

Mr. Plumlee  
US History II  
Course Outline

**Course Description:** United States History II is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the issues related to the history of the United States. It is a year-long study of American history, from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking skills, essay writing, and interpretation of original documents.

**Course Planner:** Below you will find an outline for the class. All out-of-class assignments, including readings, must be completed before the beginning of class on the assigned due date.

Unit 5: Imperialism and Progressivism

- Textbook Reading: Ch. 14-16
- Major Topics:
  - The New Imperialism
  - The Spanish American War
  - World War I
  - The Treaty of Versailles

Unit 6: Boom and Bust

- Textbook Reading: Ch. 17-19
- Major Topics:
  - The Jazz Age
  - Popular Culture in the 20's
  - The Great Depression
  - FDR and the New Deal

Unit 7: The Shadows of War

- Textbook Reading: Ch. 20-23
- Major Topics:
  - World War Looms
  - On the Home Front
  - Origins of the Cold War
  - Fighting Communism
  - Postwar America

Unit 8: A Time of Upheaval

- Textbook Reading: Ch. 24-27
- Major Topics:
  - Popular Culture in the 50's
  - The New Frontier & Great Society
  - The Civil Rights Movement
  - The Vietnam War
  - The Politics of Protest

Unit 9: A Changing Society

- Textbook Reading: Ch. 28-31
- Major Topics:
  - The Nixon Administration
  - The Reagan Revolution
  - Ending the Cold War
  - Social Concerns of the 80's
  - Passage to a New Century



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Description of Major Assignments:

Reading Assignments: Students will be assigned reading homework (i.e., textbook, primary source documents, articles, etc.) a few times a week. Most reading assignments will include a written task (i.e., section questions, worksheets, writing prompts, etc.)

Essay Assignments: Occasionally, students will complete an essay assignment. Some essays will require students to evaluate numerous primary source documents, along with their textbook in order to formulate an essay response. Others will require only their thoughts, opinions, and hypotheses regarding the material.

Projects: Each unit will have a project, whether to be completed as an individual or group. For most projects, class time will be given to work on the majority of the project as long as students are using their time wisely.

**As always, syllabus is subject to change if necessary.**