

Grand Island Public Schools AMERICAN HISTORY

Course Length: Two semesters

Grade Levels: 9

Prerequisite Courses: None

Course Description:

This course provides a continuation of 8th American History, with the content beginning at the turn of the 20th century through the present day. Students will understand the ways in which American political, economic, social, and cultural institutions have evolved in response to continually changing conditions and demands. The course is designed to give students an understanding of current institutions and practices by examining our nation's history.

American History Course Standards

As a result of their participation in this course, students will:

- Use thinking skills to analyze ideas and materials, solve problems, and construct personal perspectives.
- Analyze documents, records and data to formulate a personal perspective.
- Examine and analyze primary and secondary sources to differentiate between historical fact and fiction.
- Describe the impact of immigration on 20th Century America.
- Explain why people immigrated to the United States and identify the obstacles they faced.
- Describe contributions made by immigrants in the United States.
- Evaluate how United States domestic policies affected immigrants.
- Analyze the 20th Century American Dream.
- Summarize the new technologies in transportation and communication.
- Describe new inventions and industrial production methods.
- Analyze the social problems Americans experienced during the Great Depression.
- Evaluate how World War I and World War II changed social issues in the United States.
- Describe America's role in world affairs.
- Describe the United States participation in World War I and World War II.
- Summarize the origins of the Cold War and its effects on the United States.
- Describe the cultural movement and settlement patterns in 20th Century America.
- Identify factors that led to territorial expansion of the United States.
- Describe how natural resources have had an impact on the development of the United States.
- Describe urbanization and its problems in America.
- Explain 20th century settlement patterns in America.
- Describe the economic changes in the United States from early 20th Century through contemporary times.
- Summarize government policies affecting monopolies, taxation, and money supply.
- Describe improvements in standards of living and living conditions.
- Describe child labor, working conditions, and the rise of organized labor.
- Explain cause and effects of changes in business cycles.
- Describe the economic factors that lead to the Great Depression (e.g., Stock Market Crash, buying on credit, banking).
- Describe the impact of the Depression and New Deal economic policies on the American people.
- Relate the impact of mobilization for war, both at home and abroad.