

Honors U.S. History

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a challenging full-year survey that provides students with a comprehensive view of American history from the first migrations of nomadic people to North America to recent events. Readings are drawn from K¹²'s *The American Odyssey: A History of the United States*. Online lessons help students organize their study, explore topics in depth, review in preparation for assessments, and practice advanced skills of historical thinking and analysis. Activities include analyzing primary sources and maps, creating timelines, completing projects and written assignments, and conducting independent research. Students complete independent projects each semester.

PREREQUISITES: World History or Modern World Studies, success in previous history course, and a teacher/school counselor recommendation

COURSE LENGTH: Two Semesters

REQUIRED TEXT: *The American Odyssey: A History of the United States*

MATERIALS LIST: *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare

COURSE OUTLINE:

Semester 1

Unit 1: American Beginnings

- Semester Introduction
- Peopling the Americas
- First Americans
- The North American Continent
- Worlds Meet
- Pilgrims and Puritans in New England
- The Middle and Southern Colonies
- The Colonies Grow and Change
- New Ideas and Issues
- Looking at the Colonies

Unit 2: Formation of the United States

- Growing Tension
- Moving Toward Independence
- We Hold These Truths
- Revolution
- A Long War
- Governing a New Nation
- Seeking a More Perfect Union
- Ratification
- Your Constitution

Unit 3: The New Republic

- The New Republic
- The Washington Presidency
- A New Leader
- Transfer of Power
- Exploring
- The War of 1812
- Nationalism: Culture and Economy
- Nationalism: Politics and the Judiciary
- Nationalism: Foreign Affairs
- Eventful Times

Unit 4: Change and Growth

- A Revolution in American Industry
- A Revolution in Transportation
- Going Places
- New Politics
- Jackson's Presidency
- Legacies
- Northern Ways
- Southern Ways
- Comparing, Contrasting, Predicting

Unit 5: Forging a National Identity

- Seeking Perfection
- Freedom for All
- A New American Culture
- Reflections
- The Push West
- Texas: The Lone Star Republic
- War and Riches

Unit 6: The Union in Crisis

- Growing Apart
- Debate and Division
- Disunion
- The War Begins
- Terrible Conflict
- War's End
- A War on All Fronts
- Reuniting a Nation
- Reconstructing a Nation

Unit 7: Entering the Modern Era

- Settling the American West
- The Changing West
- The End of a Way of Life
- New Industries Emerge
- Inventors and Industrialists
- How Big is Too Big?
- The Price of Industrialization
- Seeking a Better Way
- Beacon of Hope
- The Immigrant Experience

Unit 8: Semester Review and Test

Semester 2

Unit 1: A New Century

- Semester Introduction
- Cities Grow
- City Life
- Populists
- Discuss: Third Parties
- Progressives
- Taking on Power
- Less Than Equal
- Demanding a Voice
- Making a Difference

Unit 2: Turning Points

- Choosing a Research Topic
- Choosing a Presentation Format
- The Annotated Bibliography
- The Process Paper
- An American Empire
- Presidents and Policies
- The Great War
- The War at Home
- Assessing the Great War
- Embracing the Peace
- A New Culture
- Action and Reaction
- Analyzing an Era
- The Project

Unit 3: Democracy Tested

- The Bubble Bursts
- Depression
- Seeking Solutions
- Confronting the Crisis

- New Strategies
- Reflections
- War Clouds
- Going to War
- The War at Home
- Fighting on Two Fronts
- War's End

Unit 4: Postwar America

- A War of Words and Ideas
- The Cold War at Home and Abroad
- Eisenhower at the Helm
- From War to Peace
- A New American Dream
- The New Frontier
- Your Magazine Project
- The Beginning of Change
- Demanding Change
- A New Generation

Unit 5: A Time of Turmoil

- Crisis
- War in Vietnam
- Reflections on War
- Culture and Counterculture
- Tragedies
- Women on the Move
- Voices for Change
- Complex Times
- The Watergate Scandal
- Transition

Unit 6: Toward a New Millennium

- A Changing Mood

- Reaganomics
- Cold War Warriors
- Legacies
- The Post-Cold War World, Part 1
- A New Age
- The Clinton Years
- Divisions
- The Post Cold War World, Part 2
- Entering a New Millennium
- New Realities
- War and Disaster
- Looking Ahead

Unit 7: Semester Review and Test

Unit 8: Honors Project

- U.S. History Honors Project, Part 1
- U.S. History Honors Project, Part 2
- U.S. History Honors Project, Part 3
- U.S. History Honors Project, Part 4
- U.S. History Honors Project, Part 5
- U.S. History Honors Project, Part 6