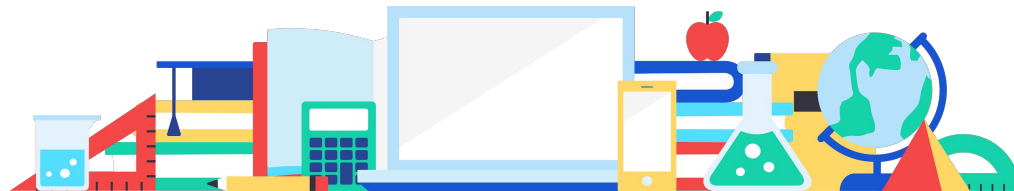




AP U.S. History

Updated June 13, 2022



Timeline Overview



Timelines

Theme →	American/ national identity	Politics and power	Work, tech, exchange
Period 1 1492-1607	-No cohesion among Native American groups -Europeans did not intend to stay	-Spanish dominated -French/Dutch: trade-based -Treaties/conflict w. Native Americans	-New crops and goods into Europe, new tech into America -Mostly slave labor (Native, African)
Period 2 1607-1754	-English settlers considered "British" not American, largely identity based on colony, class	-Development of local power generally democratic in North, town meetings -In South, aristocracy by landowners	-Trade in New England, fishing and farming, timber, furs -In South: slavery, indenture, cash crops (tobacco, cotton)
Period 3 1754-1800	-Development of independent national identity leading to Revolution -"American citizen" still white, wealthy male despite Dol	-Conflict over direct vs. virtual representation, taxes led to war -Articles of Confed (weak) -Constitution (strong central gov) -1st Party Syst: Hamilton v. Jefferson	-End of "salutary neglect" as English crown takes more control over American goods, shipping → war -Slavery continues to grow in South, helped by invention of cotton gin
Period 4 1800-1848	-Growing American identity, fractured by sectional identity -Exclusion of Native Americans despite cooperation	-Expansion of suffrage to all white men in Jacksonian Democracy -Conflict b/w North and South over slavery in new territories -Democrats vs. Whigs (2nd Party)	-Expansion of infrastructure, markets, railroads/canals, telegraph, cities -Conflict over National Bank -Factories emerge (Lowell Mills) -Slavery continues to grow in South
Period 5 1844-1877	-Increasing fracture along sectional lines → Civil War -North's victory led to THE United States, not THESE United States -During Reconstruction, black men in South were citizens	-Ineffective presidents, Compr. of 1850, Fugitive Slave Act, pop. sovereignty -Republican party emerges, wins election of 1860 (Lincoln) -14th Amend: citizenship -15th Amend: black men vote, not ♀	-End of slavery in 1865, move toward system of sharecropping in South -North continuing to industrialize, wins Civil War based on factory power -Railroads cross the country
Period 6 1865-1898	-Increasing American national identity as USA becomes major industrial power -Spanish-Am war reunites N & S	-Brief period of citizenship for black men in South ends with Reconstruction -Jim Crow segregation -Republicans in power	-USA becomes world's leading industrial power thanks to steel, rail -Harsh labor conditions in factories for immigrants -"Robber barons" and Gilded Age
Period 7 1890-1945	-New European immigrants at first considered not American, by end of WWII are considered "white" -New World Power status -New era of federal government intervention in economy, life	-Wilson becomes first Democrat to win power in 1912, then FDR from '32-'45 -Woman suffrage 1920 -Segregation, disenfranchisement continues for African Americans, who return from WWII ready for civil rights	-Major era of production and innovation, incl. phone, electricity, radio, car, flight -Laissez-faire economics → Stock Market Crash and Great Depression -New Deal, WWII end Depression -Industrialization → postwar boom
Period 8 1945-1980	-Period of expanding federal power and expanding power of citizens thru civil rights -Era of pro USA culture vs. USSR	-Democrats in power until late 1960s, when Nixon takes charge -Civil Rights Movement in 50s, 60s -Women's rights movement in 60s, 70s	-Major economic boom as USA is only country unscathed from WWII - babies! -Invention of computer -1970s economic recession
Period 9 1980-	-Period of increasing conservatism in government, with a movement to reduce size of federal government -Continuation of USA as world's leading superpower	-Period of return to prominence of the Republican Party and conservatism -Shift in political power to South and West following population shift	-Era of globalism has connected markets and people all over the world -Prominence of the internet and mobile phones has changed information consumption and distribution -Decline of unions, stagnation of wages

Timelines

Theme →	Culture and society	Migration and settlement	Geography/ environment	America in the world
Period 1 1492-1607	-Blending of indigenous and European cultures -Exploration driven in part by religion	-Humans came to America on Bering Land Bridge -Europeans came to extract resources	-Gold in Latin America drove exploration -Disease from Europeans killed 95% of Native people	-Competition between European powers as well as Native American groups led to alliances, conflict
Period 2 1607-1754	-New England life based around Puritan religion -Racial caste system solidified in the South -First Great Awakening	-Religious dissidents from Europe came to North -In South, adventurers looking for wealth -700k+ enslaved people	-Climate/soil differences led to family farming in North, plantations in South -Illness in marshy South killed indentured servants	-Continued competition with Native Americans over land, scuffle between European powers to get territory and goods
Period 3 1754-1800	-Influence of Enlightenment thought on Revolution -Women played role in Rev but not considered citizens	-Continued push against western frontier for land -Continued importation of Africans	-End of freely available land in East → push west, conflict b/w coastal elites and backwoods farmers	-Emergence of USA as independent power -Alliance with France helps win Rev, but worries many
Period 4 1800-1848	-Second Great Awakening -Reform movements (abolition, temperance, woman suffrage, prison) -"Cult of domesticity" for ♀	-White Americans push west -Native Americans forced west - Trail of Tears -End of int'l slave trade, internal slave trade continues	-Expansion of cotton in the South, expands slavery -Continued westward push, Manifest Destiny -Texas annexation	-War of 1812 ends British presence in North America, ends hopes for Native Americans to prevail -Mexican War → territory addition
Period 5 1844-1877	-Emergence of ideological defenses of slavery and militant abolitionism -Millennial religious mov'ts -Nativists - hate immigrants	-New immigrants coming from Ireland, Germany -Move westward continues, esp. after gold discovered in CA -Indian Wars / Reservations	-Discovery of gold in CA leads to gold rush -Large population in North, "breadbasket" states help win Civil War	-US is largely isolationist in this period - Fears that Great Britain will intercede on behalf of South during Civil War are not realized
Period 6 1865-1898	-"Social Darwinism" - belief that some people were inherently better than others due to evolution	-Many new immigrants from S & E Europe -Manifest Destiny complete, "frontier closed"	-Cities are polluted, bad working conditions → illness -West "conquered" with barbed wire, buffalo dead	-Indian Wars, Native Americans nearly gone -Last era of American isolationism
Period 7 1890-1945	-Backlash to minorities, immigrants - KKK -Flourishing of American culture in Lost Generation, Jazz	-1 million plus immigrants coming to USA each year until 1924 when first quotas passed -Great Migration of black Southerners to cities in North	-New tech makes world a smaller place -Conservation mov't begins -Ocean shields from war -Dev't of atom bomb	-Spanish-Am War -WWI -Isolationism in 20s, 30s -WWII - aftermath leads US to commit to intervention
Period 8 1945-1980	-Religious era of 1950s -Social movements (Civil Rights, Women's rights) -Emergence of protest against US gov't by students	-Move from cities to suburbs, era of cars -Very little immigration until 1965, when policy changed to attract skilled labor -Boat people from Vietnam	-Serious industrial pollution from 1945-1970 -Begin to address serious pollution in 1970s - EPA -Dependence on oil fuels international conflict	-Cold War directs most US foreign policy, commitment to containment leads to Korean War, Vietnam -Slowly replaced by conflict in the Middle East in 70s
Period 9 1980-	-Period of "Vietnam Syndrome" -"Culture Wars" over changing gender, race, family structure -Increasing diversity	-Increased immigration of people from Latin America and Asia -Movement to South and West for jobs	-Wars in Middle East led to efforts to reduce dependence on oil -Growing movement of eco-consciousness in energy, food	-USSR collapses, ending Cold War -USA involved in conflict in Middle East over culture, oil (Gulf, Sept 11, War on Terror) -Era of globalization

Early Colonies

Early Colonization

Europeans Enter Africa

- Marco Polo traveled to China and stirred up a storm of European interest
- Mixed with desire for spices, an **East to West (Asia to Europe) trade** flourished but had to be overland, at least in part. This initiated new exploration down around **Africa** in hopes of an easier (all water) route
- Portugal started a sailing school to find better ways to get to the “Spice Islands,” eventually rounding Africa’s southern Cape of Good Hope
- **New developments**
 - ◆ **caravel** – a ship with triangular sail that could better tack (zig-zag) ahead into the wind and thus return to Europe from Africa coast
 - ◆ **compass** – to determine direction
 - ◆ **astrolabe** – a sextant that could determine a ship’s latitude
- **Slave trade begins**
 - ◆ First slave trade was across the Sahara Desert, then along the West African coast. Slave traders purposely attacked tribes and families in order to prevent any possible uprising
 - ◆ Slaves were taken to sugar plantations the Portuguese had set up on the tropical islands off Africa’s coast
 - ◆ Spain saw Portugal’s success in exploration and slave trade and wanted to emulate it
- The **Columbian Exchange** - the exchange of diseases, ideas, food, crops, and populations between the New World and the Old World following the voyage to the Americas by **Christopher Columbus** in 1492

13 Colonies

- The Middle Colonies of **New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey** and **Delaware** all had good farmland and produced grains for bread, ships, lumber and furs. Philadelphia and New York City were two major port cities. Their people were ethnically diverse
- New York was initially settled by the Dutch in 1623. Earlier, English explorer Henry Hudson sailed up the Hudson River and claimed New Amsterdam (New York City) for the Dutch. Ironically, England would take New York from the Dutch without a shot fired in 1664
- The **Massachusetts Bay Colony** was founded in 1629 by **Governor John Winthrop**. In a sermon, Winthrop preached that “**we shall be as a city upon a hill**”, in which the Puritans of the Bay Colony would build a model religious community based on Puritan beliefs and values.
- Pennsylvania was founded by **William Penn**, a Quaker, in 1681 in what was known as "Penn's Holy Experiment". The Quakers were a peaceful religious group of dissenters from England. They believed in taking no oaths, refused military service, and were accepting of Indians. Consequently, Pennsylvania became a liberal colony that was also ethnically diverse and accepting of most religions

13 Colonies Cont.

- **Jamestown, Virginia** was the first English settlement in the colonies in 1607. The initial Jamestown settlers and many other Chesapeake residents would die at an early age from disease. Life expectancy was much shorter here than in the clean air of New England. Chesapeake families were not common due to mostly men immigrating in this area to make money. However, tobacco production would require a massive number of white indentured servants from Europe.
- Virginia and Maryland would be first and third in population by 1700 in the thirteen colonies. Tobacco was king in both Maryland and Virginia. Virginian John Rolfe was the master at cultivating tobacco, which the Europeans loved to smoke.
- **Maryland** was founded by Lord Baltimore in 1634. His motives for settling Maryland were money and finding a peaceful haven for Catholics who were being persecuted in England. Tensions between Catholics and Protestants in this tobacco colony caused the passage of the Act of Toleration in 1649, which promised toleration to all Christians but not other religions.

13 Colonies Cont.

- South and North Carolina were merged together as one colony until 1712 when they separated and became individual colonies. Georgia would obtain its own charter in 1732.
- **South Carolina** would soon become heavily populated with black slaves. England wanted this colony to provide food to its wealthy sugar islands in the West Indies. Rice became the main export, as black slaves worked long hours in the isolated, swampy rice fields of South Carolina. Charleston became a major seaport city and was ethnically diverse.
- **North Carolina** was settled by a large number of migrants from aristocratic Virginia. Many of these early settlers did not like the snobs of Virginia and their Church of England. As a result, the Carolinians became religious and political dissenters from Virginian authority and developed a sense of rugged individualism and democracy while being small tobacco farmers.
- **Georgia** would be the last colony of the original thirteen colonies. England wanted it to serve as a defensive buffer against Spanish Florida and French Louisiana. Philanthropists, such as leader James Oglethorpe, helped those in debt and made progress in reforming debtor prisons.

Revolutionary War and Civil War



Revolutionary War

There were many factors that led the American colonists to seek their **independence**.

These included

- the development of an **American identity and culture** separate from that of Great Britain
- a sense of independence that grew from life on a frontier
- resentment over the end of **salutary neglect** and the implementation of more strict colonial control, especially new **taxes** that were levied without the colonists consent via direct representation in Parliament - **taxation without representation**
- the influence of **Enlightenment ideas** (especially those of John Locke) about natural rights, consent of the governed, and the ability of the people to abolish or alter an unjust government

All of this led to increased tensions, culminating in protests and, eventually, violent revolution. Fighting began with the **Battle of Lexington and Concord in 1775**. The following year, the colonists issued the **Declaration of Independence**

Revolutionary War Cont.

The First Continental Congress

- Met in Philadelphia during September - October 1774 to discuss problems.
- They came up with a Declaration of Rights
- The **“Shot Heard Around the World”** in April 1775 where the British commander in Boston sent troops to Lexington and Concord to seize supplies and capture Sam Adams and John Hancock
- In June 1775 colonials seized Bunker Hill. Colonials were heavily entrenched forcing Redcoats to eventually retreat.

Thomas Paine's Common Sense

- In 1776 Paine published the pamphlet Common Sense which urged colonials to stop the war of inconsistency, pretending to be loyal, and to fight when necessary. Mentioned it was also unnatural to control American territory at the time
- Also argued that a republic of senators, governors, and judges should have power from the consent of the people

The Second Continental Congress

- Congress appointed Thomas Jefferson to publish the Declaration of Independence. This focused on grievances against King George III explaining why colonies had a right to revolt.
- Explained the natural rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
- Congress approved the document on July 4, 1776.

The Treaty of Paris of 1783

- Britain recognized U.S. Independence and granted generous boundaries from the Mississippi River to the west, Great Lakes to the north, and Spanish Florida on the South.

Revolutionary War Cont.

- **1775:** The American Revolution begins with the Battle of Lexington and Concord
- **1776:** The Declaration of Independence is signed
- **1781:** The British surrender at Yorktown
- **1783:** The Treaty of Paris officially ends the war

Westward Expansion

The Louisiana Purchase

- In 1803, French leader **Napoleon Bonaparte** found himself in quite a bind. Not only did he have the British nipping at his heels for power in mainland Europe, he also had a full on rebellion mounted by enslaved people in his most profitable colony: Saint Domingue (present day Haiti).
- It is within this context that the United States government got the real estate deal of a lifetime: France would sell the **Louisiana Territory** – which covered the area from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains (east-west) and the Canadian border to New Orleans (north-south) – for a cool \$15 million. This event would come to be known as the Louisiana Purchase in the United States
- This was an awesome deal for **Thomas Jefferson**, President at the time. But there was just one problem: most people literally had NO CLUE what this territory looked like. Was it suitable for farming? What kind of crops could one grow there? Jefferson was unsure

Westward Expansion Cont.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition and Manifest Destiny

- Here enters the **Lewis and Clark Expedition**. Beginning in May 1804 and ending in September 1806, Merriwether Lewis and William Clark traversed this new territory with 33 people (including Sacagawea and one slave).
- Although they failed in their main mission to find a water way from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean, they documented many other discoveries (largely due to the assistance of the aforementioned Sacagawea).
- The explorers were a part of a tradition that justified exploration under the banner of **Manifest Destiny**, the idea that US expansion was inevitable and ordained by God

Westward Expansion Cont.

The Missouri Compromise and the Expansion of Slavery

- All this new land brought up some new questions for the fledgling country: which parts of this new land would be slave and which would be free?
- In 1820, the government reached a solution: for every free state admitted into the Union, a slave state would also be admitted.
 - ◆ So when Maine was made a state, so was Missouri (ergo, the **Missouri Compromise**)
- This compromise also established the 36°30' parallel as a boundary; slavery would not exist above that line. However, as the domestic slave trade flourished and the allure of cotton as a cash crop grew exponentially, the question of the expansion of slavery will not be settled until the Civil War.

Civil War

Precursors

- **13th Amendment** (1865), abolished slavery
- **14th Amendment** (1867), due process and “equal protection of the laws”
- **15th Amendment** (1870), right to vote for all former adult male slaves
- Defined **executive power** - President Lincoln used his power to suspend writ of habeas corpus, authorize war spending, and call 75,000 soldiers to war. The people decided that this was above what the president should be able to do
- Debated **states' rights** and determined that states could not secede from the Union.

Civil War Cont.

Major battles of the Civil War

- **Fort Sumter** - The opening engagement for the war occurred in Charleston, South Carolina.
 - ◆ On **April 11, 1860**, the Confederates demanded the soldiers at Fort Sumter surrender and on the 12th, bombarded the fort for 34 hours. The soldiers at the fort surrendered on **April 14th**.
 - ◆ The next day, Congress declared **war on the Confederacy**

- **Battle at Bull Run** - The **first major battle** of the Civil War took place in a creek near Manassas Junction, Virginia.
 - ◆ The Confederate soldiers attacked the Union soldiers headed to Richmond and won the battle, but hundreds died on both sides

- **Monitor and Merrimac** - In March 1862, the battle between the Monitor and Merrimac ships occurred near Virginia. The battle between the **ironclad ships** ended in a draw

Civil War Cont.

Major battles of the Civil War

- **Battle of Antietam** - Considered the single **bloodiest day of the war**, the Battle of Antietam occurred on September 17, 1862. There were about 23,000 casualties.
 - ◆ The battle ended in a draw as General McClellan chose not to pursue the retreating Confederates.
 - ◆ However, it's considered a Northern victory because the Confederates lost the possibility of support from Europe

- **Battle of Gettysburg** - The Battle of Gettysburg lasted three days. **General Lee** attempted to invade the North. He entered Gettysburg, Pennsylvania to do this.
 - ◆ By the end of the battle, there were about 52,000 men wounded, killed, or missing. The battle was a **turning point** of the war.

- **Sherman's March to the Sea** - William Tecumseh Sherman led about 60,000 soldiers through Georgia on the "Georgia Campaign". During this march, they destroyed military targets, civilian properties, and transportation.
 - ◆ It started in Atlanta and ended in Savannah on December 21, 1864

Industrialization and World Wars



Industrialization

- Large scale **industrialization** and advances in technology gave rise to **capitalism** and the era of big business.
 - ◆ Businessmen such as Cornelius Vanderbilt, Andrew Carnegie, and John D. Rockefeller amassed **huge fortunes**.
 - ◆ **Aggressive financial methods** caused multiple economic downturns and financial panics
- Due to the rise of big business, many groups such as farmers and unions called for **stronger governmental protections** to regulate the economy and safeguard the rights of workers
- **Migration** increased, both to and within the United States.
 - ◆ Cities became areas of economic growth that attracted African Americans and migrants from Asia and Europe.
 - ◆ Multiple ethnic groups vied for control of the Western frontier, and cultural tensions continued nationwide

Industrialization Cont.

- New **intellectual and cultural movements** arose during this period, often dubbed the “Gilded Age.”
 - ◆ One view, called **Social Darwinism**, attempted to justify a wealthy elite class as natural and inevitable.
 - ◆ Another view, known as the **Gospel of Wealth**, urged the wealthy and big business to help the less fortunate

- Debates intensified over **citizens’ rights**, especially in relation to gender and race.
 - ◆ The Supreme Court case **Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)** marked a major setback for African Americans, as it upheld **racial segregation** and ended some of the progress made in the decades following the Civil War.
 - ◆ African American **reformers** continued to strive for political and social equality in the face of escalating violence and discrimination

Industrialization Cont.

- **Transcontinental Railroad:** The Transcontinental Railroad linked the U.S. from Atlantic to Pacific by both rail and telegraph. This railroad accelerated the development and eventual closure of the frontier.
- **New York Central Railroad:** A railroad company founded by Cornelius Vanderbilt. It consolidated many smaller rail companies, standardized gauges, and popularized steel rails. It linked major cities on the East Coast and in the Midwest
- **Union Pacific Railroad:** One half of the Transcontinental Railroad. It began building its portion from Omaha, Nebraska, and moved westward
- **Central Pacific Railroad:** Led by Leland Stanford, it set out to build the most difficult stretch of the transcontinental railroad from Sacramento, California, through the Sierra Nevada mountains and eastward. Chinese laborers built most of the Central Pacific's line
- **Promontory Point:** The point at which the rail lines of the Union Pacific Railroad and Central Pacific Railroad finally met on May 10, 1869. This marked the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad. Promontory Point, Utah, is just north of the Great Salt Lake

Industrialization Cont.

- **Cornelius Vanderbilt:** A business tycoon who amassed a fortune in the steamboat business and invested this fortune in the consolidation of many smaller rail lines under one company, the New York Central Railroad
- **Leland Stanford:** He became a wealthy merchant during the California Gold Rush, and later served as Governor of California (1862–1883) and as its Senator (1885–1893). Leader of the Central Pacific Railroad, Stanford oversaw the construction of part of the transcontinental railroad. Considered a robber baron, he wielded tremendous wealth and influence due to his control over railroads in the American West. Later founded Stanford University
- **Robber barons:** A pejorative name for investors who artificially inflated the value of their company's stock, sold the stock to the public, and pocketed the profits. The company would then go bankrupt, leaving stockholders with nothing. Additionally, the fierce competition of the Gilded Age coupled with lack of federal regulation often led to dishonest business practices
- **Alexander Graham Bell:** A Scottish-born scientist. He is best known for patenting the telephone in 1876. He also founded the Bell Telephone Company in 1879 and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (AT&T) in 1885

Late 1800s and World War I and World War II Timeline

Timeline

- **1898** – Spanish American War / the beginning of imperialism
- **1917** – U.S. enters World War One (WWI); Wilson's Fourteen Points
- **1918** – WWI ends
- **1919** – First Red Scare; Red Summer
- **1920** – 19th Amendment; Treaty of Versailles not ratified
- **1929** – Stock Market Crash; the beginning of the Great Depression
- **1933** – FDR inaugurated & the New Deal begins
- **1941** – Pearl Harbor, U.S. enters WWII; Great Depression ends
- **1945** – WWII ends

Late 1800s and World War I and World War II

- The US grew into a **dominant position militarily and politically** through this time period. At the start of the period, the US was generally uninvolved in overseas events other than through trade.
- The US then began to get more involved in **colonialism** beyond its own continental borders in places like the Pacific Ocean and Latin America
- Participation in both World War One (WWI) and World War Two (WWII) raised questions about the **US role in world affairs** and how to keep the US safe.
- By 1945, the US was heavily involved all over the world and saw **military and diplomatic engagement** as necessary for its national security and for the good of the rest of the world

World War I

- **1914** - Serbian nationalist kills Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria leading to the start of World War I between Austria and Serbia.
 - Serbia was supported by Russia who declared war on Austria-Hungary.
 - Germany declared war on Russia and France. They also invaded Belgium, which then pulled Britain into the war which ignited WWI.
- **America** was in a recession at the time of the war. US Allies and Wall Street's financing pulled them out of a recession.
- **Woodrow Wilson** was president at the time. Warned Germany to not attack any US or allied ships. Re-elected on the premise of preventing the US from partaking in World War I. Eventually US goes to war in 1917. Gives **Fourteen Points** speech (**Freedom of Seas, Self-Determination, League of Nations**)
- **The major wars were Battle of the Somme** between French/British forces against Germany and **Germany Spring Offensives on the Western Front**.
- **Treaty of Versailles** put an end to World War I.

World War II

- **US isolationism** indirectly led to WWII.
- **America** in mid 1941 had ended all economic relations with Japan. To retaliate Japan believed US fleet needed to be neutralized and Southeast Asia would need to be reopened for conquest.
- **The attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan** led to US joining World War II on December 8, 1941.
- Led to a massive mobilization effort as economy got back on its feet following the Great Depression.
- Major battles US got involved in during World War II - Battle of the Bulge, Battle of Iwo Jima, Battle of Okinawa, Battle of Nuremberg,

Post War Period



Post War and 1950s

The years from the end of World War II to the end of the 1950s were dominated by four powerful changes in American life:

- The first was the birth of the **Cold War**, and the great fears that it created.
- The second was the dramatic growth of **affluence**, which transformed the lives of many, but not all, Americans.
- The third was a growing **anxiety** among many Americans who felt that their lives were too constricted by the staid culture of the era.
- And the fourth was the emergence of a new **subversive culture** growing beneath the smooth, stable surface of the decade that would explode in the 1960s.

Post War and 1950s Cont.

President Truman

- **Truman Doctrine:** established that the United States would provide political, military and economic assistance to all democratic nations under threat from external or internal authoritarian forces.
- **Containment:** United States policy using numerous strategies to prevent the spread of communism abroad.
- **Marshall Plan:** Also known as the European Recovery Program, this channeled over \$13 billion to finance the economic recovery of Europe between 1948 and 1951.
- **NATO:** a formal alliance between the territories of North American and Europe. From its inception, its main purpose was to defend each other from the possibility of communist Soviet Union taking control of their nation.
- **Berlin**
 - ◆ Blockade: One of the first major international crises of the Cold War. During the multinational occupation of post-World War II Germany, the Soviet Union blocked the Western Allies' railway, road, and canal access to the sectors of Berlin under Western control.
 - ◆ Airlift: Soviets had Western Berlin blocked off, and the US flew over to deliver supplies and materials.

Post War and 1950s Cont.

- **National Security Council:** Formed under Truman, the function of the Council has been to advise and assist the president on national security and foreign policies. The Council also serves as the president's principal arm for coordinating these policies among various government agencies.
- **Central Intelligence Agency:** Truman signed the National Security Act of 1947 establishing the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). The National Security Act charged the CIA with coordinating the nation's intelligence activities and correlating, evaluating and disseminating intelligence affecting national security.
- **McCarthyism:** Practice associated with Senator Joseph McCarthy of making accusations of subversion or treason without proper regard for evidence.
 - ◆ **Alger Hiss:** an American government official accused of being a Soviet spy in 1948 and convicted of perjury in connection with this charge in 1950.
 - ◆ **Army-McCarthy Hearings:** a series of hearings held by the United States Senate's Subcommittee on Investigations between April 1954 and June 1954. The hearings were held for the purpose of investigating conflicting accusations between the United States Army and McCarthy.
- **Korean War**
 - ◆ The UN's first involvement in a war.
 - ◆ **General MacArthur vs. President Truman:** MacArthur made public statements going against Truman, and Truman fired him.

Post War and 1950s Cont.

President Truman - Domestic Issues

- **Fair Deal:** Domestic reform proposals of the second Truman administration that included civil rights legislation and repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act.
- **Taft-Hartley Act:** 1947 law that contained a number of provisions to control labor unions, including the banning of closed shops.
- **Committee on Civil Rights:** pushed for southern anti-lynching laws and tried to register more black voters
 - ◆ **Dixiecrats:** fought for states' rights, attempted to gain higher standing within Democratic party, and aimed to avoid Truman's reelection by denying electoral votes.
- **Civil Rights**
 - ◆ **Emmett Till:** 14-year-old murdered in 1955 for whistling at a white woman by her husband and his friends. They kidnapped him and brutally killed him. His death led to the American Civil Rights movement.
 - ◆ **Brown v. Board of Education:** the Supreme Court ruled that separate but equal was unconstitutional.
 - ◆ **Little Rock Nine:** students were initially prevented from entering the racially segregated school by Arkansas Governor Orval Faubus, and then attended after the intervention of President Eisenhower.
 - ◆ **Montgomery Bus Boycott:** After Rosa Parks was arrested, MLK rallies the black community to boycott these segregated buses; it ended working for him.
 - ◆ **Woolworth's sit ins:** At segregated Woolworth's counter in Greensboro in 1960 four black college students staged a sit-in to protest the segregation in public places.

Post War and 1950s Cont.

President Eisenhower

- **Massive Retaliation:** Created by Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. Policy adopted by Eisenhower that sought to counter the growing Soviet threat. It viewed nuclear weapons as a means of deterring war and as a first recourse should deterrence fail.
- **Open Skies:** called for the United States and the Soviet Union to exchange maps indicating the exact location of every military installation in their respective nations. Each nation would then be allowed to conduct aerial surveillance of the installations in order to assure that the other nations were in compliance with any arms control agreements that might be reached. Soviets rejected this plan because they did not want to be surveillanced by a Western power.
- **Domino Theory:** Eisenhower suggested the fall of French Indochina to the communists could create a “domino” effect in Southeast Asia. He basically said if one would fall, they would all fall.
- **NASA:** created in 1958, beginning the space race.

Post War and 1950s Cont.

President Eisenhower

→ CIA

- ◆ **Guatemala:** CIA went in and took out elected leadership in Guatemala, and put in a US friendly government (although they were awful).
Guatemalan people petition the UN, but since the US has power they do not do anything about it.
- ◆ **Iran:** CIA tried but failed to take over government with new leaders.
- ◆ **Cuba:** CIA tried to take over government with new leaders, failed.

- **Suez Canal Crisis:** Egyptians nationalized the canal, which angers Britain and France. They made Israel attack Egypt, but the United States sided with Egypt to make Israel and France stop attacking Egypt.
- **Eisenhower Doctrine:** comes from the Suez Canal Crisis. Promises military or economic aid to any Middle Eastern country needing help in resisting communist aggression.
- **The Kitchen Debate:** series of impromptu exchanges between Nixon and Khrushchev at the opening of the American National Exhibition at Sokolniki Park in Moscow on July 24, 1959.

1960s and 1970s

President Kennedy

- **Bay of Pigs:** A failed military invasion of Cuba undertaken by the CIA-sponsored paramilitary group.
- **Berlin Wall:** Wall separating the communist and non-communist sides of Berlin. West and East.
- **Cuban Missile Crisis:** Soviet Union had a missile pointing toward the USA from Cuba. Was the closest to nuclear war the world has come to thus far.
- **Peace Corps:** a volunteer program run by the United States government. The stated mission of the Peace Corps includes providing technical assistance, helping people outside the United States.
- **Nuclear Test Ban Treaty:** a treaty that began to ban nuclear weapons
- **Vietnam:** An unwinnable war and a very rough time in American history. Was a war against communism, but the people of Vietnam wanted to go under the communist regime so it was pointless.

1960s and 1970s Cont.

President Johnson

→ Vietnam War

- ◆ **Vietminh vs. Vietcong:** Vietminh were the North Vietnamese soldiers, while the Vietcong were the rebels.
- ◆ **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution:** authorized President Johnson to take any measures he believed were necessary to retaliate and to promote the maintenance of international peace and security in southeast Asia. Basically let the President do what he wanted in times of war.
- ◆ **Tet Offensive:** Tet was the Vietnamese New Year, and on that day they planned an attack.
- ◆ **My Lai Massacre:** The Vietnam War mass killing of between 347 and 504 unarmed civilians in South Vietnam on March 16, 1968.

1960s and 1970s Cont.

President Nixon

→ Vietnam

- ◆ **Vietnamization:** Process of training Vietnam soldiers to be like US soldiers. Said to, "expand, equip, and train South Vietnam's forces and assign to them an ever-increasing combat role, at the same time steadily reducing the number of U.S. combat troops."
- ◆ **Kent State Massacre:** Four Kent State students were killed and nine others wounded when they were shot by Ohio National Guard members during a protest over the Vietnam War.
- ◆ **War Powers Resolution:** Federal law intended to check the president's power to commit the United States to an armed conflict without the consent of the U.S. Congress.

→ Détente

- ◆ **Henry Kissinger:** Secretary of State for Nixon, came up with Detente.
- ◆ **SALT:** Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty--limiting weapons of mass destruction.

→ Nixon Doctrine: introduced the idea of Vietnamization through this planned doctrine.

1960s and 1970s Cont.

Domestic Issues

→ Environment

- ◆ **EPA:** an agency of the federal government charged with protecting human health and the environment, by writing and enforcing regulations based on laws passed by Congress.
- ◆ **Rachel Carson, Silent Spring:** voiced the concerns of environmentalists. Book helped launch the environmentalist movement by pointing out the effects of civilization development.

→ **OPEC:** Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Doubled their petroleum charges in 1979, helping American inflation rise well above 13%.

→ **Stagflation:** persistent high inflation combined with high unemployment and stagnant demand in a country's economy.

→ **Watergate:** a major political scandal that occurred in the United States in the 1970s, following a break-in at the Democratic National Committee headquarters at the Watergate Hotel.

- ◆ **Pentagon Papers:** the name given to a secret Department of Defense study of U.S. political and military involvement in Vietnam from 1945 to 1967.

→ **Berger Court:** made some liberal decisions, but evident of conservative resurgence.

- ◆ **Roe v. Wade:** legalized abortion in 1st trimester
- ◆ **United States v. Nixon:** ruled executive privilege is not absolute, Nixon must turn over Watergate Tapes.
- ◆ **Regents of the University of California v. Bakke:** ruled unconstitutional a university's use of racial "quotas" in its admissions process.

1960s and 1970s Cont.

Domestic Issues

→ Civil Rights

- ◆ **Signed CRA, 1964:** outlawed public segregation and discrimination and forbade racial discrimination in the workplace.
- ◆ **Equal Opportunity Commission:** Created in 1964, this agency works to eliminate employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, gender, disability, age or other criteria unrelated to job performance.
- ◆ **Voting Rights Act of 1965:** aimed to overcome legal barriers at the state and local levels that prevented African Americans from exercising their right to vote under the 15th Amendment.
- ◆ Influence of the KKK
 - **Malcolm X:** urged Blacks to claim their rights by any means necessary, more radical than other civil rights leaders of the time.
 - **Black Power:** LBJ tried to be tough on the KKK, not letting them destroy black power as much.

1960s and 1970s Cont.

Domestic Issues

→ Great Society - War on Poverty

- ◆ **Economic Opportunity Act:** authorized the formation of local Community Action Agencies as part of the War on Poverty. These agencies are directly regulated by the federal government.
- ◆ **Project Head Start:** a federal program that provides poverty-stricken children with a year or two of preschool along with nutritional and health services and encourages parent involvement in program planning and children's learning.
- ◆ **Job Corps:** a federal program that provides food, shelter, work clothes, health care, and job training to teenagers and young adults at 115 campuses across the United States.
- ◆ **Department of Housing and Urban Development:** Administers federal programs dealing with better housing and urban renewal.

1960s and 1970s Cont.

Domestic Issues

→ Warren Court

- ◆ **Gideon v. Wainwright:** Defendants are entitled to a lawyer in any trial, even non-capital cases. Courts are required to provide a lawyer if the defendant cannot. The only way a defendant cannot have a counsel is if they knowingly waive their right.
- ◆ **Miranda v. Arizona:** Suspects must be informed of their rights to legal counsel and silence upon their arrest, and if they decide to remain silent or do not waive their rights, the interrogation must cease. No confession can be dismissed under the 5th or 6th Amendments unless a suspect has been made aware of their rights and has waived them.
- ◆ **Mapp v. Ohio:** Whether denying federal forces without a warrant and then being bombarded violated her rights. Court ruled her 4th and 14th amendments were violated.

→ Women's Rights

- ◆ **The Feminine Mystique:** Betty Friedan's book published in 1963. She became a leading figure in the women's movement in the U.S.
- ◆ **National Organization for Women:** Founded in 1966, called for equal employment opportunity and equal pay for women. also championed the legalization of abortion and passage of an equal rights amendment to the Constitution.
- ◆ **Equal Rights Amendment:** first proposed in 1923 to affirm that women and men have equal rights under the law, is still not part of the U.S. Constitution.
 - **Phyllis Schlafly,** an American constitutional lawyer and conservative activist., was known for her staunchly conservative social and political views and her opposition to feminism and abortion.

1970s

President Ford

- **Presidential Pardon:** President has the power to grant reprieves and pardons for offenses against the United States. Ford pardoned Nixon.
- **WIN:** Whip Inflation Now, campaign slogan promoting Ford's ideas to help the recession and inflation problems

President Carter

- Thirty-ninth President. The former governor of Georgia, he ran as an outsider in the 1976 Presidential election.
- Served one term. Carter pardoned Vietnam War draft dodgers, established the Departments of Energy and Education, and returned the Panama Canal to Panama.
- Internationally, he oversaw the **Camp David Accords**, ended détente in response to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, and was dogged by the Iranian Hostage Crisis.

1980s

President Reagan

- President Reagan's victory in 1980 was a defining moment for the new **conservative movement** that had gained strength in the 1970s. Led by Reagan, conservatives promoted tax cuts and the deregulation of many private industries
- Through an increased **military buildup** and a more assertive foreign policy, the Reagan administration sought to end the Cold War. Ultimately, this stronger interventionist U.S. policy, coupled with economic trouble and political changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, brought the Cold War to an end
- Advances in science and technology soared to new heights, especially in the 1990s. Developments in digital technology and the birth of the Internet revolutionized the economy and transformed the world, leading to a new era of globalization
- The United States continued to see large shifts in demographics and populations. Intense debates continued over social issues such as immigration, race, gender, family structures, and diversity
- Conflict in the Middle East increased. After the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, the United States engaged in military action against Afghanistan and Iraq. The War on Terrorism presented new challenges for U.S. leadership and led to changes in both domestic and foreign policy. Efforts to improve security led to new debates in America over the issue of civil liberties and human rights

1980s Cont.

- **Ronald Reagan:** Fortieth President. Served 1981–1989. Former two-term governor of California, he heralded a shift within the Republican Party toward an ideological conservatism. Domestically, he oversaw massive tax cuts, economic deregulation, and increased defense spending. Internationally, he took a hawkish line with the Soviet Union while also negotiating arms limitations. His final years in office were dogged by the Iran-Contra scandal
- **Reagan Revolution:** A significant pivot point in U.S. political history, where the New Deal ideology of the 1930s was replaced by a socially conservative, free market ideology. Began with the 1980 election of Ronald Reagan. The “New Democrats” of the 1990s were a response to the Reagan Revolution, as leftwing policies were perceived to be unpopular with modern voters
- **Sandra Day O’Connor:** The first female Justice of the Supreme Court. Appointed by Ronald Reagan in 1981, she was a moderate Republican regarded as a swing vote, favoring narrow rulings. Retired in 2006 and replaced by Samuel Alito
- **Iran-Contra Scandal:** A scandal where the Reagan administration secretly sold arms to Iran in exchange for the release of Americans held hostage, and then used the profits from that sale to illegally support right-wing insurgents in Nicaragua. Led to calls for Reagan’s impeachment. In late 1992, President George H. W. Bush pardoned those under trial for their part in Iran-Contra

1990s and 2000s

→ 1991

- ◆ Gulf War (Operation Desert Storm)
- ◆ U.S. and U.S.S.R. sign treaty reducing strategic nuclear arms by 25%
- ◆ Soviet Republics declare independence
- ◆ Clarence Thomas joins the Supreme Court

→ 1992

- ◆ Recession recovery
- ◆ Supreme Court upholds Roe v. Wade
- ◆ Bill Clinton elected President

→ 1993

- ◆ Congress approves NAFTA treaty
- ◆ Recession Ends
- ◆ Ruth Bader Ginsberg joins the Supreme Court
- ◆ World Trade Center bombed

→ 1994

- ◆ Republican victory in Mid-term Elections
- ◆ Stephen G. Breyer joins Supreme Court

1990s and 2000s Cont.

- **1996**
 - ◆ Bill Clinton re-elected President
- **1998**
 - ◆ Monica Lewinsky scandal
 - ◆ Operation Desert Thunder
 - ◆ House Judiciary Committee sends 4 articles of Impeachment
 - ◆ Bill Clinton is Impeached by the United States House of Representatives
- **1999**
 - ◆ Bill Clinton is acquitted by the United States Senate
- **2000**
 - ◆ George W. Bush elected President of the United States
- **2001**
 - ◆ 9/11 Terrorist Attacks on World Trade Center and Pentagon

Late 2000s and 2010s

- **Barack Obama** elected 44th president, first African American president
 - ◆ Economic Recovery Act passed in February 2009 to boost economy from Great Recession
 - ◆ Obamacare passes in 2010 guaranteeing healthcare for all low-income Americans
 - ◆ Withdraws troops from Iraq

- **Donald Trump** elected President in 2016
 - ◆ Focuses on an America First policy, tax cuts for corporations and wealthy.
 - ◆ Immigration Ban
 - ◆ Covid-19 Pandemic
 - ◆ Waves of protests following the George Floyd murder, discussions around police brutality and social justice

Resources



Resources

- <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history>
- <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-us-history/general-ap-us-history-skills-and-test-strategies/apush-examples/a/ap-us-history-study-sheet-1>
- <https://magoosh.com/hs/ap/apush-civil-war-quiz-are-you-ready-for-test-day/>
- [https://www.albert.io/blog/ap-us-history-guide-to-the-13-colonies/#:~:text=The%2013%20colonies%20consisted%20of,\(and%20the%20Providence%20Plantations\).](https://www.albert.io/blog/ap-us-history-guide-to-the-13-colonies/#:~:text=The%2013%20colonies%20consisted%20of,(and%20the%20Providence%20Plantations).)
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