



2024-2025

Rapid City
Central High School

US History 1

RCAS Policies/Procedures:

Students will be required to follow all RCAS policies and procedures. To view the RCAS High School Student Handbook, click [handbook](#).

Course Description:

This course explores the history of the United States from the founding of the United States through Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will compare and contrast social, political, and economic forces that impacted America during this time period. Cause and-effect understanding of historical moments is emphasized. Students will analyze primary and secondary documents that have shaped the founding of the United States.

Textbook:

United States History (Savvas)

Required Resources:

“Limited Choice” Resources: (students will be asked to choose at least one title from this list)

Student Choice:

Will student be asked to choose additional reading material from the classroom or school library?

Yes

Essential Learning:

- Were the colonists justified in resisting British policies after the French and Indian War?
- Was the American War for Independence [choose one: a revolt against taxes, inevitable]?
- Could the Constitution be written without compromise?
- How did political parties evolve?
- Was the Age of Jackson an age of democracy?
- Should the states have the right to ignore the laws of the national government?
- Does a geographic minority have the right to ignore the laws of a national majority?
- Can legislative compromises solve moral issues?
- Can the Supreme Court settle moral issues? (Dred Scott decision)
- Was slavery the primary cause of the Civil War?
- Was the Civil War inevitable?

Essential Skills:

Comprehension: I can accurately understand concepts and ideas I am presented with.

Analysis: I can review in detail the structure of information to explain, interpret, discover, or reveal something new.

Conclusion: I can arrive at a judgment by reasoning and analyzing evidence.