

US History 2

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 investigates history of the United States from post-Civil War movement westward through the Great Depression. Students will compare and contrast social, political, and economic forces that impacted the United States during this period. Cause-and-effect understanding of historical moments is emphasized. Students will analyze primary and secondary documents that have shaped America's modern era.

Textbook:

United States History (Pearson/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?

No

Essential Learning:

- Has rapid industrial development been a blessing or a curse for Americans?
- Has the West been romanticized?
- What connections can be made if any from the impact of federal government actions and policies and the influences of local groups upon the settlement patterns of South Dakota to life today?
- Was American expansion overseas justified?
- Did the press cause the Spanish-American War?
- Was World War I inevitable?
- Was the Great Depression inevitable? Did Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal weaken or save capitalism?
- Did the New Deal effectively end the Great Depression and restore prosperity?
- Was the plight Americans faced during this era greater than at any other time in U.S. History?

Essential Learning Intentions:

- Students can evaluate how new technologies in steel, transportation, and communication led to the expansion and growth of industry in the United States.
- Students can explain how technology facilitated the movement of goods, services and populations and influenced growth.
- Students can describe the role of the federal government in the rise of big business.
- Students can analyze the role of the federal government in supporting or working against unions.
- Students can compare and contrast what life was like for the wealthy, middle class, and working class living in urban areas at the turn of the century.
- Students can summarize the social and economic changes urbanization brought to the United States during the turn of the century.
- Students can describe the life and opportunities of Native Americans at the turn of the century.
- Students can interpret the reasons people called for reform at the turn of the century and the various reforms of the Progressive Movement.
- Students can assess the life and opportunities of Native Americans at the turn of the century.
- Students can analyze the impact expanding into other areas of the world had on the United States during the early 20th century.
- Students can identify the key events that led to the U.S.'s entry into

World War I and the role of the U.S. in the war against the Central powers.

- Students can analyze the role Americans played in supporting the war effort at home.
- Students can formulate the significance urbanization had on the United States during the 1920's.
- Students can explain the impact of consumerism and mass media on the American economy during the 1920's.
- Students can synthesize the weaknesses of the American economy leading up to the stock market crash of 1929. • Students can compare and contrast life during the Great Depression and the Roaring 20's.
- Students can analyze whether the New Deal programs were successful in achieving relief, recovery and reform in the United States.
- Students can analyze the impact many New Deal programs have on today's government and economy.
- Students can compare and contrast the role of the federal government before and after the New Deal era.