



Northern York County School District

Curriculum Overview

Course: The American Civil War Survey	
Grade Level: 10th, 11th, 12th	
Development/Revision Date: February 2024	Length of Time: 90 Days
Course Description: The American Civil War, sometimes called the "War Between the States", was a civil war fought between 1861 and 1865 over the secession of the Confederate States from the United States of America. Eleven southern slave states declared their secession from the United States and formed the Confederate States of America; the other 25 states supported the federal government ("the Union"). In this course, we will examine the historical causes of the war, the political, military, social, and cultural facets of the war, and the period of Reconstruction. Additionally, we will examine how the Civil War has shaped and impacted our current cultural norms.	
Course Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify the events that pushed America into Civil War• Examine the role of soldiers in the Civil War• Examine the new and changing technologies and military strategies used in the Civil War• Evaluate how political changes leads to military and social changes during the Civil War• Examine the role Reconstruction had in shaping our modern American Society	
Related Standards: Pennsylvania Department of Education Standards for History <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8.1.12 A Evaluate patterns of continuity and rates of change over time, applying context of events• 8.1.12 B Evaluate the interpretation of historical events and sources, considering the use of fact versus opinion, multiple perspectives, and cause and effect relationships• 8.1.12 C Analyze, synthesize, and integrate historical data, creating a product that supports and appropriately illustrates inferences and conclusions drawn from research• 8.3.12 A Evaluate the role groups and individual from the U.S. played in the social, political, cultural, and economic development of the world.• 8.3.12 B Evaluate the impact of historical documents, artifacts, and places in the U.S. history which are critical to world history• 8.3.12 C Evaluate how continuity and change in U.S. history are interrelated with the world.• 8.3.12 D Evaluate how conflict and cooperation among groups and organizations in the U.S. have influenced the growth and development of the world. Pennsylvania Department of Education Academic Standards for Reading in History and Social Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CC.8.5.11-12.A Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to an understanding of the text as a whole.	

- CC.8.5.11-12.B Determine the central ideas of information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationship among the key details and ideas.
- CC.8.5.11-12.F Evaluate author's differing points of view on the same historical event or issue by assessing the author's claims, reasoning, and evidence.
- CC.8.5.11-12.H Evaluate an author's premises, claims, and evidence by corroborating or challenging them with other information.
- CC.8.6.11-12.C Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
- CC.8.6.11-12.H Draw evidence from information texts to support analysis, reflection, and research

Unit Overview

- Unit 1- Pre-1860: Disunion in America - Federal vs States Rights & Political Compromises
- Unit 2- Life of the Soldier on the Home Front - Camp Life, Soldier Primary Sources, & Camp Life Innovations
- Unit 3- The Country Goes to War: - John Brown and Harper's Ferry, Secession, Civil War Technology, Civil War Strategies, & Civil War Battles
- Unit 4- The Shifting Tides: - Battle of Gettysburg, Emancipation Proclamation, & The Gettysburg Address
- Unit 5- The War Comes to an End: - Appomattox Courthouse, Sherman's March to Sea, & Andersonville Prison Camp
- Unit 6- Post 1865: Effects of the War - Reconstruction, Lincoln Assassination, Jim Crow Laws, KKK, & Black Codes

Concepts:

- Antebellum America Leads to Civil War
- Soldier Experience During Civil War
- Civil War Strategies, Technology, and Battles
- Politics of Civil War
- Union Victory and Confederate Surrender
- Reconstruction of Post-Civil War America

Competencies:

- Examine the events that led to the Civil War including political debates, social changes, and economic differences.
- Identify the key components of soldier life during the Civil War
- Analyze how the strategies of Civil War battles led to new technology and medical advancements
- Evaluate the role of political leaders during the Civil War and their impact on the outcome of the war
- Identify the events that led to the end of the Civil War
- Evaluate the effectiveness of Reconstruction following the Civil War and the impact on our modern world.

Learning Activities:

- Primary and Secondary Source examination
- Collaborative Practice (Jig-Saw, Class Discussions)
- Written Responses
- Guided Practice
- Independent Practice

Performance Tasks:

- Essays
- Quizzes
- Unit Tests
- Unit Projects
- Research Project

Other Assessment Measures:

Classwork, Homework, Online assessment tools, and Tickets out the door

Textbook/Primary Resource:

Supplemental Resource Materials:

Online Resources, GALE Database, The Gettysburg Address: A Graphic Adaptation; “The Civil War” Ken Burns Documentary,