

# American History Honors

Second Semester Review: 1865 to Present

## Exam Format

- This exam will consist of 55 questions. Some will be multiple choice, while others will require a more specific response. Two questions will be short answer.
- Questions on this exam are based on the major concepts of each time period (“the big picture). In addition, many questions will also assess the skills you have developed in this course.

## Skills Assessed

- Interpretation and use of primary sources, including documents, images, political cartoons, propaganda, etc.
- Interpretation of maps, charts, graphs and data
- Understanding of major historical significance
- Distinguishing opposing sides in history and differing historical arguments

## Major Topics in United States History from 1865 to Present

- Changes on the Western Frontier, 1865-1900 (Chapter 13)
  - Change in lives for Native Americans
  - What led to population growth
  - Problems for farmers (including economic troubles) and farmers’ protests
  - Refer to the graphic on page 432
- Industrial Revolution, 1865-1900 (Chapter 14)
  - New inventions – political/social/economic effects
  - Costs & Benefits of Industrialization and Business practices
  - Influence of the railroad
  - Formation and consequences of labor unions
- Gilded Age Society (Chapters 15 & 16)
  - New Immigration patterns in the late 1800s, nativist reactions and effects
  - Growth of the cities and problems
  - Politics in the Gilded Age – corruption and problems at the local, state and national level
  - Development of a new society, especially in the cities (role of technology, education and mass culture)
  - Segregation and Discrimination in the post-Reconstruction era
- The Progressive Era (Chapter 17)
  - Overall goals and the increase in the power of government
  - Causes and results of the Progressive movement at the local, state and national levels and groups involved
  - Increasing public participation by women / Overall campaign for suffrage
- US in World Affairs, 1865-1914 (Chapter 18)
  - New foreign policy in the years following the Civil War
  - The Spanish-American War as the turning point

- The United States in Asia and Latin America, 1898 to 1914
  - Supporters and opponents of “imperialism”
- The United States and World War I (Chapter 19)
  - Causes of war and US involvement
  - Results and consequences at home and abroad
- The Roaring 1920s (Chapters 20 & 21)
  - Post-World War I Politics and Foreign Policy (Isolationism)
  - Social Change: Traditional Culture vs. Changing Ways of Life
  - Causes and Failure of Prohibition
  - Business Economy of the 1920s and the causes of the Great Depression
- The Great Depression and Roosevelt’s New Deal (Chapters 22 & 23)
  - Life in the Depression
  - Hoover vs. Roosevelt in responding to the Depression
  - Major change in the role of the federal government and the national debt
  - The New Deal (overview / purpose and results)
- World War II Era (Chapters 24 & 25)
  - Causes of the war and US involvement
  - Overall impact on American society/economy
  - How the United States achieved victory
- Early Cold War and Post-War Society (Chapters 26 & 27)
  - Emerging Cold War: problems abroad, spread and containment of communism and fears at home
  - Role of the atomic bomb
  - The Korean War
  - 1940s/1950s Society: Changing demographics; Traditional Society vs. Growing social rebellion
- The Modern Civil Rights Movement (Chapter 29)
  - Beginnings of the movement, including *Brown v. Board of Education*
  - Methods of protest: non-violent vs. violent
  - Split in the movement post 1965
  - Successes/how achieved and failures
- 1960s Politics and Society (Chapters 28 & 31)
  - More growth in the role of the federal government: New Frontier to the Great Society
  - Social Upheaval of the 1960s to early 1970s
- The Vietnam War Era (Chapter 31)
  - US involvement in Vietnam
  - Reactions/consequences at home
- Understand the major themes and events of the 1960s and Vietnam Era: How transformative is this time period to United States history and society (even today)?
- Modern United States (Overview with outside materials)
  - Economic change: From the troubled 1970s through today
  - Growth of conservatism in the 1980s
  - End of the Cold War
  - Middle Eastern Problems, including Persian Gulf War, Israel
  - Radical Islam, attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 and results