

U.S History

essential understanding

The history of the United States of America is steeped in controversy and triumph. From its beginnings as thirteen colonies to its role today as a super power people have fought and died for the principals and ideals it embodies. Others have fought and died to change the injustices and disgraces that were born and perpetuated throughout its history. We can gain a better appreciation of who we are today as a country by understanding where we were and how we got here.



“ We are not maker’s of history. We are made by history”

Martin Luther King Jr.

overview

Students in U.S history study the major turning points in American history. After a review of the nation’s beginnings and the impact of the Enlightenment on U.S. democratic ideals students will examine the westward migration of America and its impact on our country. Students will then trace the change in the ethnic composition of American society;

the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. Students will consider the major social problems of our time and trace their causes in historical events. They learn that the United States has served as a model for other nations and that the rights and freedoms we enjoy are not accidents, but the results of a defined set of political principles that are not always basic to citizens of other countries.

guiding question 1: How did the the U.S respond to WWII and how did this affect the country?

lessons

- _____ Entering the war
- _____ D-day to Berlin
- _____ From war to peace
- _____ The red scare

group work

_____ As a group choose an aspect or event from WWII, the beginning of the Cold War, the red scare during the 1950's, or an aspect of U.S culture during this time. Create a presentation with a poster for a gallery walk. Fill out weekly group work productivity logs. Be thorough and specific in your approach to the topic. Approve your choice with Mr. G before you begin working.

Due April 27/28

individual work

_____ Create a timeline of events from the years 1940-1960, remember events must discuss U.S history Focus on events that deal with WWII, the Cold War, or related aspects.

Due April 6/7

_____ Complete your partners essay about your chosen person from U.S history.

Due April 17/18

_____ Define the following terms and people: Due April 20/21

Pearl Harbor	D-Day	Holocaust
Axis powers	Allied powers	Manhattan Project
Rose the Riveter	Harry Truman	Japanese internment camps
Jackie Robinson	Korean War	Hiroshima and Nagasaki
Baby Boom	McCarthyism	Rock and roll Music (1950's)

_____ Watch the video America the Story of Us "WWII" and answer questions.

Due April 24/25

_____ Read selections from "A Patriots History of the United States" take notes and participate in a socratic dialogues Due April 27/28

assessment

_____ Take an open note assessment about the vocabulary terms from this study guide.

In class April 24/25

_____ Answer questions about World War II and its aftermath in one paragraph minimum responses.

Due April 27/28