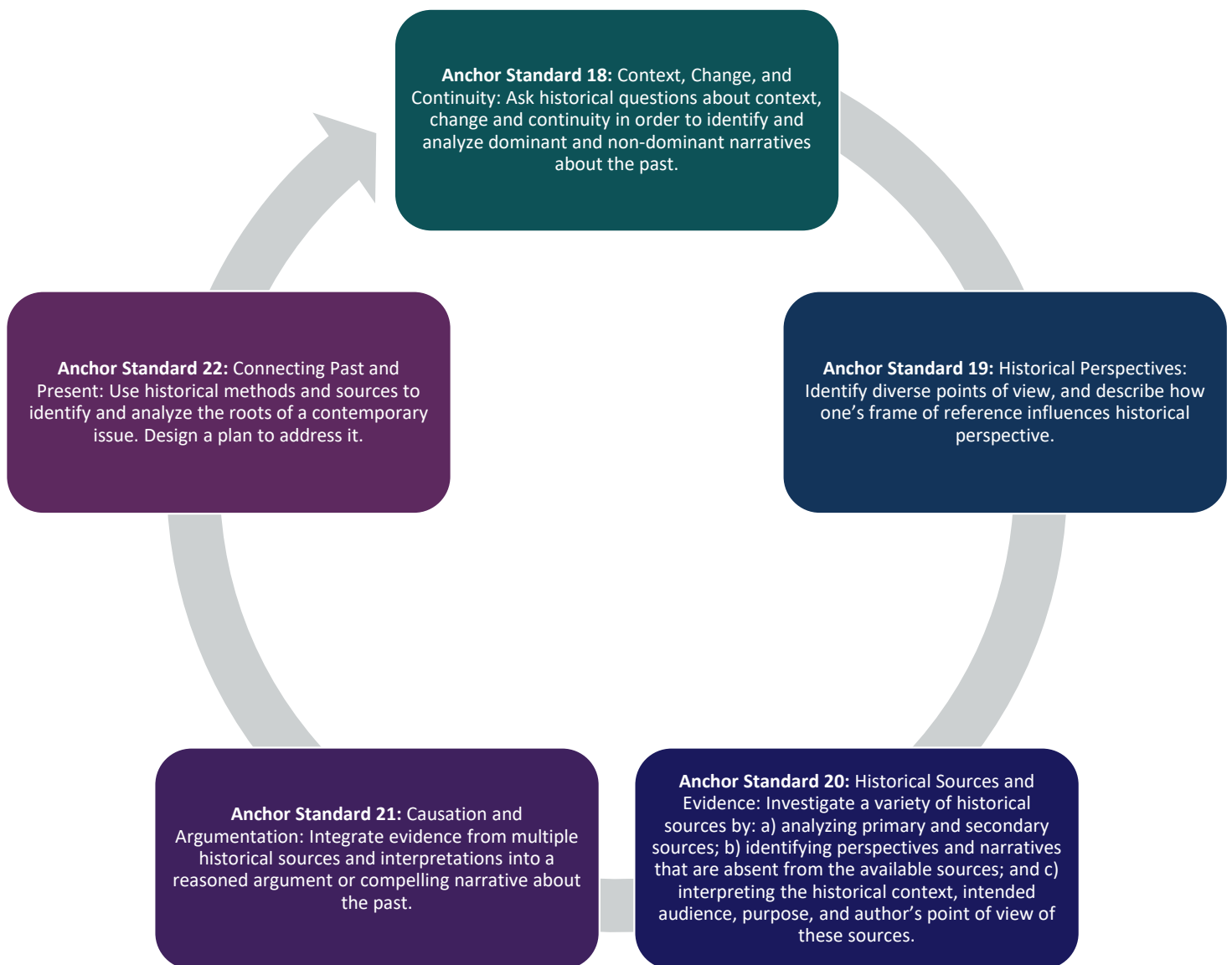


Overview of U.S. History Eras in the High School Standards

Anchor Standards in History

The history strand contains five anchor standards. The same anchor standards, which are focused on the skills and habits of mind of historians, are used for both U.S. and world history. The history anchor standards build on each other, and reflect the Inquiry Arc of the College, Career and Civic Readiness (C3) Standards from the National Council for the Social Studies.



Era One: Indigenous Histories

Overview

Era One begins American history with the histories of America's first people prior to contact with Europeans. Crucially, while Era One primarily focuses on indigenous histories before European contact and settlement, it connects those histories to the current lived experiences of Indigenous peoples across Minnesota specifically and North America broadly, ensuring that students know and understand that Indigenous peoples continue to exist, resist, and thrive in the contemporary world.

Benchmarks



Era Two: Settler Colonialism and Atlantic Slavery

Overview

Era Two focuses on the period that began with European arrival and expansion in the Americas, through the early period of the founding of the United States, specifically looking at the various ways groups and individuals understood and experienced European colonialism, settlement, and the development of the institution of slavery. Students are asked to explore historical sources reflective of multiple perspectives of these events, and to read, understand and analyze secondary accounts and understandings of the period which were created throughout U.S. history.

Benchmarks



Era Three: Freedom, Unfreedom and Revolution

Overview

Era Three focuses on the period of the American Revolution, through the founding of the United States as a country. Students are asked to examine a wide variety of founding documents, as well as primary sources reflective of a range of perspectives on the American Revolution and the American founding period. Additionally, students are expected to make connections between the American Revolution and other revolutions and rebellions in the Americas, and how founding period ideas about freedom have continued, evolved and shifted through contemporary times.

Benchmarks



Era Four: Imperial Expansion and Native Dispossession

Overview

Era Four focuses on the experiences of Americans of a variety of backgrounds during the period of American expansion and native dispossession. Students are expected to consider sources representing a range of experiences of U.S.

Government policy towards Indigenous peoples, sovereignty and land. Era Four should build on the work that students have done in Era One in understanding the histories and ways of life of Indigenous peoples.

Benchmarks



Era Five: Slavery, Civil War and Reconstruction

Overview

Era Five asks students to use primary sources to construct an understanding of the impact that debates over the institution of slavery had in the period leading up to, during, and after the American Civil War. Particular attention is given to the ways in which both enslaved and free people of color resisted slavery. In thinking about Reconstruction, students are asked to use their historical understanding to examine contemporary narratives about the successes and failures of Reconstruction.

Benchmarks



Era Six: Migration, Imperialism and Inequality

Overview

Era Six is situated in the late 19th and early 20th century. Students are asked to evaluate both primary and secondary sources related to U.S. foreign policy, especially U.S. imperial expansion, and its impact on colonized peoples.

Additionally, students are asked to contextualize United States government actions, both in terms of foreign and domestic policy, in the broader context of industrialization and growing social inequality.

Benchmarks

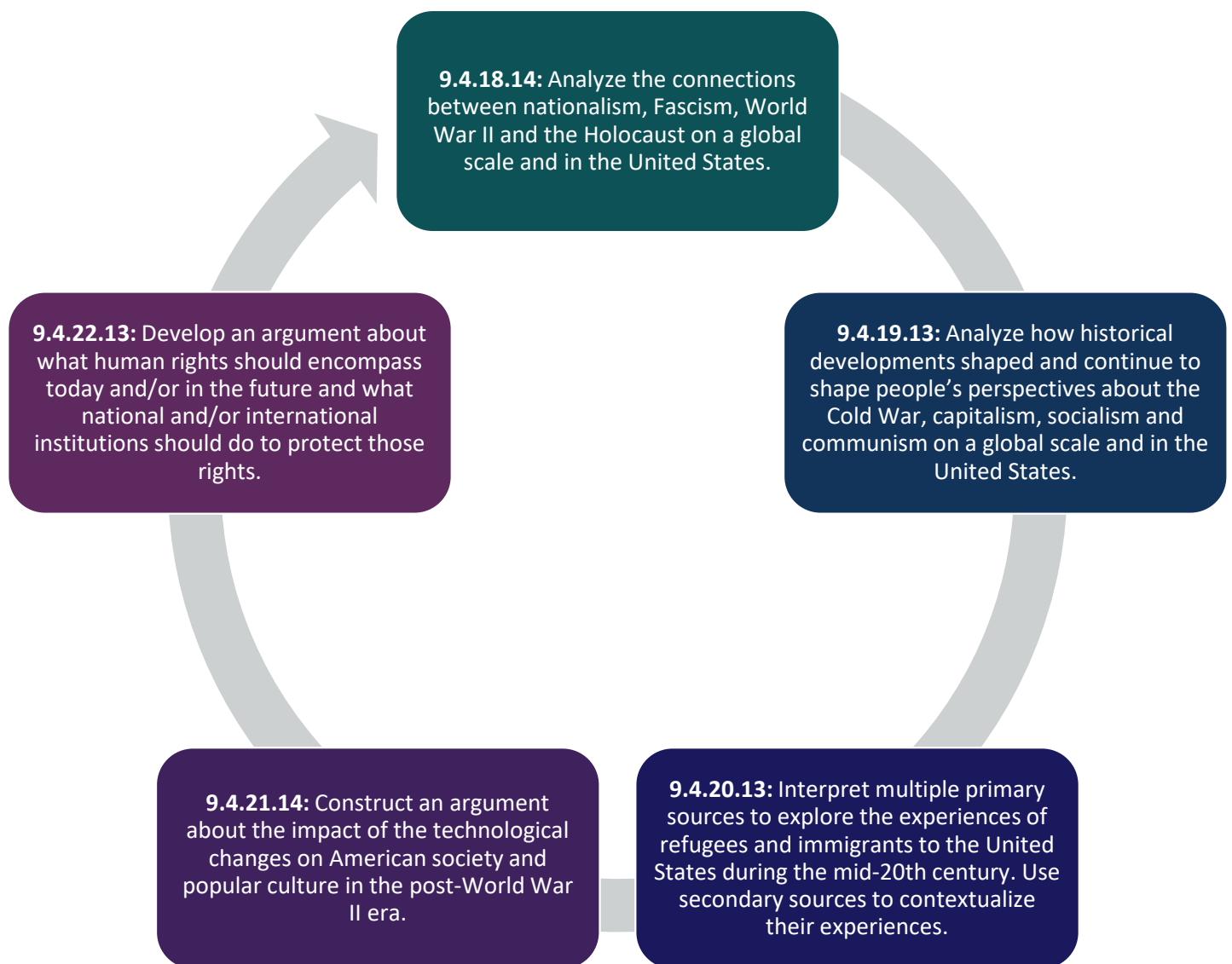


Era Seven: U.S. and the World

Overview

Era Seven begins with World War II, and asks students to explore themes of human rights, international institutions, and technological change through World War II and the Cold War. Students should be learning about competing political and economic systems, and the role these systems play in conflict, and using primary and secondary sources to understand the role global events played in the lives of refugees and immigrants who came to the United States during the mid-20th century.

Benchmarks

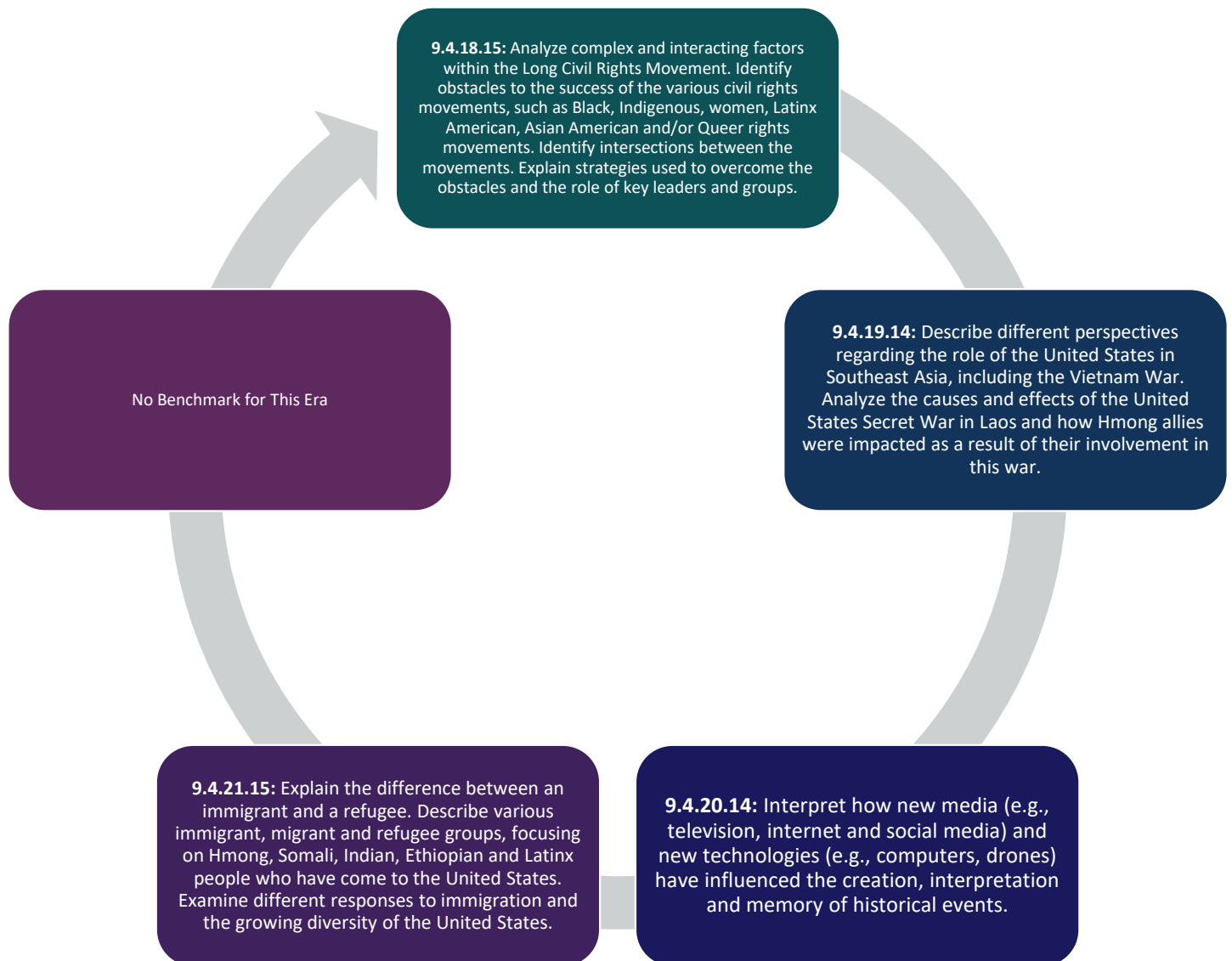


Era Eight: Civil Rights Struggles

Overview

Era Eight asks students to compare and make connections between various civil rights struggles which rose to prominence during the 20th and into the 21st centuries. The understanding of the Civil Rights Movement is extended beyond the traditional bounds of the period of legal challenges and social protest of the 1950s and '60s, to encompass a period that also includes the New Deal and the Great Migration, and extends into the 1970s and '80s. Additionally, this era asks students to connect the movements and struggles of other groups to the traditionally defined era.

Benchmarks



Era Nine: Contested Freedoms

Overview

Era Nine focuses on the social, political and economic climate of the 1990s and early 2000s. Students are asked to evaluate responses to foreign and domestic terrorism, and various perspectives on how the United States government has responded the concerns of contemporary American society. Using their understanding of recent U.S. history, students are asked to propose solutions to current pressing issues.

Benchmarks

