

## THE STALEMATED SEVENTIES

Subject: Social Studies

State/Group: NJ

Country: USA

School: EHTHS

Course/Grade: Grade 11

### UNIT SUMMARY

This unit will examine the difficult decade of the 1970s and the foreign and domestic conflicts which it entailed.

### UNIT RESOURCES

#### **Resources:**

##### Video Resources

- 70s Pop Culture (<http://www.history.com/videos/history-rocks-muscle-cars#history-rocks-muscle-cars> )

#### **Internet Resource Links:**

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

## **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:

- Examine the cyclical/circular patterns of economic cycles.
- Understand that American power, prestige, and influence had its limitations.
- Understand that the Watergate Scandal posed an enormous difficulty for America and the office of the Presidency.
- Examine the stresses involved in the successes and failures of modern foreign policy.

## **ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS**

- What were the causes of the economic difficulties of the 1970s?
- How did foreign and domestic policies help to define, and ultimately destroy, the "Imperial presidency"?
- How did the "average American" react to perceived difficulties?
- What events helped to shake the confidence of the American public?

## **KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

Students will know:

- The 1970s presented a variety of challenges and problems for American politics and the economy.
- The American people were embroiled in a perceived "Crisis of Confidence".
- Liberalism and moderate political and economic policies offered no cure for America's ailments.

Students will be able to:

- Identify economic concerns and compare the economic situation to both the Great Depression and the period 2008 to the present.

## The Stalemated Seventies

- Examine and understand the uses and abuses of presidential power.
- Trace the devolution of American foreign and domestic policies under the Ford and carter administrations.

## **PERFORMANCE TASKS**

### 1. DBQ/Essay/Project

Depending on level, students will participate in writing a DBQ or essay (individual) or completing a project( group or individual) on:

"Watergate and the Crimes of Richard Nixon".

### 2. Primary Sources

Students will examine and interpret a variety of primary source materials from the 1970s which may include:

- Poetry and Music
- Art
- Newspapers and magazines
- Documents
- Film clips

### 3. Foreign Policy Forum

Class project revolving around alternatives in foreign policy available to the President(s) during the 1970s:

- Southeast Asia
- Middle east
- China and Russia
- The Cold War
- Economic Issues

#### 4. Oral History Project

##### Oral History Project

The 1960's and 1970's had a profound affect on the United States. One way we can learn about the war is by reading our history books. Another way is to interview people who were alive during the time and may have even participated to some extent. The knowledge we can gain from interviewing people who experienced history can be fascinating.

For this project, you will have to interview someone who was an alive during this time. You may choose a parent, grandparent, relative or teacher. Below is a list of suggested topics:

- Vietnam War
- Woodstock
- Civil Rights Movement
- Moon Landing
- JFK Assassination
- Watergate

How to get started:

Chose a person to interview.

Discuss with that person the event/topic you are going to focus on.

If you can, tape the interview. If not, take very good notes.

Your report can be enhanced with an artifact from the era. (ex: peace button, letters, pictures)

After you have all of your notes, you will type a report on your findings.

In addition, you will have the option to present a 5-minute presentation to the class.

The report must be 2 typed pages.

This project is worth 75 homework points.

## **OTHER EVIDENCE**

- Homework/ Class work
- Quizzes
- Unit Test: The Stalemated Seventies

## **LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

Teacher will:

- Introduce the unit on the foreign and domestic issues of the 1970s.
- Evaluate student performance using a number of tools including homework, quizzes, and a unit test.

Student will:

- Construct a "Watergate Timeline".
- Note key vocabulary/terms/people/events of the decade. (term sheet)
- Identify the successes and failures of American foreign and domestic policies of the 1970s.
- Trace the evolution of policies under Nixon-Ford- and Carter.

Teacher and Student will:

- Examine the impact and importance of the Election of 1976.
- Interpret and examine primary source materials (films, newspaper and magazine articles, documents, etc).