

**Department:** History

**Course Name:** American Since 1945

**Course Description:**

This course is a survey of America since 1945. The course will utilize primary and secondary sources to study America since the end of World War II. In this course, students will examine economic, military, political, and social history since 1945. Topics will include the Roosevelt through the Biden presidencies. Within the broader context, the Cold War, the Civil Rights movement, Korea, Vietnam, the tumultuous 1960s, global Communism, economic challenges, the fall of the U.S.S.R and the Berlin Wall, terrorism, 9-11, the global war on terror, and modern America will be studied.

**Content:**

The Great Depression

WWII

FDR

Truman and the Cold War

The Eisenhower years

Civil rights and the impact of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr

Black authors and writers

JFK and the 1960s

The Cuban Missile Crisis

Vietnam and LBJ

The turbulent 1960s from a social point of view

America and Communism

The Nixon, Ford, and Carter years

Reagan and the age of reform

The Berlin Wall and the fall of the U.S.S.R.

Business and tech expansion

Terrorism

9-11

The Global War on Terror

The Internet and the rise of big media

The Bush through the Biden years

**Skills:**

Essay writing using primary sources

Analyze maps, charts, pictures, and graphs

Strengthen oral communication skills via class discussions, and oral presentations

Develop and refine Socratic questioning and reasoning

Develop basic research skills using library and Internet sources

Refine research skills using primary source material

Strengthen basic study skills, including vocabulary acquisition and note-taking

Use technology to complete assignments and projects

Compare and contrast various historical periods and cultural topics

**Text and Materials:**

United States History, (Holt-McDougal, Copyright 2012)

A free etext version is provided by HRA

Teacher One Stop support materials

PBS and the American Experience

**Additional secondary and primary sources:**

[www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

[www.vmi.edu](http://www.vmi.edu)

<https://www.jfklibrary.org/>

<https://www.fdrlibrary.org/>

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/>

<https://www.nationalchurchillmuseum.org/>

**Methods of Instruction:**

Discussion

Lecture

PBS video

Essay writing

Written homework

Class presentations

Field trips

**Methods of Evaluation:**

Tests

Quizzes

Essay Writing

Homework

Class participation

Class presentations

