

American History CHA3U1 -- Essential Understandings

Content	Skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Analyse the timeline of events in US history from pre-Columbian to present day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - e.g. Pre-Columbian, European colonial competition, British colonial period, American revolutionary period, U.S. Civil War, rise of American military and economic power after 1900 - US history analysed with a particular focus on key individuals (political, military, economic, and social), as well as important groups (racial, religious, and social). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - e.g. Harriet Tubman, Geo. Washington, Abraham Lincoln, John Smith, Lewis and Clark, Andrew Jackson, Roosevelts, Elie Whitney, Sitting Bull, MLK, the Kennedys - Recognize the many political forces that have influenced American history at the local, state, national, and global levels; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - e.g. Abolitionists, Prohibitionists, Nativists, Expansionists, Unionists, Imperialists, Loyalists, Corporate Capitalists - Understand that the story of the United States is not simply dates, events, and personalities, but also the struggle to incorporate values in the face of rapid changes and challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - e.g. Secularism, right to bear arms, individual vs. the state, Internationalism vs. Isolationism, civil rights vs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct research and analysis, then communicate knowledge and understanding of the United States and its people in a variety of ways - Develop the ability to make interpretations and arguments based on critical thinking, using evidence from a wide range of primary and secondary sources - ISU involving a seminar presentation (15-20 min.) - ISU involving a research paper (approx. 1000 words) - Role-playing through diary, reflecting on selected events - Media analysis using comprehension and study guides, with a focus on film - Use of primary sources in various research activities

property rights, suffrage and feminism, technology for social progress vs. global power

- Compare and contrast the development of the US vis-à-vis Canada, in order to better understand the country that is Canada's closest neighbour and most important cultural influence and economic partner
 - e.g. rugged individualism vs. societal collectivism, interventionism vs. collective security, melting pot vs. mosaic, treatment of Native (individual conflicts vs. Crown responsibilities)
- Understand the influence and integration of various immigrant groups throughout US history, with a comparison between the contrasting notions of the melting pot vs. cultural mosaic.
 - e.g. initial European settlements, Eurocentric immigration, government actions against groups in times of conflict (Japanese interment, anti-Catholic, Loyalists, etc).

- Critical analysis of current events in order to assess the role of the US in geopolitics and in international development