South Carolina U.S. History & Constitution (USHC) E-Learning Plans

Students are not confined to any particular order when choosing. Choose any period that you may need a refresher on or if we are currently on a particular period.

Period 1: Colonial Development & The American Revolution (1607–1789)

Engaging Media & Videos

- **Animated Series:** *Liberty's Kids* (Episodes 1–6) — Covers the Boston Tea Party, Continental Congress, and early battles.
- **Feature Film / Miniseries:** *1776* (1972 Musical Film) or *John Adams* (HBO Miniseries, Episode 1 & 2).
- **Crash Course Video:** Who Won the American Revolution?: Crash Course US History #7

Current Event Connection Assignment

- **Prompt:** Research a modern tax policy debate or modern trade tariff dispute currently in the news (e.g., modern import tariffs on steel/technology or state tax proposals).
- **Task:** Write a 250-word commentary comparing modern citizen reactions regarding government taxation to the colonial arguments over taxation without representation (e.g., the Stamp Act and Townshend Acts).

Period 2: Constitutional Foundation & Early Republic (1789–1850)

Engaging Media & Videos

- **Educational Animated Shorts:** *This Is America, Charlie Brown: The Building of the Constitution*.
- **Crash Course Video:** The Constitution, the Articles, and Federalism: Crash Course US History #8

Current Event Connection Assignment

- **Prompt:** Identify a current news article involving a tension between Federal Power and State Sovereignty (e.g., immigration enforcement controversies, state-level environmental regulations vs. federal mandates, or state laws on emerging tech).
- **Task:** Identify the constitutional clauses involved (such as the 10th Amendment or the Supremacy Clause) and analyze how this current dispute mirrors the state vs. federal power arguments established during the Early Republic and the Nullification Crisis.

Period 3: Antebellum Crisis, Civil War, & Reconstruction (1850–1877)

Engaging Media & Videos

- **Historical Drama Film:** *Glory* (1989) or *Lincoln* (2012).
- **Crash Course Video:** Reconstruction and 1876: Crash Course US History #22

Current Event Connection Assignment

- **Prompt:** Find a contemporary news article focusing on voting access, redistricting cases, or civil rights litigation currently before federal courts.
- **Task:** Write a 300-word analysis connecting today's legal arguments over voter representation directly back to the protections intended by the 14th and 15th Amendments ratified during Reconstruction.

Period 4: Industrialization, Gilded Age, & Progressivism (1877–1920)

Engaging Media & Videos

- **Documentary / Miniseries:** *The Men Who Built America* (History Channel) or *Newsies* (1992 / Disney+).
- **Crash Course Video:** The Industrial Economy: Crash Course US History #23

Current Event Connection Assignment

- **Prompt:** Find a news story covering a modern antitrust lawsuit against major tech corporations or a current labor movement/strike in the workforce.
- **Task:** Compare the regulatory actions taken by government institutions today to the Gilded Age monopoly regulations (e.g., Sherman Antitrust Act) and Progressive Era labor reforms.

Period 5: Boom to Bust, The Great Depression, & World War II (1920–1945)

Engaging Media & Videos

- **Feature Film:** *Kit Kittredge: An American Girl* (Great Depression overview) or *Cinderella Man* (2005).
- **Crash Course Video:** The Great Depression: Crash Course US History #33

Current Event Connection Assignment

- **Prompt:** Locate a recent news story detailing federal government intervention in the economy (such as federal student loan decisions, banking system interventions, or federal infrastructure investments).
- **Task:** Compare these modern economic stabilization measures with New Deal programs created under Franklin D. Roosevelt, analyzing how the scope of federal responsibility has evolved.

Period 6: Cold War, Civil Rights, & Modern America (1945–Present)

Engaging Media & Videos

- **Feature Film:** *Hidden Figures* (2016) or *Ruby Bridges* (1998).
- **Crash Course Video:** Civil Rights and the 1950s: Crash Course US History #39

Current Event Connection Assignment

- **Prompt:** Select a news story regarding foreign diplomatic relations or international security defense agreements.
- **Task:** Evaluate how present-day national security strategies reflect post-WWII containment policies and Cold War alliances formed during the late 20th century.

The Who Won the American Revolution?: Crash Course US History #7 video provides a fast-paced, high-rigor breakdown of the Revolutionary War's major outcomes, making it directly relevant for students analyzing the geopolitical shift covered in Period 1.