



## **Greenwich Public Schools Curriculum Overview**

American History ESL (Grades 10 - 12)

Personalized learning is achieved through standards-based, rigorous and relevant curriculum that is aligned to digital tools and resources.

*Note: Teachers retain professional discretion in how the learning is presented based on the needs and interests of their students.*

### **Course Description:**

AMERICAN HISTORY ESL (Grades 10-12)

Full Year

102000      8 Blocks      1 Social Studies Credit

This college preparatory course in American History is designed for English learners to give them an overview of the chronology from 1492 to 1898, with emphasis on the Constitution. Students will become familiar with the traditions and philosophy of a democracy as well as develop an understanding of American government, institutions and policies. A research paper is a course and Greenwich High School graduation requirement. Students meet with their teachers an additional two blocks per cycle to participate in the Seminar Skills program.

### **Unit Guide: (List of Major Units)**

1. New Settlements in the Americas
2. Slavery in the New World
3. The American Colonies
4. Roots of Rebellion
5. Revolutionary War
6. The US Constitution
7. Sophomore Research Paper
8. Westward Expansion
9. The US Civil War & Reconstruction

### **Enduring Understanding**

- Historians study and compare people, places, ideas and events to make sense of our world.
- Historians find the connections between past and present to help understand our world.
- Historians analyze and recognize how people, places, and ideas change over time.
- Historians analyze and interpret evidence to solve problems and make decisions.
- Knowledge of the past helps one understand the present, and make decisions about the future.
- History involves interpretation; historians can and do disagree.
- The movement of people, ideas, and goods has a profound influence on a society.

- Nations build upon compromise and conflict. Democracies build upon the ideas of individualism and reform.
- People are affected by environmental, economic, social, cultural, and civic concerns.
- Language reflects historical changes and cultural differences.
- Conflict is complicated, and there are many ways to resolve it through compromise and war.

### **Performance Tasks:**

- Interpersonal and presentational speaking and writing activities
- Teacher-generated quizzes and unit assessments to show mastery (vocabulary and grammar along with listening, reading, speaking)
- Non-Fiction and Literary Essays
- **Capstone:** Sophomore Research Paper

### **Standards**

[CELP Standards for English Language Learners \(page 12 of the linked document\)](#)

[Common Core Standards: Reading Literature --> 11-12](#)

### **Resources**

Dorf, Linda. *American History*. Parsippany, NJ: Globe Fearon. 2003. Print.

Listenwise

EdPuzzle

Newsela

Opposing Viewpoints

["America The Story of Us – About America The Story of Us"](#). A&E Television Networks. 2010.

Retrieved April 27,2010.