



BROWNELL TALBOT

U.S. History Prioritized Standards

The scope and sequence of standards listed are from the NCSS (National Council of Social Studies). The NCSS standards guide teachers in providing students the content knowledge, intellectual skills, and civic values necessary for fulfilling the duties of citizenship in a participatory democracy. Advanced Placement United States History is a challenging two-semester survey course that is meant to be the equivalent of a freshman college course and one in which students can earn college credit. This course will cover the history migration, exploration, colonialism, and immigration to U.S. from the period of all over the world and how this flow of peoples have created a uniquely diverse American culture and society. The course will also look at how the American political and economic systems evolved from being heavily regulated and controlled by the English monarchy to systems that would become citizen focused and lightly regulated by government. Finally, this course will look at how the political and economic freedoms of this nation allowed for the technological and industrial booms of the gilded age, post-WWII, and the culminating with the .com boom of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Links for AP U.S. and World History course standards are located at the bottom of this document.

CULTURE

- Understand concepts such as: beliefs, values, mores, institutions, cohesion, diversity, accommodation, adaptation, assimilation, and dissonance
- Understand how culture develops and changes in ways that allow human societies to address their needs and concerns
- Understand that awareness and knowledge of other cultures is important in a connected society and an interdependent world
- Compare and analyze behaviors for preserving and transmitting culture even while adapting to environmental or social change
- Analyze data from various cultural perspectives and evaluate the consequences of interpretations associated with the world views of different cultures
- Analyze historic and current issues to determine the role that culture has played (Synthesis, the Great Awakening and its influence on early American politics compared to the political impact of today's Evangelical movement)
- Explain and apply ideas, theories, and modes of inquiry from anthropology, sociology, history, geography, and economics in the examination of persistent issues and social problems

TIME, CONTINUITY, & CHANGE

- Understand concepts such as: era, chronology, causality, change, continuity, conflict, historiography, historical method, primary and secondary sources, cause and effect, and multiple perspectives
- Understand that knowledge of the past is influenced by the questions investigated, the sources used, and the perspective of the historian
- Understand different interpretations of key historical periods and patterns of change within and across nations, cultures, and time periods (e.g., the history of democratic principles and institutions, the development of political and economic philosophies; the rise of modern nation-states, and the establishment and breakdown of colonial systems) The social and cultural principles of the Renaissance/Reformation and the Enlightenment and how they led to colonization of the New World and set the foundation for the American Revolution and the establishment of the American Republic)
- Understand the impact across time and place of key historical forces, such as nationalism, imperialism, globalization, leadership, revolution, wars, concepts of rights and responsibilities, and religion
- Understand different interpretations of the influences of social, geographic, economic, and cultural factors on the history of local areas, states, nations, and the world
- Understand the contributions of philosophies, ideologies, individuals, institutions, and key events and turning points in shaping history (How the ideas of the Enlightenment created the foundation for the U.S. republic and how the ideas of the Great Awakening shaped the religious foundation of America)
- Research and analyze past periods, events, and recurring issues, using a variety of primary sources (e.g., documents, letters, artifacts, and testimony), as well as secondary sources; validate and weigh evidence for claims, check the usefulness and degree of reliability of sources, and evaluate different interpretations in order to develop their own interpretation supported by the evidence
- Evaluate the impact of the institutions, values, and beliefs of people in the past on important historical decisions and developments, and compare different interpretations of the causes and consequences of these decisions and developments
- Compare historiographical interpretations of a period or event by explaining differences among historians in their purpose, perspective, and use of evidence

PEOPLE, PLACES, & ENVIRONMENTS

- Understand the causes and impact of resource management, as reflected in land use, settlement patterns, and ecosystem changes

INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT & IDENTITY

- Understand that complex and varied interactions among individuals, groups, cultures, and nations contribute to the dynamic nature of personal identity

INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, & INSTITUTIONS

- Understand concepts such as: mores, norms, ritual, status, role, socialization, ethnocentrism, cultural diffusion, competition, cooperation, conflict, assimilation, race, ethnicity, and gender
- Understand the influence of individuals, groups, and institutions on people and events in historical and contemporary settings
- Understand how the various forms of groups and institutions change over time (The evolution of what it means to be an American or what is America from our inception, through immigration, to today)
- Understand the impact of tensions and examples of cooperation between individuals, groups, and institutions, with their different belief systems
- Understand how the beliefs of dominant groups tend to become norms in a society
- Understand how in democratic societies, legal protections are designed to protect the rights and beliefs of minority groups
- Ask and find answers to questions about the various forms that institutions take, their impact, the role of individuals within them, and how they change over time
- Evaluate different interpretations of the influence of groups and institutions on people and events in historical and contemporary settings
- Analyze instances of tensions between individual expression and group conformity
- Understand examples of tensions between belief systems and governmental actions and policies
- Examine the belief systems of specific contemporary and historical movements that have caused them to advocate public policies
- Understand the role of institutions in furthering both continuity and change (The role of the protestant churches in fostering a common American identity, but also ushering the reform movements of the 19th and 20th centuries)

POWER, AUTHORITY, & GOVERNANCE

- Understand the need for respect for the rule of law, as well as a recognition of times when civil disobedience has been justified (The impact of the Sons of Liberty on creating the foundation for civil disobedience in American society)
- Understand fundamental principles of American constitutional democracy (including those of the U.S. Constitution, popular sovereignty, the rule of law, separation of powers, checks and balances, minority rights, the separation of church and state, and Federalism)
- Understand fundamental values of constitutional democracy (e.g., the common good, liberty, justice, equality, and individual dignity)
- Understand ideas, theories, and modes of inquiry drawn from political science
- Compare and analyze the ways in which groups and nations respond to the richness of unity and diversity, as well as tensions and conflicts associated with unity and diversity (the economic, social, and cultural conflicts created by immigration and how that immigration transforms into a unifying American ideal)
- Analyze and evaluate conditions, actions, and motivations that contribute to conflict and cooperation among groups and nations

PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, & CONSUMPTION

- Understand entrepreneurial decisions are influenced by factors such as supply and demand, government regulatory policy, and the economic climate (The entrepreneurial spirit of gilded age led to the regulation policies of the progressive movement of the early 20th century)
- Understand how markets fail, and the government response to these failures (The Great Depression and the New Deal)
- Compare various ways in which countries improve the output of goods and services and increase the level of income earned from producing goods and services (Understanding the Age of Exploration and the system of Mercantilism that had its origins in the Renaissance)

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, & SOCIETY

- Understand science and technology have had both positive and negative impacts upon individuals, societies, and the environment in the past and present (The technological boom of both the gilded age and more recently the .com age created vast amounts of wealth, but also class divisions)
- Understand consequences of science and technology for individuals and societies The technological boom of both the gilded age and more recently the .com age created vast amounts of wealth, but also class divisions)
- Understand decisions regarding the uses and consequences of science and technology are often complex because of the need to choose between or reconcile different viewpoints
- Understand findings in science and advances in technology sometimes create ethical issues that test our standards and values (Do we drop the atomic bomb on Hiroshima?)
- Understand the importance of the cultural contexts in which media are created and received
- Use diverse types of media technology to access, analyze, evaluate, create, and distribute messages
- Identify and analyze reactions to science and technology from the past or present, and predict ongoing effects in economic, geographical, social, political, and cultural areas of life

GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

- Understand technological advances can both improve and detract from the quality of life (The 2nd Industrial Revolution during the Gilded Age)
- Ask and find answers to questions about the ways in which people and societies are connected globally today and were connected in the past
- Describe and explain conditions and motivations that contribute to conflict, cooperation, and interdependence among groups, societies, and nations
- Analyze the causes and consequences of persistent, contemporary, and emerging global issues, and evaluate possible solutions
- Analyze the relationships and tensions between national sovereignty and global interests, in matters such as territorial rights, economic development, the use of natural resources, and human rights (English colonialism in N.America led to the Manifest Destiny and the exploitation of Native Americans and the resources of the American west)
- Identify concerns, issues, conflicts, and possible resolutions related to issues involving universal human rights (Trail of Tears, Plains Indians, Japanese Internment)

CIVIC IDEALS & PRACTICES

- Understand the theme of civic ideals and practices helps us recognize where gaps between ideals and practices exist, and prepares us to work for social justice
- Understand concepts and ideals such as: human dignity, social justice, liberty, equality, inalienable rights, responsibilities, civil dissent, citizenship, majority and minority rights, the common good, and the rule of law
- Understand scholarly interpretations of key documents that define and support democratic ideals and practices (e.g., the U.S. Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, the Declaration of Sentiments in Seneca Falls, New York, the Gettysburg Address, the Letter from Birmingham Jail; and international Documents such as the Declaration of the Rights of Man, and the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Children)
- Understand the origins, functions, evolution, and outcomes of major institutions and practices designed to sustain and more fully realize democratic ideals (Taking the ideas of the Enlightenment and putting them into practice through forming of the U.S. govt)
- Compare and contrast the roles of citizen in various forms of government past and present (The evolution of the American system of govt and how citizens have become more involved through enfranchisement)
- Identify examples of civic ideals and practices throughout history and in a variety of cultural settings
- Research primary and secondary sources to make decisions and propose solutions to selected civic issues in the past and present
- Identify assumptions, misconceptions, and biases in sources, evidence, and arguments used in presenting issues and positions
- Identify, seek, describe, and evaluate multiple points of view about selected issues, noting the strengths, weaknesses, and consequences associated with holding each position
- Participate in the process of persuading, compromising, debating, and negotiating in the resolution of conflicts and differences (Argumentation activities: Slavery was necessary, the Gilded Age benefitted all, the U.S. should have dropped the atom bomb, etc...)