Period 1: Worlds Collide 1491-1607 Summer - August

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| **Different native societies adapted to and transformed their environments through innovations in agriculture, resource use, and social structure.** | Different native societies adapted to and transformed their environments through innovations in agriculture, resource use, and social structure. |  |
| **Contact among Europeans, Native Americans, and Africans resulted in the Columbian Exchange and significant social, cultural, and political changes on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean.** | European expansion into the Western Hemisphere generated intense social, religious, political, and economic competition and changes within European societies. |  |
|  | The Columbian Exchange and development of the Spanish Empire in the Western Hemisphere resulted in extensive demographic, economic, and social changes. In their interactions, Europeans and Native Americans asserted divergent worldviews regarding issues such as religion, gender roles, family, land use, and power. |  |
|  | In their interactions, Europeans and Native Americans asserted divergent worldviews regarding issues such as religion, gender roles, family, land use, and power. |  |

Period 2: Colonization 1607-1754 August

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| Europeans developed a variety of colonization and migration patterns, influenced by different imperial goals, cultures, and the varied North American environments where they settled, and they competed with each other and American Indians for resources. | Spanish, French, Dutch, and British colonizers had different economic and imperial goals involving land and labor that shaped the social and political development of their colonies as well as their relationships with native populations. |  |
|  | In the 17th century, early British colonies developed along the Atlantic coast, with regional differences that reflected various environmental, economic, cultural, and demographic factors. |  |
|  | Competition over resources between European rivals and American Indians encouraged industry and trade and led to conflict in the Americas. |  |
| The British colonies participated in political, social, cultural, and economic exchanges with Great Britain that encouraged both stronger bonds with Britain and resistance to Britain’s control. | Transatlantic commercial, religious, philosophical, and political exchanges led residents of the British colonies to evolve in their political and cultural attitudes as they became increasingly tied to Britain and one another. |  |
|  | Like other European empires in the Americas that participated in the Atlantic slave trade, the English colonies developed a system of slavery that reflected the specific economic, demographic, and geographic characteristics of those colonies |  |

Period 3: A New America 1754-1800 September

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| British attempts to assert tighter control over its North American colonies and the colonial resolve to pursue self-government led to a colonial independence movement and the Revolutionary War. | The competition among the British, French, and American Indians for economic and political advantage in North America culminated in the Seven years’ War (the French and Indian War), in which Britain defeated France and allied American Indians. |  |
|  | The desire of many colonists to assert ideals of self-government in the face of renewed British imperial efforts led to a colonial independence movement and war with Britain. |  |
| The American Revolution’s democratic and republican ideals inspired new experiments with different forms of government. | The ideals that inspired the revolutionary cause reflected new beliefs about politics, religion, and society that had been developing over the course of the 18th century. |  |
|  | After declaring independence, American political leaders created new constitutions and declarations of rights that articulated the role of the state and federal governments while protecting individual liberties and limiting both centralized power and excessive popular influence. |  |
|  | New forms of national culture and political institutions developed in the United States alongside continued regional variations and differences over economic, political, social, and foreign policy issues. |  |
| Migration within North America and competition over resources, boundaries, and trade intensified conflicts among peoples and nations. | In the decades after American independence, interactions among different groups resulted in competition for resources, shifting alliances, and cultural blending. |  |
|  | The continued presence of European powers in North America challenged the United States to find ways to safeguard its borders, maintain neutral trading rights, and promote its economic interests. |  |

Period 4: A New Nation 1800-1848 October

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| The United States began to develop a modern democracy and celebrated a new national culture, while Americans sought to define the nation’s democratic ideals and change their society and institutions to match them. | The nation’s transition to a more participatory democracy was achieved by expanding suffrage from a system based on property ownership to one based on voting by all adult white men, and it was accompanied by the growth of political parties. |  |
|  | While Americans embraced a new national culture, various groups developed distinctive cultures of their own. |  |
|  | Increasing numbers of Americans, many inspired by new religious and intellectual movements, worked primarily outside of government institutions to advance their ideals. |  |
| Innovations in technology, agriculture, and commerce powerfully accelerated the American economy, precipitating profound changes to U.S. society and to national and regional identities. | New transportation systems and technologies dramatically expanded manufacturing and agricultural production. |  |
|  | The changes caused by the market revolution had significant effects on U.S. society, workers’ lives, and gender and family relations. |  |
|  | Economic development shaped settlement and trade patterns, helping to unify the nation while also encouraging the growth of different regions. |  |
| The U.S. interest in increasing foreign trade and expanding its national borders shaped the nation’s foreign policy and spurred government and private initiatives. | Struggling to create an independent global presence, the United States sought to claim territory throughout the North American continent and promote foreign trade. |  |
|  | The United States’ acquisition of lands in the West gave rise to contests over the extension of slavery into new territories. |  |

Period 5: Division and War 1844-1877 November

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| The United States became more connected with the world, pursued an expansionist foreign policy in the Western Hemisphere, and emerged as the destination for many migrants from other countries. | Popular enthusiasm for U.S. expansion, bolstered by economic and security interests, resulted in the acquisition of new territories, substantial migration westward, and new overseas initiatives. |  |
|  | In the 1840s and 1850s, Americans continued to debate questions about rights and citizenship for various groups of U.S. inhabitants. |  |
| Intensified by expansion and deepening regional divisions, debates over slavery and other economic, cultural, and political issues led the nation into civil war. | Ideological and economic differences over slavery produced an array of diverging responses from Americans in the North and the South. |  |
|  | Debates over slavery came to dominate political discussion in the 1850s, culminating in the bitter election of 1860 and the secession of Southern states. |  |
| The Union victory in the Civil War and the contested reconstruction of the South settled the issues of slavery and secession, but left unresolved many questions about the power of the federal government and citizenship rights. | The North’s greater manpower and industrial resources, the leadership of Abraham Lincoln and others, and the decision to emancipate slaves eventually led to the Union military victory over the Confederacy in the devastating Civil War. |  |
|  | Reconstruction and the Civil War ended slavery, altered relationships between the states and the federal government, and led to debates over new definitions of citizenship, particularly regarding the rights of African Americans, women, and other minorities. |  |

Period 6: Industrial America 1865-1898 January

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| Technological advances, large-scale production methods, and the opening of new markets encouraged the rise of industrial capitalism in the United States | Large-scale industrial production — accompanied by massive technological change, expanding international communication networks, and pro-growth government policies — generated rapid economic development and business consolidation. |  |
|  | A variety of perspectives on the economy and labor developed during a time of financial panics and downturns. |  |
|  | New systems of production and transportation enabled consolidation within agriculture, which, along with periods of instability, spurred a variety of responses from farmers |  |
| The migrations that accompanied industrialization transformed both urban and rural areas of the United States and caused dramatic social and cultural change. | International and internal migration increased urban populations and fostered the growth of a new urban culture. |  |
|  | Larger numbers of migrants moved to the West in search of land and economic opportunity, frequently provoking competition and violent conflict. |  |
| The Gilded Age produced new cultural and intellectual movements, public reform efforts, and political debates over economic and social policies. | New cultural and intellectual movements both buttressed and challenged the social order of the Gilded Age. |  |
|  | Dramatic social changes in the period inspired political debates over citizenship, corruption, and the proper relationship between business and government. |  |

Period 7: America as a World Power 1890-1945 February

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| Growth expanded opportunity, while economic instability led to new efforts to reform U.S. society and its economic system. | The United States continued its transition from a rural, agricultural economy to an urban, industrial economy led by large companies. |  |
|  | In the Progressive Era of the early 20th century, Progressives responded to political corruption, economic instability, and social concerns by calling for greater government action and other political and social measures. |  |
|  | During the 1930s, policymakers responded to the mass unemployment and social upheavals of the Great Depression by transforming the U.S. into a limited welfare state, redefining the goals and ideas of modern American liberalism. |  |
| Innovations in communications and technology contributed to the growth of mass culture, while significant changes occurred in internal and international migration patterns. | Popular culture grew in influence in U.S. society, even as debates increased over the effects of culture on public values, morals, and American national identity. |  |
|  | Economic pressures, global events, and political developments caused sharp variations in the numbers, sources, and experiences of both international and internal migrants. |  |
| Participation in a series of global conflicts propelled the United States into a position of international power while renewing domestic debates over the nation’s proper role in the world. | In the late 19th century and early 20th century, new U.S. territorial ambitions and acquisitions in the Western Hemisphere and the Pacific accompanied heightened public debates over America’s role in the world. |  |
|  | World War I and its aftermath intensified ongoing debates about the nation’s role in the world and how best to achieve national security and pursue American interests. |  |
|  | U.S. participation in World War II transformed American society, while the victory of the United States and its allies over the Axis powers vaulted the U.S. into a position of global, political, and military leadership. |  |

Period 8: Communism, Crisis and Civil Rights 1945-1980 March

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| The United States responded to an uncertain and unstable postwar world by asserting and working to maintain a position of global leadership, with far-reaching domestic and international consequences. | United States policymakers engaged in a Cold War with the authoritarian Soviet Union, seeking to limit the growth of Communist military power and ideological influence, create a free-market global economy, and build an international security system. |  |
|  | Cold War policies led to public debates over the power of the federal government and acceptable means for pursuing international and domestic goals while protecting civil liberties. |  |
| New movements for civil rights and liberal efforts to expand the role of government generated a range of political and cultural responses. | Seeking to fulfill Reconstruction-era promises, civil rights activists and political leaders achieved some legal and political successes in ending segregation, although progress toward racial equality was slow. |  |
|  | Responding to social conditions and the African American civil rights movement, a variety of movements emerged that focused on issues of identity, social justice, and the environment. |  |
|  | Liberalism influenced postwar politics and court decisions, but it came under increasing attack from the left as well as from a resurgent conservative movement. |  |
| Postwar economic and demographic changes had far-reaching consequences for American society, politics, and culture. | Rapid economic and social changes in American society fostered a sense of optimism in the postwar years. |  |
|  | New demographic and social developments, along with anxieties over the Cold War, changed U.S. culture and led to significant political and moral debates that sharply divided the nation. |  |

Period 9: Modern America 1980-2010 April

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Concept** | **Key Issues** | **Key Terms/Issues** |
| A newly ascendant conservative movement achieved several political and policy goals during the 1980s and continued to strongly influence public discourse in the following decades. | Conservative beliefs regarding the need for traditional social values and a reduced role for government advanced in U.S. politics after 1980. |  |
| Moving into the 21st century, the nation experienced significant technological, economic, and demographic changes. | New developments in science and technology enhanced the economy and transformed society, while manufacturing decreased. |  |
|  | The U.S. population continued to undergo demographic shifts that had significant cultural and political consequences. |  |
| The end of the Cold War and new challenges to U.S. leadership forced the nation to redefine its foreign policy and role in the world. | The Reagan administration promoted an interventionist foreign policy that continued in later administrations, even after the end of the Cold War. |  |
|  | Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, U.S. foreign policy efforts focused on fighting terrorism around the world. |  |