

Syllabus

Middle School US History, Semester B

Course Overview

In Middle School US History, Semester B, you'll learn about major events that took place in American history. In the first unit, you'll analyze the importance of the Louisiana Purchase, the War of 1812, industrialization, and the Monroe era. In the second unit, you'll examine the Jacksonian era, the impact of westward expansion, the reform movements of the mid-1800s, and the abolitionist movement. In the third unit, you'll learn about the Civil War. You'll analyze the factors that led to the Civil War and the impact of the war on the United States. In the last unit, you'll explore the Reconstruction period.

Course Goals

By the end of this course, you will be able to do the following:

- Analyze the importance of the Louisiana Purchase.
- Identify the causes and effects of the War of 1812.
- Analyze the impact of industrialization on the United States in the early 1800s.
- Explain the growth of the Monroe era.
- Analyze Andrew Jackson's actions as president.
- Explain the effects of westward expansion.
- Describe reform movements of the 1800s.
- Explain the differences between the North and the South before the Civil War.
- Trace the origins of the abolitionist movement in the United States.
- Examine the causes, major events, and impact of the Civil War.
- Analyze the Reconstruction period after the Civil War.

General Skills

To participate in this course, you should be able to do the following:

- Complete basic operations with word processing software, such as Microsoft Word or Google Docs.
- Complete basic operations with presentation software, such as Microsoft PowerPoint or Google Docs presentation.
- Perform online research using various search engines and library databases.
- Communicate through email and participate in discussion boards.

For a complete list of general skills that are required for participation in online courses, refer to the Prerequisites section of the Student Orientation document, found at the beginning of this course.

Credit Value

Middle School US History, Semester B, is a 0.5-credit course.

Course Materials

- notebook
- pencil or pen
- computer with Internet connection and speakers or headphones
- Microsoft Word or equivalent
- Microsoft PowerPoint or equivalent

Some course readings may require a visit to your school library or public library.

Course Pacing Guide

This course description and pacing guide is intended to help you stay on schedule with your work. Note that your course instructor may modify the schedule to meet the specific needs of your class.

Unit 1: A Young Nation

Summary

This unit focuses on the development of the United States during the early nineteenth century. First you'll explore how the Louisiana Purchase shaped the growth of the nation. Next you'll examine the causes and effects of the War of 1812. Then you will analyze the impact of industrialization on the United States in the early 1800s. Finally, you'll learn about important foreign and domestic policies of the Monroe era.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
1 day: 1	Syllabus and Student Orientation <i>Review the Student Orientation and Course Syllabus at the beginning of this course.</i>	Course Orientation
4 days: 2–5	The Louisiana Purchase <i>Analyze the significance of the Louisiana Purchase.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 6–9	The War of 1812 <i>Explain the causes and consequences of the War of 1812.</i>	Lesson

4 days: 10–13	Industrialization <i>Analyze the impact of industrialization on the United States in the early 1800s.</i>	Lesson
4 days 14–17	Building a New Nation <i>Analyze important foreign and domestic policies of the Monroe era.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 18–22	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 1	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 23	Posttest—Unit 1	Assessment

Unit 2: The Nation Expands

Summary

This unit focuses on the development of the United States during the mid-nineteenth century. You'll learn about Andrew Jackson's actions as the president of the nation. Next you'll examine the cultural, economic, and political impact of westward expansion. You'll explore important reform movements during the mid-1800s. You'll analyze the differences between the North and the South before the Civil War and trace the origins of the abolitionist movement.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
4 days: 24–27	The Age of Jackson <i>Analyze Andrew Jackson's actions as president.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 28–31	Westward Expansion <i>Analyze how westward expansion changed the nation culturally, economically, and politically.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 32–35	Culture and Reform in the Mid-1800s <i>Analyze the reform movements of the mid-1800s.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 36–39	The North and the South <i>Analyze the differences between the North and the South before the Civil War.</i>	Lesson
4 days 40–43	Slavery and the Abolitionist Movement <i>Describe the history of the abolitionist movement in the United States.</i>	Lesson

5 days: 44–48	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 2	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 49	Posttest—Unit 2	Assessment

Unit 3: A Nation Divided

Summary

This unit focuses on the Civil War, one of the most significant events of US history. You'll examine the events that led to the Civil War and explore the major events of the war's early years. You'll analyze the impact of the war on the Northern and Southern economies and explore the last years of the Civil War.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
4 days: 50–53	Compromises and Clashes Before the Civil War <i>Analyze issues and legislative actions related to slavery as they affected the North, the South, and western sections of the United States.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 54–57	The Civil War Begins <i>Describe major events during the early years of the Civil War.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 58–61	The Impact of the Civil War <i>Explain how the Civil War affected daily life for soldiers and civilians.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 62–65	The Civil War Ends <i>Describe the last years of the Civil War.</i>	Lesson
5 days: 66–70	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 3	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 71	Posttest—Unit 3	Assessment

Unit 4: A Nation Reunited

Summary

This unit focuses on the Reconstruction period that followed the Civil War. You'll examine the different plans to reunite the North and the South after the Civil War. You'll analyze the political conflicts that took place over the Reconstruction plan. Finally, you'll explore the impact of Reconstruction on the nation.

Day	Activity/Objective	Type
4 days: 72–75	Reconstruction Begins <i>Analyze the different plans to reunite the nation after the Civil War.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 76–79	The Battle over Reconstruction <i>Explain the political conflicts over Reconstruction.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 80–83	The End of Reconstruction <i>Analyze the short- and long-term effects of Reconstruction on the nation.</i>	Lesson
4 days: 84–87	Unit Activity and Discussion—Unit 4	Unit Activity/ Discussion
1 day: 88	Posttest—Unit 4	Assessment
1 day 89	Semester Review	
1 day 90	End-of-Semester Test	Assessment