

Course Title:	American History (Honors)
Grade(s):	11

Course Description
American History provides a chrono-thematic overview of the United States from 1865 to the present. Cultural, political, economic, and societal developments are studied as students will build upon the foundational knowledge gained in their 8th grade early U.S. History and 10th grade American Government and Civics courses to develop new understandings on how the modern United States emerged. Some featured topics include Innovation and Growth, Civil Rights, America in the 20th Century, and Foreign Policy. Students will progress through the content of American History with particular emphasis placed on historical thinking skills including: chronological thinking, historical comprehension, analysis and interpretation, research skills and decision making, while examining pivotal ideals, events, organizations, and people who shaped our contemporary nation. The honors level of this course, while studying the same concepts and skills as the academic class, challenges students to work at a deeper level and at a faster pace.
Approved Curricular Materials/Textbook(s)
<i>U.S. History Interactive: Reconstruction to the Present (Savvas)</i>

Unit Title	Unit Description (Include Unit Objectives)	Unit Pacing
Unit 1: Innovation and Growth	Throughout the duration of this unit, the students will investigate the post-Civil War expansion and industrialization of the United States. Focus topics will include: Manifest Destiny and western expansion, the Native Americans, the Second Industrial Revolution - including the Transcontinental Railroad and leading industrialists, etc., immigration, the rise of organized labor during the Gilded Age, and the deindustrialization of America.	8-10 weeks (September - November)
Unit 2: Civil Rights	During this unit of study, the students will analyze civil rights through various social and political movements dating from 1865 to the present day. Topics will include Reconstruction (1865-1877), the Jim Crow Era, the Great Migration and	8-10 weeks (November - January)

	the Jazz Age, Civil Rights Movement (1950s-1960s), as well as contemporary race relations in the United States. Additionally, the unit will focus on women's rights including the origins of the Women's Suffrage Movement through modern social, economic, and political actions to advance gender equality.	
Unit 3: America in the 20th Century	In this unit, students will examine events that shaped the chronological development of America in the 20th century with a particular emphasis on the economic growth of the country. Units of study will focus on the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, post-World War II America and the domestic implications of the Cold War Era through the 1990s.	8-10 weeks (January-April)
Unit 4: Foreign Policy	For the culminating unit, students will begin with an overview of American foreign policy using the ideals of Washington's Farewell Address to juxtapose the evolution of the United States onto the global stage. Topics will include American Imperialism of the late 19th century, the United States in the Cold War, September 11, 2001 and the subsequent War on Terror.	8-10 weeks (April-June)