignment --- 2018

The learning objectives for U.S History II Honors are organized in a framework that encourages you to develop an understanding of American history through the perspective of time periods and themes. Engaging with the historical content in this manner will help you to recognize broad, reoccurring themes, trends, and processes. With practice you will develop the ability to routinely sort information and organize your historical thinking and discussion into these time periods and themes. Over the course of the year you will advance your ability to connect the broad developments and processes that have emerged over centuries of America's development enabling you to fully grasp the big picture of U.S history.

Key themes of U.S History

American and National Identity (NAT) -- This theme focuses on the development and evolution of the American identity and American values. Covered within this theme are the circumstances, events, and people who have influenced, changed, or expressed what it means to be "American".

Politics and Power (POL) – This theme focuses on the role of government in society and its potential as an agent of change. This includes the mechanisms for creating, implementing, or limiting participation in the political process and the resulting social, political, and economic effects. Within this theme are the individuals and/or groups who have defined or redefined our rights, liberties, and the parameters of citizenship.

Work, Exchange, and Technology (WXT) – This theme focuses on the factors behind the development of systems of economic exchange. Included in this theme are the ways that different economic and labor systems, technological innovations, and government policies have shaped the American economy and society.

Culture and Society (CUL) – This theme focuses on the roles that ideas, beliefs, social customs, and creative expression have played in shaping the United States. Also addressed within this theme is how various identities, cultures, and values have been preserved or changed during different periods of America's development.

Migration and Settlement (MIG) – This theme focuses on why and how the various people who moved to and within the United States both adapted to and transformed their new social and physical environments. Included within this theme is an exploration of the beliefs, traditions, religions, and technologies that immigrants, migrants, and annexed peoples brought with them and the impact these factors had on America.

Geography and the Environment (GEO) – This theme focuses on the role of geography, both the natural and human-made, on social and political developments within the United States.

American in the World (WOR) – This theme focuses on the interaction between America and other nations and the impact that those interactions have had on the course of American history.

The first historical period under study in September is 1870 – 1900: Industrialization and Growth of the Cities. This period covers the economic, social, cultural, and political trends that developed between post -Civil War Reconstruction and the turn of the Twentieth Century. There are three key concepts covered within this period.

Key Concept 6:1 –Technological advances, large-scale production methods, and the opening of new markets encouraged the rise of industrial capitalism in the United States

Key Concept 6:2 -- The migrations that accompanied industrialization transformed both rural and urban areas of the United States causing dramatic social and cultural changes.

Key Concept 6:3 – The Gilded Age produced new cultural and intellectual movements, public reform efforts, and political debates over the role of government and the formulation of social and economic policies.

Summer Reading Assignment 2018: Due September 6, 2018

1. With the Period Six key concepts in mind, you are to read **Chapters 24 & 25** in your textbook, *The American Pageant* by David Kennedy, Elizabeth Cohen, and Thomas Bailey.
2. You are to take comprehensive notes **sorting/cataloging** the historical content into the “Key Themes of U.S History” as described on the previous page.
3. Although you may utilize whatever note-taking method you prefer, your notes **MUST** clearly identify how the content connects to a theme. Note: Every theme may not be addressed in the chapters under review.
4. Your theme-based understanding of the content in Chapters 24 & 25 will be assessed with a reading check quiz within the first full week of school.

US History II Honors

Summer Writing Assignment-Using Historical Thinking Skills---2018

Essential to the study of history at an advanced level is the ability to move from a general understanding of historical processes and developments to a more detailed understanding of the complexities within historical phenomenon. In order to build a deeper conceptual understanding of critical developments in US history, you will need to learn and become comfortable working with several of the thinking skills used by historians. This writing assignment is designed to get you started on the path to becoming an “apprentice historian”. Once completed, this assignment will also serve as a study tool for any assessment that requires you to make connections between the historical content you learned in US I and what you will learn this coming year.

Directions:

1. Read the description of the “historical thinking skill” to ensure that you fully understand the particular “thinking process” that is being taught.
2. Apply the skill to **each** specific historical period/event listed below the skill’s description. Example: Apply the skill of “causation” (cause and effect) to European exploration. What specific factors/conditions **motivated/caused** Europeans to begin exploring foreign lands? What were the long-term, short-term, or unintended **outcomes /effects** of this exploration? What changes resulted from this period of exploration?
3. Your work should be concise and focused. Limit the length of your responses by including essential information only. There is no required amount of writing but it must be thorough and complete. Use whatever format you feel will serve you best as a study tool.
4. Keep in mind the objective... to learn and become comfortable with the skills and to be able to use your work as a study tool throughout the school year. The three skills that you did not address over the summer will be assigned as homework as we begin the school year.

Enjoy your summer. I look forward to being with you in class next year.

Due Date: Monday, September 10, 2018

Historical Thinking Skills

Skill

Causation: Being able to identify the events that **caused/led up to** the historical period or event as well as the being able to identify the **results/effects** of those events. There can be both long and short term causes and effects as well as effects that were unintended. When contemplating the causes and effects, consider the social, political, and economic influences.

European exploration
American Revolution
Writing of the US Constitution
Manifest Destiny
American Civil War

Skill

Comparison: Being able to identify, describe, compare, and evaluate multiple perspectives on given historical events in order to draw conclusions. Consider the similarities and differences among the topics under consideration. Within this skill you need to be able to analyze **how and why** the similarities and differences exist and **why** these similarities and/or differences are significant.

New England, Chesapeake, and Middle Colonies
Loyalists and Patriots
Federalists and Antifederalists
North and South on the Eve of the Civil War
African American life in Jim Crow South and the Northeast

Skill

Contextualization -- includes the ability to connect **specific** historical events and processes to **the broader** regional, national, or global processes. Being able to identify and explain the **historical setting** ("Big Picture") for a particular event or time period. Setting should consider the 5 W's (who, what, when, where, and why).

Writing the US Constitution
Manifest Destiny
American Revolution
Monroe Doctrine
Civil War

Skill

Continuity and Change Over Time: Being able to recognize, analyze, and evaluate an historical theme over a clearly defined period in history to determine what has remained the same **and** what has changed. Hint: Whenever you are asked to utilize the continuity and change over time skill, there is usually at least one significant change within the specified time period.

Immigration (1680s – 1880s)
American Expansionism (1760 – 1850)
American Electorate (1607 – 1875)
American Foreign Policy (1776 – 1890)
American Economy (1813-1900)