Virginia and United States History is a two-semester course aligned with the 2023 History and Social Science Standards of Learning for Kindergarten - Grade 12 for Grade 11: Virginia and United States History. The course traces the development of the United States from the pre-colonial period to the present. Students begin by examining the Native American, European, and African peoples who lived in America before it became the United States. Students then explore the beliefs and philosophies behind the American Revolution and the formation of the U.S. government, investigate economic, cultural, and social motives for westward expansion, and analyze conflicting notions of liberty that led to civil war. The course then describes America's emergence as an industrial nation and its role in modern world affairs, probing economic and diplomatic interactions with other nations through the world wars, the Cold War, and the information revolution. Throughout this chronological framework, the course emphasizes changing conditions for women, African Americans, and other nondominant groups. Students develop historical analysis skills including comparing and contrasting, distinguishing facts from interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, and analyzing cause-and-effect relationships through text interpretation and guided written assignments.

There are no required materials for this course.

Length: Two Semesters

Unit 1: Peopling North America (Prehistory – 1763)

- Skills for U.S. History
- Indigenous Civilizations in America
- European Colonization
- British Colonization of North America
- Wrap-Up: Peopling North America

Unit 2: The Founding of the United States (1763 – 1824)

- The American Revolution
- Creating a Government
- The Emerging Nation
- Wrap-Up: The Founding of the United States

Unit 3: Growth and Division of the United States (1824 – 1860)

- The Age of Jackson
- Conflicts and Cultural Growth
- Increasing Divisions
- Wrap-Up: Growth and Division of the United States

Unit 4: Civil War and Reconstruction (1860 – 1877)

- The Civil War Begins
- Restoring the Union

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- Reconstruction
- Wrap-Up: Civil War and Reconstruction

Unit 5: The Gilded Age (1877 – 1900)

- Conflicts after Reconstruction
- Immigration and Domestic Developments
- A Growing Empire
- Wrap-Up: The Gilded Age

Unit 6: Semester 1 Review and Exam

- Semester 1 Review and Exam

Unit 7: The Progressive Era Through the Roaring '20s (1900 – 1929)

- Skills for U.S. History II
- The Progressive Age
- World War I
- The Roaring '20s
- Wrap-Up: The Progressive Era Through the Roaring '20s

Unit 8: The Great Depression and World War II (1929 – 1945)

- The Great Depression
- World War II
- Defeating the Axis Powers
- The Great Depression and World War II

Unit 9: The Postwar Years to the Cold War (1945 – 1969)

- The Postwar Years
- Fighting for Equality
- The Cold War and Societal Developments
- Wrap-Up: The Postwar Years to the Cold War

Unit 10: The End of the Cold War (1969 – 1991)

- U.S. Politics and Changes in the Cold War
- The United States in the 1980s
- Ending the Cold War
- Wrap-Up: The End of the Cold War

Unit 11: The United States in the Contemporary Age (1991 – Present)

- The United States after the Cold War
- The United States Enters the New Millennium
- The Contemporary United States
- Wrap-Up: The United States in the Contemporary Age

Unit 12: Semester 2 Review and Exam

- Semester 2 Review and Exam

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