

KEY TERMS BY PERIOD AND BY THEME

APUSH Periods	APUSH Themes
1. 1491-1607	▪ American and National Identity (NAT)
2. 1607-1754	▪ Work, Exchange, Technology (WXT)
3. 1754-1800	▪ Migration and Settlement (MIG)
4. 1800-1848	▪ Politics and Power (POL)
5. 1844-1877	▪ America in the World (WOR)
6. 1865-1898	▪ Geography and GEO (GEO)
7. 1890-1945	▪ Culture and Society (CUL)
8. 1945-1980	
9. 1980-2016	

Period 1 (1491-1607): On a North American continent controlled by American Indians, contact among the peoples of Europe, the Americas, and West Africa created a New World.

Exchange and Interaction (WXT, GEO)

- corn
- horses
- disease

Labor Systems (WXT)

- encomienda system
- asiento system
- slavery

Migration (MIG)

- land bridge
- Adena-Hopewell
- Hokokam, Anasazi, Pueblos
- Woodland mound builders
- Sioux

Atlantic Trade (WOR)

- compass
- printing press
- Ferdinand and Isabella
- Protestant Reformation
- Henry the Navigator
- Christopher Columbus
- Treaty of Tordesillas
- slave trade
- nation-state

American Indians (MIG, POL)

- Algonquin
- Siouan
- Iroquois Confederation
- longhouses

Search for Resources (GEO)

- John Cabot
- Jacques Cartier
- Samuel de Champlain
- Henry Hudson

Identity and Politics (NAT, POL)

- Mayas
- Incas
- Aztecs
- conquistadores
- Hernan Cortes
- Francisco Pizarro
- New Laws of 1542
- Roanoke Island

Values and Attitudes (CUL)

- Bartolome de Las Casas
- Valladolid Debate
- Juan Gines de Sepulveda

Period 2 (1607-1754): Europeans and American Indians maneuvered and fought for dominance, control, and security in North America, and distinctive colonial and native societies emerged.

Religion (CUL)

- Cecil Calvert, Lord Baltimore
- Act of Toleration
- Roger Williams
- Providence
- Anne Hutchinson
- antinomianism
- Rhode Island
- Halfway Covenant
- Quakers
- William Penn
- “Holy Experiment”
- Charter of Liberties (1701)
- religious toleration
- established church
- First Great Awakening
- Jonathan Edwards
- George Whitefield
- Cotton Mather
- sectarian
- nonsectarian

Labor Systems (WXT)

- indentured servants
- headright system
- slavery
- triangular trade
- Middle Passage

Crops (GEO)

- rice plantations
- tobacco farms
- subsistence farming

Conflict (MIG)

- Wampanoags
- Metacom
- King Philip’s War

Early Settlements (MIG)

- John Cabot
- Jamestown
- John Smith
- John Rolfe
- Pocahontas
- Puritans
- Separatists
- Pilgrims
- Mayflower
- Plymouth

Massachusetts Bay Colony (MIG)

- John Winthrop
- Great Migration
- Thomas Hooker
- John Davenport
- Connecticut
- New Hampshire

Later Settlements (MIG)

- The Carolinas
- New York
- New Jersey
- Pennsylvania
- Delaware
- Georgia
- James Oglethorpe

Ethnicity (NAT)

- J. Hector St. John Crevecoeur
- colonial families
- Germans
- Scotch-Irish
- Huguenots
- Dutch
- Swedes
- Africans
- social mobility

Self-Rule (POL)

- Mayflower Compact
- Virginia House of Burgesses
- Sir William Berkeley
- Bacon’s Rebellion
- Fundamental Orders of Connecticut (1639)
- New England Confederation
- Frame of Government (1682)

Authority (WOR)

- corporate colonies
- royal colonies
- proprietary colonies
- Chesapeake colonies
- joint-stock company
- Virginia Company

Arts and Science (CUL)

- English cultural domination
- Benjamin West
- John Copley
- Benjamin Franklin
- *Poor Richard’s Almanack*
- Phillis Wheatley
- John Bartram
- professions: religion, medicine, law

Government (POL)

- hereditary aristocracy
- John Peter Zenger
- Andrew Hamilton
- Enlightenment
- colonial governors
- colonial legislatures
- town meetings
- county government
- limited democracy

Period 3 (1754-1800): British imperial attempts to reassert control over its colonies and the colonial reaction to these attempts produced a new American republic, along with struggles over the new nation's social, political, and economic identity.

Colonial Unrest (NAT, POL)

- Patrick Henry
- Stamp Act Congress
- Sons and Daughters of Liberty
- John Dickinson, *Letters from a Pennsylvania Farmer*
- Samuel Adams
- James Otis
- Massachusetts Circular Letter
- Committees of Correspondence
- Intolerable Acts

Philosophy (CUL)

- Enlightenment
- Deism
- rationalism
- John Locke
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau

A New Nation (CUL)

- Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*
- Patriots and Loyalists (Tories)
- Minutemen
- Continentals
- Valley Forge
- Abigail Adams
- Shays' Rebellion
- Judiciary Act (1789)
- federal courts; Supreme Court
- national debt
- Whiskey Rebellion
- political parties
- Federalists and Democratic-Republicans
- John Adams
- Revolution of 1800
- cabinet

Expansion (MIG, POL)

- Battle of Fallen Timbers
- Treaty of Greenville
- Public Land Act
- Land Ordinance of 1785
- Northwest Ordinance of 1787

Rulers and Policies (WXT)

- George III
- Whigs
- Parliament
- salutary neglect
- Lord Frederick North

Economic Policies (WOR)

- Sugar Act (1764)
- Quartering Act (1765)
- Stamp Act (1765)
- Declaratory Act (1766)
- Townshend Acts (1767)
- Writs of Assistance
- Tea Act (1773)
- Coercive Acts (1774)
- Quebec Act (1774)

War (POL)

- Paul Revere
- Lexington and Concord
- Battle of Saratoga
- George Rogers Clark
- Battle of Yorktown
- Articles of Confederation
- unicameral legislature

Disputes (WXT)

- slave trade
- infant industries
- national bank
- tariffs (excise taxes)

Constitution (POL)

- Annapolis Convention
- Constitutional Convention
- checks and balances
- Virginia and New Jersey Plans
- Connecticut Plan; Great Compromise
- House of Representatives and Senate
- Three-Fifths Compromise
- electoral college system
- legislative branch; Congress

American Indians (MIG)

- Pontiac's Rebellion
- Proclamation of 1763

Empire (POL, GEO)

- French and Indian War
- Albany Plan of Union (1754)
- George Washington
- Peace of Paris (1763)

Separation (NAT)

- John Jay
- First Continental Congress (1774)
- Joseph Galloway
- Suffolk Resolves
- economic sanctions
- Declaration of Rights and Grievances
- Second Continental Congress (1775)
- Olive Branch Petition
- Declaration of the Causes and Necessities for Taking Up Arms
- Thomas Jefferson
- Declaration of Independence
- George Washington

Founders (NAT, CUL)

- James Madison
- Alexander Hamilton
- Federalists and Anti-Federalists
- *The Federalist Papers*
- Bill of Rights; amendments
- Washington's Farewell Address
- Alien and Sedition Acts
- Kentucky and Virginia Resolutions

Foreign Affairs (WOR)

- French Revolution
- Proclamation of Neutrality (1793)
- Citizen Genet Affair
- Jay Treaty (1794)
- Pinckney Treaty (1795)
- right of deposit
- XYZ Affair

Period 4 (1800-1848): The new republic struggled to define and extend democratic ideals in the face of rapid economic, territorial, and demographic changes.

The West (MIG)

- Lewis and Clark Expedition
- Tecumseh
- The Prophet
- William Henry Harrison
- Tippecanoe

Supreme Court (POL)

- strict/loose interpretation
- John Marshall
- judicial review
- *Marbury v. Madison*
- Aaron Burr
- “Tertium Quids”
- *Fletcher v. Peck*
- *McCulloch v. Maryland*
- *Dartmouth College v. Woodward*
- *Gibbons v. Ogden*
- implied powers

Urban Growth (MIG)

- urbanization
- new cities
- Irish; potato famine
- Roman Catholic
- Tammany Hall
- Germans
- immigration

The Slave Industry (MIG, EXT)

- “King Cotton”
- “peculiar institution”
- Denmark Vesey, Nat Turner
- slave codes

Jacksonian Politics (POL)

- popular campaigning
- spoils system; rotation in office
- John Quincy Adams; “corrupt bargain”
- Tariff of Abominations (1828)
- Peggy Eaton affair
- states’ rights; nullification crisis
- Webster-Hayne debate
- John C. Calhoun
- two party system
- Democrats and Whigs
- “Log Cabin and Hard Cider” campaign

War (WOR)

- Napoleon Bonaparte
- Toussaint L’Ouverture
- Barbary pirates
- neutrality
- impressment
- *Chesapeake-Leopard Affair*
- Embargo Act (1807)
- James Madison
- Non-Intercourse Act (1809)
- Macon’s Bill No. 2 (1810)
- War of 1812
- “Old Ironsides”
- Battle of Lake Erie
- Oliver Hazard Perry
- Battle of the Thames River
- Thomas Macdonough
- Battle of Lake Champlain
- Andrew Jackson
- Battle of Horseshoe Bend
- Creek Nation
- Battle of New Orleans
- Treaty of Ghent (1814)

Foreign Affairs (WOR)

- Stephen Decatur
- Rush-Bagot Agreement (1817)
- Treaty of 1818
- Florida Purchase (Adams-Onis) Treaty (1819)
- Monroe Doctrine (1823)

Economics (WXT)

- Second National Bank
- Nicholas Biddle
- Roger Taney
- “pet banks”
- Specie Circular
- Panic of 1837
- Martin Van Buren

Common Man (NAT, POL)

- universal manhood suffrage
- party nominating convention
- “King Caucus”
- popular election of the president

Industry (WXT)

- Tariff of 1816
- protective tariff
- Henry Clay; American System
- Second Bank of the United States
- Panic of 1819
- National (Cumberland) Road
- Erie Canal
- Robert Fulton; steamboats
- railroads
- Eli Whitney; interchangeable parts
- Cyrus McCormick; mechanical reaper
- John Deere; steel plow
- corporations
- Samuel Slater; factory system
- Lowell System; textile mills
- industrialization
- specialization
- unions
- market revolution

Identities and Conflict (NAT)

- Northeast
- Old Northwest
- Great Plains
- West
- Deep South
- sectionalism
- nativists; American (Know-Nothing) Party
- Supreme Order of the Star-Spangled Banner
- free African Americans
- planters
- poor whites
- the frontier
- American Indian removal

Reforming Society (POL)

- temperance; WCTU
- asylum movement
- penitentiaries
- public school movement
- abolitionism; William Lloyd Garrison
- utopian communities
- Romanticism
- Transcendentalism
- feminism; Seneca Falls Convention
- Second Great Awakening

Period 5 (1844-1877): As the nation expanded and its population grew, regional tensions, especially over slavery, led to a civil war—the course and aftermath of which transformed American society.

Expanding Economy (WXT)

- industrial technology
- Elias Howe
- Samuel Morse
- railroads
- Panic of 1857
- greenbacks
- Morrill Tariff Act (1861)
- Morrill Land Grant Act (1862)
- Pacific Railway Act (1862)

Westward Migration (NAT, MIG, GEO)

- manifest destiny
- “Great American Desert”
- Far West
- overland trails
- mining frontier
- gold rush; silver rush
- federal land grants
- Homestead Act (1862)

Expansion Politics (POL)

- John Tyler
- Oregon territory
- “Fifty-four Forty or Fight!”
- James K. Polk
- Wilmot Proviso
- Franklin Pierce
- Ostend Manifesto (1852)

Reconstruction (POL, CUL)

- presidential Reconstruction
- Wade-Davis Bill (1864)
- Andrew Johnson
- Freedmen’s Bureau
- Black Codes
- Congressional (Radical) Reconstruction
- Reconstruction Acts (1867)
- Tenure of Office Act (1867)
- impeachment
- scalawags and carpetbaggers
- sharecropping
- Ku Klux Klan; redeemers

Military and Diplomatic Expansion (WOR)

- Texas; Stephen F. Austin
- The Alamo
- Aroostook War
- Webster-Ashburton Treaty (1842)
- Mexican War
- Zachary Taylor
- Winfield Scott
- John C. Fremont
- California; Bear Flag Republic
- Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo (1848)
- Mexican Cession
- Gadsden Purchase (1853)
- Matthew C. Perry; Japan

Slavery (POL)

- Fugitive Slave Law
- Underground Railroad; Harriet Tubman
- *Dred Scott v. Sanford*
- Lincoln-Douglas debates
- “House Divided” speech
- Freeport Doctrine

Equality (NAT, POL)

- Civil Rights Act of 1866
- 14th Amendment; “equal protection,” “due process”
- 15th Amendment
- Civil Rights Act of 1875

1870s Politics (POL)

- Credit Mobilier
- Boss Tweed
- spoilsmen
- patronage
- Thomas Nast
- Panic of 1873
- greenbacks
- Rutherford B. Hayes
- Compromise of 1877

Compromising (POL)

- popular sovereignty; Lewis Cass
- Henry Clay
- Compromise of 1850
- Stephen A. Douglas
- Kansas-Nebraska Act (1854)
- Crittenden Compromise

Civil War (POL, GEO, CUL)

- Fort Sumter
- Bull Run
- Stonewall Jackson
- Winfield Scott; Anaconda Plan
- Robert E. Lee
- George McClellan
- Ulysses S. Grant
- Antietam
- Fredericksburg
- *Monitor vs. Merrimac*
- Shiloh
- Gettysburg
- Vicksburg
- Sherman’s March to the Sea
- Appomattox Court House

War Politics, Diplomacy, and Law (POL, WOR)

- Abraham Lincoln
- Jefferson Davis
- Alexander Stephens
- border states
- executive power
- habeas corpus
- Confiscation Acts
- Emancipation Proclamation
- 13th Amendment
- *Ex Parte Milligan*
- draft riots
- Copperheads
- Trent Affair

Period 6 (1865-1898): The transformation of the United States from an agricultural to an increasingly industrialized and urbanized society brought about significant economic, political, diplomatic, social, environmental, and cultural changes.

Transportation (WXT)

- Cornelius Vanderbilt
- transcontinental railroads
- Union and Central Pacific
- speculation and overbuilding
- rebates and pools
- bankruptcy of railroads
- Panic of 1893

Role of Government in the Economy (WXT)

- federal land grants and loans
- Interstate Commerce Act (1886)
- Sherman Anti-Trust Act (1890)
- “hard money” vs. “soft money”
- 1890s tariff policy
- “Billion Dollar Congress”
- government regulation
- Republican dominance
- Silver Purchase Act

The Last West (MIG, GEO, WOR)

- Great Plains
- buffalo herds
- mineral resources
- mining frontier; boomtowns
- Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)
- cattle drives
- barbed wire
- Homestead Act (1862)
- dry farming
- Frederick Jackson Turner; Frontier Thesis
- census of 1890

The New South (WXT, MIG, POL)

- steel, lumber, tobacco
- integrated rail network
- agriculture’s dominance
- sharecropping; tenant farming
- George Washington Carver
- Booker T. Washington; Tuskegee Institute
- Civil Rights Cases of 1883
- *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1893)
- Jim Crow laws
- literacy tests, poll taxes, grandfather clauses
- white primaries, white juries
- lynch mobs
- Ida B. Wells

Large Scale Industry (WXT)

- Andrew Carnegie; U.S. Steel
- vertical integration
- John D. Rockefeller; Standard Oil Trust
- horizontal integration
- J.P. Morgan

Organized Labor (WXT)

- causes of labor discontent
- “iron law of wages”
- anti-union tactics
- Great Railroad Strike of 1877
- Knights of Labor; Haymarket bombing
- American Federation of Labor; Samuel Gompers
- Pullman Strike
- Eugene V. Debs

American Indians (MIG, POL)

- federal treaty policies
- causes of Indian Wars
- Little Big Horn
- assimilationists
- Helen Hunt Jackson
- Dawes Act of 1887
- Ghost Dance movement
- Indian Reorganization Act of 1934

Farm Protests Movement (POL)

- crop price deflation
- National Grange Movement
- railroads and middlemen
- cooperatives
- *Munn v. Illinois*
- *Wabash v. Illinois*
- Interstate Commerce Commission
- Populism; William Jennings Bryan

Arts, Writing, and Culture (CUL)

- realism
- Mark Twain
- Jack London
- impressionism
- Ashcan School
- abstract art
- growth of leisure time
- vaudeville
- spectator sports

Technology (WXT)

- Second Industrial Revolution
- Bessemer process
- transatlantic cable
- Alexander Graham Bell; telephone
- Thomas Edison; Menlo Park research lab

Ideas and Beliefs (CUL)

- “Puritan Ethic”
- Adam Smith; *laissez-faire* capitalism
- concentration of wealth
- Social Darwinism; Herbert Spencer
- survival of the fittest
- Gospel of Wealth
- Horatio Alger rags to riches stories
- “self-made man”

Conservation Movement (GEO)

- deforestation
- National Parks; Yellowstone, Yosemite
- Department of the Interior
- Forest Reserve Act of 1891
- Forest Management Act of 1897
- John Muir; Sierra Club

Immigration (MIG, POL)

- old/new immigrants
- Statue of Liberty
- Chinese Exclusion Act (1882)
- American Protective Association
- Ellis Island
- melting pot vs. cultural diversity

City Growth

- causes of migration
- steel-framed buildings
- tenements; poverty
- ethnic neighborhoods
- political machines; bosses; Tammany Hall
- settlement houses
- Social Gospel
- Salvation Army
- Frank Lloyd Wright
- Louis Sullivan

Period 7 (1890-1945): An increasingly pluralistic United States faced profound domestic and global challenges, debated the proper degree of government activism, and sought to define its international role.

Overseas Involvement (WOR)

- William Seward
- Monroe Doctrine
- French in Mexico
- Alaska Purchase (1867)
- Pan-American Conference (1889)
- Venezuela boundary dispute
- Hawaii, Pearl Harbor, Liliuokalani
- international Darwinism
- business and imperialist competitors
- spreading science and religion
- Josiah Strong, Alfred Thayer Mahan
- Spanish-American War (1898)
- Teller Amendment, Platt Amendment
- Philippines War
- spheres of influence
- Open Door Policy
- Big Stick Diplomacy
- Dollar Diplomacy
- Great White Fleet
- Moral Diplomacy
- Tampico Incident

Progressive Movement (CUL)

- urban middle class
- William James, pragmatism
- Frederick Taylor, scientific management
- John Dewey, education
- muckrakers

City and State Reforms (POL)

- municipal reform
- commission plan, city manager plan
- initiative, referendum, recall
- direct primary
- Robert LaFollette
- regulatory commissions

Women's Movement (NAT, POL)

- Carrie Chapman Catt
- Alice Paul
- National Woman's Party
- Nineteenth Amendment
- League of Women Voters
- Margaret Sanger

Civil Liberties During World War I (POL)

- Committee on Public Information
- George Creel
- anti-German hysteria
- Espionage Act (1917)
- Sedition Act (1918)
- Eugene Debs
- *Schenck v. United States*

Debate Over the War and the Treaty (WOR, POL)

- preparedness
- "He kept us out of war," Election of 1916
- Zimmermann telegram
- *Sussex* pledge, *Lusitania*
- Russian Revolution
- propaganda
- Woodrow Wilson, Fourteen Points
- League of Nations
- Henry Cabot Lodge, Irreconcilables
- rejection of treaty
- Red Scare, Palmer Raids

African American Identity (CUL, NAT)

- racial segregation
- Booker T. Washington
- W.E.B. Du Bois, NAACP
- National Urban League
- northern migration
- Harlem Renaissance
- Countee Cullen, Langston Hughes, Duke Ellington, Louis Armstrong, Bessie Smith
- Marcus Garvey, "Back to Africa"
- black pride

1920s Economy (WXT)

- business prosperity
- standard of living
- scientific management
- Henry Ford, assembly line
- open shop
- welfare capitalism
- consumerism
- electric appliances
- impact of the automobile

Hoover Administration (POL, WXT)

- Black Tuesday, stock market crash
- buying on margin
- Federal Reserve
- bank failures
- gross national product
- self-reliance
- Hawley-Smoot Tariff
- debt moratorium
- Reconstruction Finance Corporation
- bonus march

New Deal (POL)

- Franklin D. Roosevelt
- relief, recovery, reform
- Hundred Days
- bank holiday
- fireside chats
- John Maynard Keynes
- FDIC, AAA, CCC, TVA, NLRB, WPA, NRA
- Social Security
- Huey Long, Francis Townsend, Charles Coughlin
- court-packing
- minimum wage

Responses to Axis Aggression (WOR)

- isolationism
- Nye Committee
- Neutrality Acts
- America First Committee
- Quarantine Speech
- cash and carry
- Lend-Lease
- Four Freedoms speech
- oil and steel embargo
- selective service

Wartime Diplomacy (WOR)

- Big Three
- Casablanca Conference
- unconditional surrender
- Tehran, Yalta, Potsdam
- United Nations
- atomic bomb

Period 8 (1945-1980): After World War II, the United States grappled with prosperity and unfamiliar international responsibilities while struggling to live up to its ideals.

Postwar Society (WXT, CUL)

- GI Bill of Rights (1944)
- baby boom
- suburban growth
- Levittown
- Council of Economic Advisers
- inflation and labor unions
- Committee on Civil Rights
- Taft-Hartley Act (1947)

Origins of the Cold War (WOR)

- Soviet Union
- Joseph Stalin
- United Nations, Security Council
- World Bank
- Communist satellites
- iron curtain

Containment (WOR)

- George Kennan
- Truman Doctrine
- Marshall Plan
- Berlin Airlift
- East/West Germany
- NATO, Warsaw Pact
- nuclear arms race
- Douglas MacArthur
- Chinese civil war
- Mao Zedong
- Korean War
- Kim Il-Sung
- 38th parallel
- Gulf of Tonkin Resolution
- escalation of troops in Vietnam
- Tet Offensive
- Vietnamization

1950s Culture (CUL)

- homogeneity
- television
- rock and roll
- consumer culture
- fast food
- credit cards
- conglomerates
- social critics
- beatniks

Civil Rights (POL, NAT)

- Jackie Robinson
- NAACP
- desegregation
- *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954)
- Thurgood Marshall
- Earl Warren
- Little Rock Nine
- Rosa Parks, Montgomery bus boycott
- Martin Luther King, Jr., SCLC
- sit-in movement
- James Meredith
- George Wallace
- March on Washington (1963)
- Selma to Montgomery March
- Black Muslims
- Malcolm X
- SNCC
- Congress of Racial Equality
- Black Panthers
- Watts riot

U.S.-Soviet Relations (WOR)

- atoms for peace
- open-skies
- Nikita Khrushchev
- Hungarian revolt
- Sputnik
- U-2 incident
- Fidel Castro, Cuba
- military-industrial complex
- Bay of Pigs
- Berlin Wall
- Cuban missile crisis (1962)
- Nuclear Test Ban Treaty
- détente
- SALT treaties

Domestic Programs (POL, WXT)

- Lyndon Johnson, Great Society
- War on Poverty
- *The Other America*
- Barry Goldwater
- Medicare, Medicaid
- Immigration Act (1965)
- Ralph Nader

American Identities (NAT, MIG)

- cultural pluralism
- Cesar Chavez
- American Indian movement
- Indian Self-Determination Act (1975)
- gay liberation movement

Environmental Movement (GEO)

- Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring*
- Earth Day
- *Exxon Valdez* oil spill
- Three Mile Island
- Chernobyl meltdown
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Clean Air Act (1970)
- Clean Water Act (1972)
- Endangered Species Act (1973)

1970s Presidencies (POL, WOR)

- New Federalism
- OPEC oil embargo
- *Roe v. Wade*
- off the gold standard
- stagflation
- Watergate cover-up
- “plumbers”
- *U.S. v. Nixon*
- War Powers Resolution (1973)
- resignation of Nixon
- fall of Saigon
- Panama Canal Treaty (1978)
- Camp David Accords (1978)
- Iran hostage crisis
- Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

Period 9 (1980-2016): As the United States transitioned to a new century filled with challenges and possibilities, it experienced renewed ideological and cultural debates, sought to redefine its foreign policy, and adapted to economic globalization and revolutionary changes in science and technology.

Reagan Revolution (POL, CUL, WXT)

- election of 1980
- supply-side economics (Reaganomics)
- business deregulation
- Sandra Day O'Connor
- growth of upper incomes
- budget deficits
- Milton Friedman
- political action committees (PACs)
- religious fundamentalism, Moral Majority

End of the Cold War (WOR)

- Strategic Defense Initiative (Star Wars)
- Nicaragua, Sandinistas and Contras
- Iran-Contra Affair
- "evil empire" speech
- Mikhail Gorbachev
- Soviet satellites
- "tear down this wall" speech
- Tiananmen Square riot (1989)
- Berlin Wall falls (1989)
- Boris Yeltsin
- Yugoslavian civil war

Clinton-Era Politics (POL, WXT)

- "don't ask, don't tell"
- NAFTA
- Brady Bill
- Newt Gingrich, Contract with America
- government shutdown
- Oklahoma City bombing
- welfare reform
- Clinton impeachment

Globalization (WOR)

- European Union, Euro
- World Trade Organization
- World Bank, G-8
- effects on jobs

2008 Recession (WXT)

- securitization
- liquidity crisis
- Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac
- Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP)
- poor regulation of financial institutions
- 2009 stimulus bill
- Dodd-Frank Act

Obama Administration (POL)

- Election of 2008
- Hillary Clinton
- Affordable Care Act
- budget deficits
- Tea Party
- Super PACs
- sequestration

Contemporary American Society (WXT, NAT)

- prosperity of the 1990s, Internet boom
- Immigration Act of 1986
- "Graying of America"
- single-parent families
- freedom vs. security

War on Terrorism (WOR)

- Colin Powell
- Islamic roots of anti-Americanism
- Al-Qaeda, Osama bin Laden
- bombing of U.S. embassies
- *U.S.S. Cole*
- World Trade Center bombings
- September 11, 2001
- Taliban, Afghanistan
- Hamid Karzai
- Homeland Security Department
- "Axis of Evil"
- weapons of mass destruction
- unilateralist approach
- Saddam Hussein
- Sunnis vs. Shiites
- 2007 troops surge
- Arab Spring
- Islamic State (ISIS)