

American History

State Standard Number	State Standard Area/Description	Unit Name	Course Topic Description
	Skills		
VUS.1	The student will demonstrate skills for historical and geographical analysis and responsible citizenship, including the ability to		
VUS.1.a	identify, analyze, and interpret primary and secondary source documents, records, and data, including artifacts, diaries, letters, photographs, journals, newspapers, historical accounts, and art, to increase understanding of events and life in the United States;	Covered throughout course – example: American History A Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 2 – Forming the New Republic
VUS.1.b	evaluate the authenticity, authority, and credibility of sources;	Covered throughout course – example: American History A Unit 3 – The Dividing Nation	Section 5 - America and Reform Movements
VUS.1.c	formulate historical questions and defend findings, based on inquiry and interpretation;	Covered throughout course – example: American History A Unit 4 – The Expanding Nation	Section 4 - Trails, Texas, and Beyond
VUS.1.d	develop perspectives of time and place, including the construction of maps and various timelines of events, periods, and personalities in American history;	Covered throughout course – example: American History B Unit 10 – The Tumultuous Sixties	Section 3 - Foreign and Domestic Issues
VUS.1.e	communicate findings orally and in analytical essays or comprehensive papers;	Covered throughout course – example: American History A Unit 1 – Settling the Americas	Section 2 - Pre-Columbian Era
VUS.1.f	develop skills in discussion, debate, and persuasive writing with respect to enduring issues and determine how divergent viewpoints have been addressed and reconciled;	Covered throughout course – example: American History A Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 2 – Forming the New Republic

American History

VUS.1.g	apply geographic skills and reference sources to understand how relationships between humans and their environment have changed over time;	Covered throughout course – example: American History A Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 3 - Expanding the Republic
VUS.1.h	interpret the significance of excerpts from famous speeches and other documents;	Covered throughout course – example: American History A Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 2 – Forming the New Republic
VUS.1.i	identify the costs and benefits of specific choices made, including the consequences, both intended and unintended, of the decisions and how people and nations responded to positive and negative incentives.	Covered throughout course – example: American History B Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 6 - World War II and Beyond
	Early America: Early Claims, Early Conflicts		
VUS.2	The student will describe how early European exploration and colonization resulted in cultural interactions among Europeans, Africans, and American Indians.	American History A Unit 1 – Settling of the Americas Unit 4 – The Expanding Nation	Section 4 – European Exploration and Colonization Section 5 - The New England and Southern Colonies Section 3 - Spanish Influence in North America
VUS.3	The student will describe how the values and institutions of European economic and political life took root in the colonies and how slavery reshaped European and African life in the Americas.	American History A Unit 1 – Settling of the Americas Unit 2 – The Growing Nation Unit 3 – The Dividing Nation Unit 5 – The Nation Torn	Section 5 – The New England and Southern Colonies Section 2 – Forming the New Republic Section 2 - Divisions Among the Nation Section 5 - America and Reform Movements Section 2 - Causes for

American History

		Apart	Separation
	Revolution and the New Nation		
VUS.4	The student will demonstrate knowledge of events and issues of the Revolutionary Period by		
VUS.4.a	analyzing how the political ideas of John Locke and those expressed in Common Sense helped shape the Declaration of Independence;	Unit 1 – Settling the Americas	Section 6 - The American Revolution
VUS.4.b	evaluating how key principles in the Declaration of Independence grew in importance to become unifying ideas of American democracy;	Unit 2 – The Growing Nation Unit 3 – The Dividing Nation	Section 2 – Forming the New Republic Section 3 - Expanding the Republic Section 4 - Jacksonian Democracy and Beyond
VUS.4.c	describing the political differences among the colonists concerning separation from Great Britain;	Unit 1 – Settling the Americas	Section 6 - The American Revolution
VUS.4.d	analyzing reasons for colonial victory in the Revolutionary War.	Unit 1 – Settling the Americas	Section 6 - The American Revolution
VUS.5	The student will demonstrate knowledge of the issues involved in the creation and ratification of the Constitution of the United States and how the principles of limited government, consent of the		

American History

	governed, and the social contract are embodied in it by		
VUS.5.a	explaining the origins of the Constitution, including the Articles of Confederation;	Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 2 – Forming the New Republic
VUS.5.b	identifying the major compromises necessary to produce the Constitution, and the roles of James Madison and George Washington;	Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 2 – Forming the New Republic
VUS.5.c	examining the significance of the Virginia Declaration of Rights and the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom in the framing of the Bill of Rights;		
VUS.5.d	assessing the arguments of Federalists and Anti-Federalists during the ratification debates and their relevance to political debate today;	Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 2 – Forming the New Republic
VUS.5.e	appraising how John Marshall's precedent-setting decisions established the Supreme Court as an independent and equal branch of the national government.	Unit 3 – The Dividing Nation	Section 3 - Nationalism
	Expansion and Reform: 1788 to 1860		
VUS.6	The student will demonstrate knowledge of the major events from the last decade of the eighteenth century through the first half of the nineteenth century by		

American History

VUS.6.a	explaining the principles and issues that prompted Thomas Jefferson to organize the first opposition political party;	Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 2 – Forming the New Republic
VUS.6.b	identifying the economic, political, and geographic factors that led to territorial expansion and its impact on the American Indians;	Unit 2 – The Growing Nation Unit 4 – The Expanding Nation	Section 3 - Expanding the Republic Section 4 - Resistance, War, and Expansion Section 5 - Settling the Western Frontier Section 4 - Trails, Texas, and Beyond
VUS.6.c	examining the reasons why James Madison asked Congress to declare war on Great Britain in 1812 and how this divided the nation;	Unit 2 – The Growing Nation	Section 4 - Resistance, War, and Expansion
VUS.6.d	relating the changing character of American political life in "the age of the common man" (Jacksonian Era) to increasing popular participation in state and national politics;	Unit 3 – The Dividing Nation	Section 4 - Jacksonian Democracy and Beyond
VUS.6.e	describing the cultural, economic, and political issues that divided the nation, including tariffs, slavery, the abolitionist and women's suffrage movements, and the role of the states in the Union.	Unit 3 – The Dividing Nation	Section 2 - Divisions Among the Nation Section 3 – Nationalism Section 4 - Jacksonian Democracy and Beyond Section 5 - America and Reform Movements
	Civil War and Reconstruction: 1860 to 1877		
VUS.7	The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Civil War and Reconstruction Era and their importance as major turning points in American history by		

American History

VUS.7.a	evaluating the multiple causes of the Civil War, including the role of the institution of slavery as a principal cause of the conflict;	Unit 3 – The Dividing Nation Unit 5 – The Nation Torn Apart	Section 2 - Divisions Among the Nation Section 5 - America and Reform Movements Section 2 - Causes for Separation Section 3 - The Decline of the Nation
VUS.7.b	identifying the major events and the roles of key leaders of the Civil War Era, with emphasis on Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, and Frederick Douglass;	Unit 5 – The Nation Torn Apart	Section 4 - The Civil War
VUS.7.c	analyzing the significance of the Emancipation Proclamation and the principles outlined in Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address;	Unit 5 – The Nation Torn Apart	Section 4 - The Civil War
VUS.7.d	examining the political and economic impact of the war and Reconstruction, including the adoption of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments to the Constitution of the United States;	Unit 5 – The Nation Torn Apart Unit 6 – Reconstructing and Expanding America	Section 4 - The Civil War Section 2 - Reconstruction
VUS.7.e	examining the social impact of the war on African Americans, the common soldier, and the home front, with emphasis on Virginia;	Unit 5 – The Nation Torn Apart	Section 4 - The Civil War
VUS.7.f	explaining post-war contributions of key leaders of the Civil War.	Unit 6 – Reconstructing and Expanding America	Section 2 - Reconstruction
	Reshaping the Nation and the Emergence of Modern America: 1877 to 1930s		

American History

VUS.8	The student will demonstrate knowledge of how the nation grew and changed from the end of Reconstruction through the early twentieth century by		
VUS.8.a	explaining the relationship among territorial expansion, westward movement of the population, new immigration, growth of cities, the role of the railroads, and the admission of new states to the Union;	Unit 4 – The Expanding Nation Unit 6 – Reconstructing and Expanding America Unit 7 – From the Age of Extremes to a World Power	Section 2 - Immigration and Divisions Section 3 - U.S. Expansion Westward Section 2 – Immigration Section 3 - City Growth
VUS.8.b	describing the transformation of the American economy from a primarily agrarian to a modern industrial economy and identifying major inventions that improved life in the United States;	Unit 6 – Reconstructing and Expanding America Unit 7 – From the Age of Extremes to a World Power	Section 4 - Innovation and Industry Section 5 - Big Business Section 6 – Unionization Section 4 - Culture and Politics
VUS.8.c	analyzing prejudice and discrimination during this time period, with emphasis on "Jim Crow" and the responses of Booker T. Washington and W.E.B. Du Bois;	Unit 6 – Reconstructing and Expanding America Unit 8 – Progressivism to Hard Times	Section 2 - Reconstruction Section 4 - Social and Cultural Trends
VUS.8.d	identifying the causes and impact of the Progressive Movement, including the excesses of the Gilded Age, child labor and antitrust laws, the rise of labor unions, and the success of the women's suffrage movement.	Unit 6 – Reconstructing and Expanding America Unit 7 – From the Age of Extremes to a World Power Unit 8 – Progressivism to Hard Times	Section 5 - Big Business Section 6 – Unionization Section 4 - Culture and Politics Section 2 - Government Reform and Women's Rights
VUS.9	The student will demonstrate knowledge of the emerging role of the United States in world affairs by		

American History

VUS.9.a	explaining the changing policies of the United States toward Latin America and Asia and the growing influence of the United States in foreign markets;	Unit 7 – From the Age of Extremes to a World Power	Section 5 - Imperialist Attitudes
VUS.9.b	evaluating United States involvement in World War I, including Wilson's Fourteen Points, the Treaty of Versailles, and the national debate over treaty ratification and the League of Nations.	Unit 7 – From the Age of Extremes to a World Power	Section 6 - World War I
VUS.10	The student will demonstrate knowledge of key domestic events of the 1920s and 1930s by		
VUS.10.a	analyzing how radio, movies, newspapers, and magazines created popular culture and challenged traditional values;	Unit 8 – Progressivism to Hard Times	Section 4 - Social and Cultural Trends
VUS.10.b	assessing the causes and consequences of the stock market crash of 1929;	Unit 8 – Progressivism to Hard Times	Section 5 - Business, Economy, and Government Policy Section 6 - Depression and the New Deal
VUS.10.c	explaining the causes of the Great Depression and its impact on the American people;	Unit 8 – Progressivism to Hard Times	Section 6 - Depression and the New Deal
VUS.10.d	describing how Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal relief, recovery, and reform measures addressed the Great Depression and expanded the government's role in the economy.	Unit 8 – Progressivism to Hard Times	Section 6 - Depression and the New Deal
	Conflict: The World at War: 1939 to 1945		

American History

VUS.11	The student will demonstrate knowledge of World War II by		
VUS.11.a	analyzing the causes and events that led to American involvement in the war, including military assistance to the United Kingdom and the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 2 - The Road to War
VUS.11.b	describing and locating the major battles and turning points of the war in North Africa, Europe, and the Pacific, including Midway, Stalingrad, the Normandy landing (D-Day), and Truman's decision to use the atomic bomb to force the surrender of Japan;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 3 - The War in Europe Section 4 - The War in the Pacific
VUS.11.c	describing the role of all-minority military units, including the Tuskegee Airmen and Nisei regiments;		
VUS.11.d	examining the Geneva Convention and the treatment of prisoners of war during World War II;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 6 - World War II and Beyond
VUS.11.e	analyzing the Holocaust (Hitler's "final solution"), its impact on Jews and other groups, and the postwar trials of war criminals.	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 6 - World War II and Beyond
VUS.12	The student will demonstrate knowledge of the effects of World War II on the home front by		

American History

VUS.12.a	explaining how the United States mobilized its economic, human, and military resources;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 5 - World War II and the American Home Front
VUS.12.b	describing the contributions of women and minorities to the war effort;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 5 - World War II and the American Home Front
VUS.12.c	explaining the internment of Japanese Americans during the war;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 5 - World War II and the American Home Front
VUS.12.d	describing the role of media and communications in the war effort.	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 5 - World War II and the American Home Front
	The United States since World War II		
VUS.13	The student will demonstrate knowledge of United States foreign policy since World War II by		
VUS.13.a	describing outcomes of World War II, including political boundary changes, the formation of the United Nations, and the Marshall Plan;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 6 - World War II and Beyond
VUS.13.b	explaining the origins of the Cold War, and describing the Truman Doctrine and the policy of containment of communism, the American role in wars in Korea and Vietnam, and the role of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 6 - World War II and Beyond

American History

	(NATO) in Europe;		
VUS.13.c	explaining the role of America's military and veterans in defending freedom during the Cold War;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 6 - World War II and Beyond
VUS.13.d	explaining the collapse of communism and the end of the Cold War, including the role of Ronald Reagan in making foreign policy;	Unit 11 – The Road to the Modern Era	
VUS.13.e	explaining the impact of presidents of the United States since 1988 on foreign policy.	Unit 11 – The Road to the Modern Era	Section 3 - The Reagan and George H.W. Bush Administrations Section 4 - The Clinton and George W. Bush Administrations
VUS.14	The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s by		
VUS.14.a	identifying the importance of the Brown v. Board of Education decision, the roles of Thurgood Marshall and Oliver Hill, and how Virginia responded;	Unit 9 – America: A World Leader Emerges	Section 6 - World War II and Beyond
VUS.14.b	describing the importance of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the 1963 March on Washington, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.	Unit 10 – The Tumultuous Sixties	Section 3 - Foreign and Domestic Issues
VUS.15	The student will demonstrate knowledge of economic, social, cultural, and political developments in recent decades and today by		

American History

VUS.15.a	examining the role the United States Supreme Court has played in defining a constitutional right to privacy, affirming equal rights, and upholding the rule of law;	Unit 10 – The Tumultuous Sixties	Section 3 - Foreign and Domestic Issues
VUS.15.b	analyzing the changing patterns of immigration, the reasons why new immigrants choose to come to this country, their contributions to contemporary America, and the debates over immigration policy;	Unit 10 – The Tumultuous Sixties	Section 2 - Kennedy and Johnson
VUS.15.c	explaining the media influence on contemporary American culture and how scientific and technological advances affect the workplace, health care, and education;		
VUS.15.d	examining the impact of the "Reagan Revolution" on federalism, the role of government, and state and national elections since 1988;	Unit 11 – The Road to the Modern Era	Section 3 - The Reagan and George H.W. Bush Administrations Section 4 - The Clinton and George W. Bush Administrations
VUS.15.e	assessing the role of government actions that impact the economy;	Unit 10 – The Tumultuous Sixties Unit 11 – The Road to the Modern Era	Section 2 - Kennedy and Johnson Section 2 - The Ford and Carter Administrations Section 3 - The Reagan and George H.W. Bush Administrations Section 4 - The Clinton and George W. Bush Administrations
VUS.15.f	assessing the role of the United States in a world confronted by international terrorism.	Unit 11 – The Road to the Modern Era	Section 4 - The Clinton and George W. Bush Administrations