

United States History

I. Course Description: This two semester course provides students with an overview of American history from its discovery to the present while emphasizing the underlying causes and issues behind events. Throughout the course, there are many examples of people who either followed God's standard or failed to do so. Through these historical examples, the students will see the truth of God in action in American history.

II. Course Goals and Objectives:

Students will:

- A. Identify God's leading in the seven eras of U.S. history and the outline of major periods within each era.
- B. Identify continuity and change in the six spheres of human activity—politics, economics, religion, society, ideas, and arts.
- C. Identify continuity and change in foreign relations, including past wars and the roots of modern foreign policy.
- D. Identify God's supervision of church history as God's people have interacted with secular society.
- E. Identify the consequences of past decisions, good and bad, which testify that Bible principles are true and that God oversees the course of U.S. history.
- F. Identify major events and dates in each era, including the major causes and effects of the events.
- G. Identify major individuals of U.S. history whose lives serve to inspire or to warn modern Americans.
- H. Identify the stages in the development of key issues in U.S. history: limited government, the political power of the common man, America's unique culture, and religious purity.
- I. Define and use basic terms from U.S. history that are essential in understanding and explaining God's providence.
- J. Interpret historical maps that are found in atlases of U.S. history.
- K. Evaluate historical narratives and original documents for accuracy and historical perspectives.
- L. Interpret common tools of historians, such as time lines, graphs, and charts.
- M. Show the impact of physical geography and circumstances on the course of events in U.S. history.
- N. Use the Bible to evaluate the social, economic, and political systems in an era.
- O. Explain the causes of historic crises and give the Bible's solution; find parallels to crises in America today.

III. Course Outline:

- A. Horizons
 - 1) Winds and Wilderness
 - 2) Thirteen Colonies

- 3) Perspectives: The Eastern Indians
- 4) Colonial Life
- 5) Religion in the American Colonies
- B. Forge
 - 1) The Rising Storm (1689-1770)
 - 2) Independence (1770-1783)
 - 3) The Critical Period (1781-1789)
 - 4) The Federalist Years (1789-1801)
- C. Nation
 - 1) The Jeffersonian Era (1801-1825)
 - 2) The Age of Jackson (1820-1840)
 - 3) The Growth of American Society (1789-1861)
 - 4) Manifest Destiny (1840-1848)
- D. Crisis
 - 1) A House Dividing (1848-1861)
 - 2) War Between the States (1861-1865)
 - 3) Perspectives: Photography
 - 4) Reconstruction (1865-1877)
- E. Quest
 - 1) The Gilded Age (1877-1896)
 - 2) America Expands (1850-1900)
 - 3) Perspectives: The Old West
 - 4) The Progressive Era (1900-1920)
 - 5) The Great War (1913-1920)
- F. Leadership
 - 1) The Twenties (1920-1929)
 - 2) The Thirties (1930-1939)
 - 3) The World at War (1939-1945)
- G. Challenge
 - 1) The Postwar Era (1945-1963)
 - 2) The Shattered Society (1963-1973)
 - 3) Perspectives: The Space Race
 - 4) A Nation Adrift (1973-1980)
 - 5) Resurgence (1981-1992)
 - 6) New Challenges (1993-)

IV. Instructional Materials:

- A. Keese, Timothy and Sidwell, Mark. United States History for Christian Schools, Third Edition, Bob Jones University Press, Greenville, South Carolina, 2001.
- B. Koontz, Terri and Garland, Lynn. Student Activities in United States History for Christian Schools, Third Edition, Bob Jones University Press, Greenville, South Carolina, 2001.

V. Teaching Methods

- A. Student readings
- B. Student work with feedback from teacher

C. Student activities

VI. Evaluation:

Components:

- A. Daily Assignments
- B. Quizzes and Tests
- C. Writing Assignments

VII. Grading Scale:

100 – 90 = A

89 – 80 = B

79 – 70 = C

69 – and below = redo