Course Overview

This course is a general survey of various areas of United States History from the period just prior to the Civil War until the end of the Great Depression. It focuses on the "growing pains" the United States experienced as it transitioned from an AGRARIAN and MERCANTILE nation to an INDUSTRIALIZED, URBANIZED WORLD POWER – economically, politically, and socially. Remember, that history is not a straight line, there are many twists, turns, and bumps in the road to get where we are. Which means history is not only about the things that makes us feel good. History affords us the opportunity to learn from mistakes of the past. Through eight BIG units, we will learn about American History from the Civil War through present day. We will be focusing on key events, people, concepts, and patterns, building on American History that you have learned in previous grades through Middle School and the little bit covered in World History. The focus of US History is to put it all together to learn how we got to where we are now and understand the ideas behind policies and events taking place in the broader world today. Each BIG unit below is broken into smaller units and topics. There is a state EOC for this course. Therefore, even if you are a senior, you will not be able to exempt out of the exam. Roughly 2/3 of the EOC will consist of Unit 1 information.

Semester 1

Big Unit 1: Civil War and Reconstruction

Understand the causes, course, and consequences of the Civil War and Reconstruction and its effects on the American people.

- Causes of the Civil War
- Consequences of the Civil War/Reconstruction
- Westward Expansion & Populism

Big Unit 2: Transformation of American Society

Analyze the transformation of the American economy and the changing social and political conditions in response to the Industrial Revolution.

- The Triumph of Industry (The Second Industrial Revolution)
- The Labor Movement
- Cities and New Immigration

Big Unit 3: World Affairs through WWI

Demonstrate an understanding of the changing role of the United States in world affairs through the end of World War I.

- American Imperialism
- The United States in World War I

Big Unit 4: The Interwar Period

Analyze the effects of the changing social, political, and economic conditions of the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression.

- The Roaring Twenties
- The Great Depression and The New Deal

Semester 2

Big Unit 5: World War II

Understand the causes and course of World War II, the character of the war at home and abroad, and its reshaping of the United States' role in the post-war world.

- America's Darkest and Finest Hour

Big Unit 6: The Cold War

Recognize how events between capitalist and communist nations (especially US and USSR) directed US involvement around the world and shaped domestic policy.

- UN and NATO
- Domino Theory
- Containment and Intervention
- Nuclear Proliferation

Big Unit 7: Modern United States: Domestic Issues and Global Leadership

Changes domestically as the US comes to terms as a global superpower.

- Postwar Prosperity and Civil Rights
- The Sixties

Big Unit 8: Modern United States: Domestic Issues and Global Leadership

Continued implication of earlier policies on modern policy both foreign and domestically.

- US Foreign Policy Since 1972
- American Social Issues



Contact Information

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Flowcode



Supply List

Binder (1.5") Loose Leaf Paper Pen & Pencil Highlighter(s)



About Mr. C

My name is Mr. Caggia and I am proud to be an Eagle. This is my first year at Brandon but is my 29th year teaching Social Studies. Originally from New York, I grew up on Long Island. I decided to pursue a career in education while in college studying history. I earned my Bachelors of Arts in History from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo (Go Bulls!) and my Masters of Science in Secondary Education from the City University of New York (CUNY) - Queens College. After earning my Masters, I moved to North Carolina and began teaching in Raleigh where I taught for 22 years. I moved to the Tampa area after getting married and began teaching in Hillsborough County at Leto High School in 2018-19 and Spoto High School 2019-20, Lennard High School 2020-2024.

I look forward to growing as an educator and helping you grow as a person and a student!

Brandon High School Mission Statement

"Brandon High School will use data to identify and create opportunities to learn that nurture self-efficacy."

Brandon High School Vision Statement

"Brandon High School is a place where "Eagles" grow and develop; are empowered through clear expectations and have a growth mindset."

Mr. Caggia's Mission Statement

"To help individuals become the best versions of themselves through the application of standards-based learning to real-world situations."