

## Foundations American History

### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of American History. The content will focus on the origins of the nation's democratic principles and continue through present day domestic and foreign issues that affect American society. There will be a particular emphasis on the individuals and groups that have not only been impacted by the nation's development but those who have made contributions as well. Students will utilize critical thinking and problem solving as they complete assignments establishing real-world connections.

The course content has been appropriately chunked into smaller topics to increase retention and expand opportunities for assessment. With each topic, quizzes are presented to the student. Audio readings are included with every portion of content, allowing auditory learners the opportunity to engage with the course. Test pools and randomized test questions are utilized in quizzes as well as unit exams, ensuring that students taking the course will not be presented with the same exams. Additionally, the course includes additional practice activities (such as cloze activities), as well as pre-topic vocabulary lists, that introduce key vocabulary in English and in Spanish.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

After completing this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the origins of the United States
- Analyze significant documents that have impacted the development of the nation
- Identify key events in the nation's development
- Identify significant individuals that contributed to the nation's development
- Describe issues that have and still affect the nation both home and abroad
- Describe the causes and effects of the various wars that Americans have fought
- Discuss the characteristics that define the United States as World Power

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**COURSE LENGTH:** Two semesters

**REQUIRED TEXT:** None

### COURSE OUTLINE:

#### Settling America

- Scientific Origins of the Continent
- Emerging Civilizations
- Foreign Exploration & Colonization
- Settling the Colonies
- Role for the Indigenous Population
- Religious Views
- The American Revolution

#### Forming the Republic

- Building a New Government
- Foreign and Domestic Issues
- Role of the President
- The Expanding Nation
- Settling the Western Frontier

#### The Civil War

- Causes for the War
- Political Issues
- Battles
- Effects of the War
- Role of the President
- Reconstruction

## Foundations American History (continued)

### COURSE OUTLINE (continued):

#### A Growing Nation

- Big Business
- Westward Migration
- Land Acts
- Gilded Age
- Role of the Presidency
- Immigration
- Living Conditions
- Reform Movements

#### America as a World Power

- Imperialism
- Nationalism
- Spanish American War
- Annexation of Hawaii
- Panama Canal
- Role of the Presidency
- Progressivism
- Suffrage
- World War I
- Battles
- American Home Front
- Role of the Presidency

#### The Twenties

- Red Scare
- Labor Issues
- Automobiles Industry
- Role of Women
- Mass Media
- Harlem
- Renaissance
- Prohibition
- The Economy
- Stock Market Crash
- Great Depression
- Role of the Presidency

#### World War Two and Beyond

- Causes of the War
- Hitler
- The Holocaust
- America's Role
- Pearl Harbor

#### Role of the Presidency

- Battles
- American Home Front
- Military Leadership
- War in the Pacific
- Manhattan Project
- Cold War
- Korean War
- Arms Race

#### The Sixties

- The New Frontier and John F. Kennedy
- Camelot
- Space Program
- Assassination of John F. Kennedy
- Lyndon B. Johnson and the Great Society
- Foreign Policy
- Martin Luther King
- Women's Movement
- Vietnam
- Battles
- American Home Front

#### The Road to the Modern Era

- Richard Millhouse Nixon
- Domestic Policy
- Foreign Policy
- Watergate
- Impeachment
- Gerald Ford
- Nixon Pardon
- The Economy
- Foreign Policy
- Jimmy Carter
- The Election
- Staff Issues
- Foreign Policy
- Domestic Issues

#### Charting a New Course

- Ronald Regan
- Election of 1980
- The Economy
- Foreign Policy
- Domestic Issues
- George H. Bush
- Election of 1988
- End of the Cold War
- Domestic Issues
- Persian Gulf
- William Jefferson Clinton
- Domestic Policy
- Foreign Policy
- Impeachment
- George W. Bush
- 911
- Domestic Policy
- Foreign Policy
- Desert Storm
- American Home Front