

US History Course

Middle School – Podcasting

High School – Website Design

Free Resources:

- Hippocampus.org
- USHistory.org
- KhanAcademy.org
- Gilder Lehman Institute of American History
- Crash Course US History
- Your public library

28-week syllabus focused on US History from the 1400s to modern day, covering key events and periods. Find source materials about each topic each week and be ready to share with your cohort. You will be building either a podcast or website that will tell the US History story.

1. Indigenous Peoples of America (Pre-1400s)

- Explore the various Native American cultures, societies, and civilizations that existed before European contact.

2. European Exploration (1400-1500s)

- Study the age of exploration, focusing on key figures like Columbus, and the motivations behind European exploration of the Americas.

3. Colonization of the Americas (1600-1650)

- The establishment of Spanish, French, Dutch, and English colonies and their impact on indigenous populations.

4. The Thirteen Colonies (1607-1750)

- Deep dive into the founding of Jamestown, Plymouth, and the development of the 13 British colonies.

5. Life in Colonial America (1700-1750)

- Social, economic, and cultural life in the colonies, including the rise of slavery and indentured servitude.

6. The French and Indian War (1754-1763)

- The causes, major events, and outcomes of the war, and how it set the stage for American independence.

7. Road to Revolution (1763-1775)

- Analyze the causes of the American Revolution, including the Stamp Act, Boston Massacre, and Intolerable Acts.

8. The American Revolution (1775-1783)

- Key battles, leaders, and the Declaration of Independence.

9. The Articles of Confederation and the Constitution (1781-1789)

- A look at the weaknesses of the Articles and the creation of the US Constitution.

10. The Early Republic (1789-1800)

- The presidencies of George Washington and John Adams, and the challenges of a new nation.

11. The Jeffersonian Era (1800-1816)

- The Louisiana Purchase, Lewis and Clark Expedition, and the War of 1812.

12. The Era of Good Feelings and Monroe Doctrine (1816-1824)

- A period of national unity and the impact of the Monroe Doctrine on US foreign policy.

13. Jacksonian Democracy and Native American Policy (1824-1840)

- Andrew Jackson's presidency, including the Trail of Tears and the rise of populism.

14. Westward Expansion and Manifest Destiny (1840-1850)

- The ideology of Manifest Destiny, the Oregon Trail, and the annexation of Texas.

15. The Mexican American War (1846-1848)

- Causes and consequences, including the acquisition of new territories.

16. The Pre-Civil War Era (1850-1860)

- The Compromise of 1850, Dred Scott decision, John Brown's raid, and the increasing tensions between North and South.

17. The Civil War: Causes and Early Years (1861-1863)

- The causes of the Civil War and major events in the first half, including the Battle of Gettysburg.

18. The Civil War: The Later Years and Reconstruction (1863-1877)

- The end of the Civil War, Lincoln's assassination, and the Reconstruction period.

19. The Gilded Age (1877-1900)

- Industrialization, urbanization, immigration, and political corruption in the late 19th century.

20. Progressivism and the Spanish-American War (1890-1900)

- The progressive movement's efforts to reform society and the impact of the Spanish-American War.

21. World War I and Its Aftermath (1914-1920)

- The US's role in WWI and the Treaty of Versailles.

22. The Roaring Twenties (1920-1929)

- Economic prosperity, cultural change, and the Harlem Renaissance.

23. The Great Depression and the New Deal (1929-1939)

- The causes and impact of the Great Depression and Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal programs.

24. World War II (1939-1945)

- US involvement in the war, key battles, and the war's impact on American society.

25. The Cold War Begins (1945-1960)

- The rise of tensions with the Soviet Union, McCarthyism, and the Korean War.

26. The Civil Rights Movement (1950-1968)

- The struggle for racial equality, including key figures like Martin Luther King Jr. and pivotal events like the Civil Rights Act.

27. The Vietnam War and Social Unrest (1960-1975)

- US involvement in Vietnam, anti-war protests, and the counterculture movement.

28. Modern America (1975-Present)

- The rise of technology, globalism, key political and social changes from the late 20th century to the present day.

This timeline should give a comprehensive overview of US History, covering important events while allowing for flexibility in deepening the study on certain topics.