

INTO THE FUTURE

Subject: Social Studies

State/Group: NJ

Country: USA

School: EHTHS

Course/Grade: Grade 11

UNIT SUMMARY

This last unit will examine the American scene since the year 2000 with respect to politics, economics, demographics, and socio-cultural concerns.

UNIT RESOURCES

Resources:

Video

- 9/11: 9/11 CBS Documentary (<http://www.history.com/videos/911-timeline#911-timeline> or <http://www.history.com/videos/911-timeline#collapse-of-the-north-tower>)

Audio Resources

- 9/11 (<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2011/09/08/nyregion/911-tapes.html>)

Internet Resource Links:

- www.loc.gov (Library of Congress)
- www.americanrhetoric.com (American Rhetoric)
- www.livingroomcandidate.org (Presidential Commercials)
- www.nbclearn.com (NBC Learn)
- <http://www.archives.gov/> (National Archives)
- www.history.com (History.com)
- www.pbs.org (PBS)
- www.digitalhistory.uh.edu (Digital History)
- <http://www.nypl.org/> (New York Public Library)
- www.Gilderlehrman.org (Studying American History)
- www.ushistory.org (American History)
- <http://americanhistory.si.edu> (Smithsonian Institution)
- www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu (University of California)
- www.havefunwithhistory.com

- www.authentichistory.com
- <http://www.choices.edu/resources/current.php>

GOALS AND STANDARDS

Standard State: NJ

6.1.12. U.S. History: America in the World. All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically about how past and present interactions of people, cultures, and the environment shape the American heritage. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions that reflect fundamental rights and core democratic values as productive citizens in local, national, and global communities.

ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS

SWBAT:

- Understand that the world is a rapidly changing place due to a multitude of factors.
- Recognize the existence of a global economy and to be able to understand new ideas and techniques which will (must) be used in order to deal with the changes.
- Understand that America's role in the world may, indeed, be a changing one.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- How do the two major political parties/ideologies deal with the social, economic, political, and military problems facing America in the 21st century?
- What types of problems and successes might be engendered in the near future?
- What is the role of the citizen-student in the 21st century?

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Students will know:

- Both the Elections of 2000 and 2008 can be considered "Critical Elections".
- Economic, demographic, political, and social concerns continue to present challenges to policymakers in America and the world.
- New skills and ideas are needed in order to deal with modern problems.

Students will be able to:

- Predict what types of problems may be faced by future generations of Americans.
- Identify problems facing America and the world and to propose possible solutions.
- Examine key economic, political, and social ideas and values put forward by various groups of Americans.

PERFORMANCE TASKS

1. Debate

Students will research and present liberal, moderate, and conservative views on various issues facing America in the 21st century.

2. Research

Students will research one problem faced by America and/or the world and will relate to class by way of presentations.

3. Primary Sources

Students will examine a variety of primary source materials, including those which may be found on websites and internet tools.

4. The Lessons of Iraq

Students will evaluate the short and possible long-term impacts of the War in Iraq.
http://www.choices.edu/resources/twtn_iraq_lessons.php

5. Afghanistan

Students will analyze political cartoons regarding US involvement in Afghanistan.
http://www.choices.edu/resources/twtn_afghanistan_cartoon.php

OTHER EVIDENCE

- Brainstorming activities
- Homework/class work
- Unit Test

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

Teacher will:

- Introduce new unit by leading discussions about various aspects of modern America and the world.
- Evaluate student progress using a variety of tools.

Student will:

- Note key vocabulary words/terms/people/events germane to this unit of study. (term sheet)
- Analyze issues which may be of concern in the Elections of 2012 and 2016.
- Use technology to analyze data.
- Examine primary source evidence in order to draw valid conclusions.

Teacher and Student will:

- Examine a variety of positions, attitudes, and preferences enjoyed by a variety of Americans in reference to the problems and solutions facing the nation and the world in the 21st century.
- Discuss American History as a continuum (or cycle) based on evidence gained in the course of study for the year.