Study Guide for Semester II Exam 1865-1968

I. Reconstruction 1865-1877
- After the civil war, the US faced the task of reuniting the nation and reconstructing the Union economically, politically, and socially.
- Major questions:
  o **Political issues**: How do we restore the rebellious states? What does the US do with former CSA military and political leaders? What about rights for former slaves?
  o **Economic issues**: How should the economy of the south be rebuilt? Do former plantation owners get their land back? Should land be redistributed to former slaves? Can the south get away from cash-crop agriculture and industrialize?
  o **Social issues**: How will former slaves be integrated into society?

- There were three phases of Reconstruction:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lincoln’s Ten Percent Plan</th>
<th>1863</th>
<th>Promoted by Abraham Lincoln</th>
<th>Would have allowed states to rejoin the Union when 10% of the eligible voters took an oath of loyalty. Did not grant voting rights to former slaves.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presidential Reconstruction</td>
<td>1865</td>
<td>Promoted by Andrew Johnson</td>
<td>Allowed states to rejoin Union when 50% of eligible voters took an oath of loyalty. Allowed for Presidential pardons of Confederate leaders. Required states to pass the 13th Amendment, but did not require equal rights or voting rights for former slaves. Johnson declares Reconstruction is over in December 1865, but Congress announces a new phase of Reconstruction in 1866.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Military Reconstruction</td>
<td>1866-1877</td>
<td>Promoted by Radical Republicans in Congress</td>
<td>Put former Confederate states under the control of military governments. States had to rewrite their Constitutions and guarantee civil and political rights for African-Americans and ratify the 14th Amendment.</td>
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- Southern Resistance to Reconstruction and Congressional Responses

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<th>Resistance</th>
<th>Response</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Black Codes</strong> - laws passed in 1865 which denied African-Americans civil rights. Examples included requiring African-Americans to be employed by a white person; not permitting Af-Ams from carrying weapons; prohibiting Af-Ams from gathering in groups, etc.</td>
<td><strong>Civil Rights Act of 1866</strong> – passed by Congress. Guaranteed civil rights to all persons born or naturalized in the United States.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>14th Amendment</strong> – declared all persons “born or naturalized” in the US to be citizens and guaranteed “equal protection of the laws.”</td>
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White-washed Rebels - former Confederates who returned to their seats in Congress after Johnson declared the states reconstructed in 1865. The most famous of these was Alexander P. Stephens, who had been the Vice President of the Confederate States of America.

Congress bars the white-washed rebels from taking their seats and begins to take control of Reconstruction from Johnson by passing the Military Reconstruction Act in 1866 (see above).

Ku Klux Klan – Terrorist organization founded in 1867 by former Confederate general Nathan Bedford Forrest. Goals were intimidation of black voters and anyone who cooperated with Republican governments in the south.

Enforcement Acts (1870) – Act passed by Congress allowing the Federal gov’t to prosecute anyone who used intimidation or violence to prevent people from voting.

Jim Crow Laws – laws requiring African-Americans to use separate facilities in schools, restaurants, and theaters.

Civil Rights Act of 1875 – prohibited discrimination in any public accommodation (hotels, theaters, restaurants, etc.).

- The Collapse of Reconstruction
  - After 12 years of attempting to transform the south, the Republican Party gives up on Reconstruction. It’s distracted by the Panic of 1873 and allegations of corruption (e.g., Whiskey Ring and the Credit Mobilier Scandal) in the US Grant administration.
  - “Redemption” = the process of Democrat gov’ts regaining control of southern states’, sometimes called “home rule.”
  - Election of 1876
    - Rutherford B. Hayes (R-Ohio) loses popular vote to Samuel Tilden (D-NY), but returns are disputed in Florida, South Carolina, and Louisiana, where violence prevented African-Americans from voting.
    - Compromise of 1877 – After weeks of stalemate over the results of the Election of 1876, Republicans make a deal with Democrats: Hayes will be given the presidency in exchange for the removal of the last federal troops from the south.
Successes of Reconstruction
- Infrastructure of the south is rebuilt.
- Civil War Amendments are passed: 13th (ending slavery); 14th (granting equal protection of the laws to all citizens); and 15th (right to vote cannot be taken away based on race).
- Many African-Americans were elected to political office, including eight members of the US House and two members of US Senate.
- Important reforms were made in the south including the creation of public education systems, modernizing the penal code (to reduce the number of capital crimes—i.e., crimes for which a person can be executed), and improvements in public health and safety codes.
- African-Americans could now legally marry, and many took the opportunity of freedom to travel to find family members. About 200,000 African-Americans moved to Kansas as part of the Exoduster movement. Most remain in the south where they hope to succeed as small farmers.

Failures of Reconstruction
- Supreme Court undermines most of the civil rights acts passed:
  - Slaughterhouse Cases – declares that state gov’ts, not the federal gov’t is responsible for protecting the rights of citizens…as states fell under the control of pro-segregation gov’ts, the rights of blacks were not protected.
  - Civil Rights Cases 1883 – declares the Civil Rights Act of 1875 unconstitutional…the federal gov’t may not tell private business owners how to run their businesses.
  - US v. Reese – upheld the use of Grandfather clauses and poll taxes to prevent African-Americans from voting because these restrictions were not explicitly based on race.
  - Plessy v. Ferguson 1896 – declares Jim Crow laws constitutional, as long as the facilities are “separate but equal.” Facilities were never really equal.
- It does not transform the economy of the south.
  - Sharecropping becomes the norm. Blacks don’t own their own land and fall into a cycle of debt.
  - Cotton remains the basis of the southern economy. There was only limited industrial development, including mechanized cigarette rolling and textile mills; both tended to provide only low paying jobs for the largely uneducated poor white workforce.
- Dependent on white landowners, trapped by debt, terrorized by racial violence, and segregated by Jim Crow laws, African-Americans found themselves relegated to a status as second-class citizens, a position that some claimed was “worse than slavery.”

II. The West
- Mining
  - Mining boom in the west that had begun with the 1848 Gold Rush in California continues.
  - 1859: Comstock Lode is discovered in Nevada; gold discovered at Pike’s Peak, Colorado. ’59ers flock to these states to strike it rich.
  - Boom towns (aka “Helldorados”) emerged around mining strikes then went bust when the mines were tapped.
  - Mining becomes a big business…relies on heavy machinery, deep mines, and big corporations who paid laborers to mine. The day of the lone prospector was over.
Farming on the Great Plains

- The Homestead Act of 1863 encouraged farmers to move west during and after the Civil War. It offered 160 acres of land free to settlers who could manage to build a successful farm (or homestead) within 5 years. The Morill Land Grant Act allowed the sale of land in the west to fund agricultural colleges that would research and develop farming techniques.
- Dry farming techniques were used to allow for farming west of 100th Meridian. These included steel plows, seed drills, windmills to pump water, and drought-resistant strains of wheat.
- Farmers (aka “homesteaders”) also adapted to life on the Plains by constructing soddies and dugouts, and using barbed wire for fencing (which was invented by Joseph Glidden in 1877).
- Bonanza Farms were giant farms (10,000+ acres) that were run like businesses with paid workers.
- Life for farmers was generally difficult. Falling prices for grain after the Civil War made it difficult to turn a profit. Weather was unpredictable, and a series of droughts in the late 1880s ruined many.
- Faced with these difficulties, farmers often blamed railroads for their woes. The following organizations formed:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Results</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Grange 1868</td>
<td>• Brought farmers together for social gatherings; education in farming</td>
<td>• Granger Laws passed in states such as Illinois.</td>
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<td>(aka the Patrons of</td>
<td>techniques; lobbied state legislatures to pass laws establishing maximum</td>
<td>• State laws regulating railroads were struck down by the US Supreme</td>
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<td>The Farmers Alliance</td>
<td>• Similar the Grange, but more political.  • Endorsed and helped elect</td>
<td>• Organization grew in both the West and the South.  • Succeeded in</td>
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<td>candidates of either party who met the “Alliance Yardstick” (regulation</td>
<td>electing candidates.</td>
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<td>of RR, popular election of senators; free coinage of silver)</td>
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<td>Populist Party 1892</td>
<td>• A political party formed to represent farmers interests.  • Called for</td>
<td>• Runs first Presidential candidate in 1892 and polls 1 million votes;</td>
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<td>(aka the People's</td>
<td>popular election of senators; the use of the secret ballot; gov't</td>
<td>elects many state legislators.</td>
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<td>Party)</td>
<td>regulation of RR; low tariffs; and free coinage of silver (to bring about</td>
<td>• In 1896 it nominates William Jennings Bryan (also endorsed by the</td>
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<td>inflation and raise farm prices).</td>
<td>Democratic Party). Campaigns heavily on the issue of “free silver,”</td>
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<td>but fails to win urban voters and laborers votes.  • William</td>
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<td>McKinley, a favorite of business because of his high tariff, low</td>
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<td>regulation, and commitment to the gold standard, wins.</td>
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- The Cattle industry
- Demand for beef skyrocketed in the post-Civil War period.
- Money could be made simply by driving wild longhorn cattle from south Texas to eastern markets. This led to the development of stockyards for loading cattle onto railroads in cities such as Abilene, KS.
- The long drive involved using hired hands (cowboys or cowpokes) to move a herd of cattle to the stockyards. One of several major overland trails was used.
- The life of the cowboy has been romanticized in American culture, but in reality it was hard work, long periods of boredom (punctuated by moments of sheer terror: flashfloods, stampedes, and run-ins with rattlesnakes!), and low pay. Over a third of all cowboys were Mexican or African-American. By and large, cowboys were unmarried men, although a few women earned reputations as skilled riders and marksmen (marks-people, I suppose!) such as “Calamity” Jane Hickcock.
- As the west became more settled, conflicts between cattle drivers (who wanted free range), farmers (who wanted to keep animals off their land), and ranchers (who fenced land in) became more frequent. Cattle ranching became the norm. Rather than
dealing with wild longhorn, breeders could raise cattle with more meat and smaller horns much closer to the railroad stockyards.

- In time the meat “industry” became dominated by large ranchers and meat packers such as **Gustavus Swift** and **Phillip Armour**.
- Chicago grew into the center for meat-processing. Cattle and hogs shipped from the west were sent to the famous Chicago Stockyards, where they were unloaded and sent to slaughterhouses and canning factories for packing and shipping to the country. The terrible working conditions in these stockyards were exposed in the 1907 novel *The Jungle* by Upton Sinclair. As a result, Congress passed the **Meat Inspection Act** in 1907 to allow federal inspections of meat packing facilities.

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**Railroads**

- Railroads experienced a boom in the 1850s and 1860s.
- During the Civil War, the **Pacific Railway Act** was passed authorizing the US Congress to help pay for a transcontinental railway.
- Rather than paying in cash, private companies (The **Union Pacific** and the **Central Pacific**) received land and subsidies to build the first transcontinental railroad.
- The CP started in California and relied largely on Chinese laborers. The UP started in Omaha and relied on Irish laborers. Both railroads met in 1869.
- "Hells on Wheels” – rolling towns that moved along with the laborers...full of saloons, prostitutes, and supply shops.
- The railroad transformed the West and the United States. Effects included:
  - Helping create a “national market economy” where goods and materials could be shipped anywhere.
  - Fueled a boom in industry, especially coal, steel, and timber.
  - Helped bring population out west, which led to conflicts with Native Americans.
  - Brought about the destruction of the buffalo, which were sought after for their hides, and were considered a nuisance to railroad operators. Between 1872 & 1874 alone, an estimated 7.5 million buffalo were killed.
- Improvements in safety, comfort and efficiency included the use of **standard gauge** tracks, steel rails, air brakes, automatic couplers, and Pullman “palace cars.” **Standard time** was adopted in 1889.

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**Native Americans**

- Plains Indians
  - Plains Indians were a distinct culture that had adapted to life on the Great Plains.
  - Their semi-nomadic lifestyle centered on the buffalo, which was used for food, shelter, tools, and in religious ceremonies.
  - Adopted the use of the horse and the gun from the Europeans and were highly skilled riders and marksmen.
  - Major plains tribes included the Sioux, Pawnee, Kiowa, Cheyenne, Apache, & the Nez Perce.
- Following the Civil War, the United States adopts a policy of:
  1. Removal of Great Plains tribes to reservations
  2. Waging war on Native American tribes that resist reservation life
  3. Forced assimilation of Native Americans on reservations through education and adoption of agriculture.
- Is this a genocidal policy? Racist? Consider what else is going on in America: Jim Crow laws in the South, nativist policies toward the Chinese in the West and to new immigrants in the North. There was a belief in Anglo-Saxon superiority and policies reflected that belief.
- The Indian Wars
  - **Sioux:**
    - **1862:** **Great Sioux Uprising** - The Sioux in Minnesota rise up against settlers who move onto their land; US military puts down the uprising and executes 40 Sioux.
    - **1866:** **Fetterman Massacre** - Sioux Indians attack a US army unit constructing the Bozeman Trail in Wyoming. The trail crossed land considered sacred to the Sioux. The Sioux ambush the unit, then mutilate the bodies (to ensure the spirit of the dead soldiers would be killed as well)
1868: **2nd Treaty of Ft. Laramie** – ends the fighting with the Sioux, who agree to the move to the “Great Sioux Reservation” in the Black Hills of South Dakota.


1876: **Battle of Little Bighorn.** US Troops under General Armstrong Custer are outnumbered 3:1 by Sioux forces under Chief Crazy Horse at the Little Bighorn River. Custer and all his men are killed in under an hour.

1889: The apocalyptic **Ghost Dance Religion** is founded by the Sioux prophet, Wovoka. Sioux believe that if a ritual dance is performed while wearing special “Ghost Shirts,” the white man will disappear, the buffalo return, and native life will be restored.

1890: **Wounded Knee Massacre.** The US Army opens fire on Sioux Indians at the Pine Ridge Reservation. 200 Ghost Shirt warriors are killed, along with women and children.

- **Other US-Indian conflicts**
  - **Nez Perce - 1877**
    - When gold is discovered on the Nez Perce Reservation, the US Gov’t forces the tribe to resettle from Oregon to Idaho.
    - The Nez Perces flee the reservation after several white settlers are killed by members of the tribe.
    - Nez Perce leader **Chief Joseph** surrenders 3 months later, just 30 miles from the Canadian border and the tribe is sent to Oklahoma.
  - **Apache Indians**
    - 1877 – The Apache are forced to move to a reservation.
    - 1881 – Geronimo leads a band of 75 Apache off the reservation and elude capture for years, raiding white settlement.

- **Reconsidering US Indian Policy**
  - 1879 – Helen Hunt Jackson publishes **A Century of Dishonor.** The book criticizes US policies and chronicles 100 years of broken treaties and mistreatment of native tribes.
  - The US begins to shift to a policy of **assimilation.** The goal is to integrate Native Americans into western society by encouraging them to give up language, customs, religion, and their hunting culture.
    - **Carlisle Indian School** – founded in 1879, the motto was “kill the Indian, save the man.” Young Indians were sent to the school in Pennsylvania to isolate them from tribes. Indian language and religion were forbidden.
    - **Dawes Act** – offered 160 acres of land and US citizenship to Native Americans who gave up tribal claims to land ownership and embraced agriculture. Most fail to succeed as farmers and end up reliant on gov’t aid on reservations.
- The end of the “West”
  o In 1890, the US census declares that there is no longer a discernable frontier...settlement now links the lower 48 states.
  o In 1893 Historian Frederick Jackson Turner writes “The Significance of the Frontier in American History” -- arguing that the presence of a frontier is what defined early American history. It gave Americans a sense of possibility, energy, and created a safety valve for dissenters, debtors, the discontented, and the adventurous.

"American social development has been continually beginning over again on the frontier. This perennial [lasting for a long time] rebirth, this fluidity of American life, this expansion westward with its new opportunities...furnished the forces dominating American character. The true point of view in the history of this nation is not the Atlantic Coast, it is the Great West. The frontier is the line of most rapid and effective Americanization. The wilderness masters the colonists."

—Frederick Jackson Turner, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History" (1893)

III. Industrialization and Urbanization 1860-1900

- Modern America emerges:
  o The Civil War led to a boom in manufacturing. The War spurred advances in mass production, standardization (e.g., ready made clothing & shoes in "sizes"), and mechanization. This boom continued into the post-war period as Reconstruction of the south and the growth of the west demanded increasing resources. This industrial boom made the United States a magnet for large numbers of immigrants who flocked to industrial centers in the north. As populations grew, cities were faced with serious challenges in housing, sanitation, transportation, and public health.

- The Rise of Big Business
  o Major industries included railroads, oil, steel, coal, timber, and a manufacturing.
  o Factors encouraging this boom included cheap and abundant labor, little government interference, inexpensive energy (electricity powered by coal and water), and technological innovation.
  o Captains of Industry / Robber Barons
    • John D. Rockefeller & Standard Oil
      • Makes a fortune in oil refining.
      • The Standard Oil Trust utilizes "horizontal integration" to create a monopoly by buying up competitors.
      • Seen by some as a “ruthless Robber Baron” (nicknamed “John D. Wreck-a-Fellow”).
      • Standard Oil Co. headquartered in Cleveland.
    • Andrew Carnegie and Carnegie Steel
      • Scottish immigrant, founds Carnegie Steel.
      • Uses technology and the Bessemer Process to reduce cost and gain a competitive advantage.
      • Employs “vertical integration” – owning all phases of his operation to reduce costs: coal mines, iron ore mines, Great Lakes freighters, rail lines, and steel mills.
      • Preaches a Gospel of Wealth: the wealthy have been blessed, but have an obligation to give back to society through philanthropy. Carnegie funds the construction of colleges, libraries, and music halls throughout the US.
      • Generally, viewed more favorably than Rockefeller, but JDR actually gives more money away.
    • JP Morgan
      • The most powerful financier in the US.
      • Morgan made his wealth by purchasing companies and merging their operations into huge organizations. Buys Carnegie Steel for $500 million in
1900 and turns it into US Steel, the first corporation worth over $1 billion in US History.

- During an economic crisis in the 1890, Morgan would loan the US gov’t money to help keep the financial system afloat...in essence, he had more assets that the US gov’t!

  - The Labor Movement
    - Declining status for laborers:
      - As corporations grew larger, workers face a loss of status and power.
      - Skilled labor was less valued and workers were easily replaced if they were injured or caused trouble for employers.
      - Mechanization and automation meant workplaces were often dangerous, especially mining, railroad, and lumbering. Factories were poorly ventilated and had few safeguards.
    - In response, some workers began to form unions to negotiate for better conditions.
      - The three major unions during the late 19th and early 20th century were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knights of Labor</th>
<th>American Federal of Labor (AFL)</th>
<th>International Workers of the World (IWW)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• 1869</td>
<td>• 1886</td>
<td>• 1905</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Founded by Terrence Powderly</td>
<td>• Founded by Samuel Gompers</td>
<td>• Founded by Eugene Debs and William &quot;Big Bill&quot; Haywood</td>
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<tr>
<td>The first major national union in the US.</td>
<td>Formed by skilled laborers who did not want to be associated with the K of L.</td>
<td>Members were called &quot;Wobblies&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Was open to all laborers (skilled and unskilled), races, and women.</td>
<td>Rather than one large union, the AFL was a federation of small unions, each organized by a skilled trade.</td>
<td>A Socialist union.</td>
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<td>Embraced reforms beyond just hours and working conditions: 8-hr day; use of paper money.</td>
<td>Unskilled workers and women were not welcome.</td>
<td>Sought to organize all workers into &quot;one big union&quot;</td>
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<td>Preferred to use negotiation and boycotts, rather than strikes</td>
<td>Focuses on &quot;bread and butter&quot; issues: hours, wages, and conditions.</td>
<td>Was open to immigrants, unskilled laborers, the unemployed, and children.</td>
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<td>Became discredited when K of L rallies in 1886 turn violent, esp. the Haymarket Square Riot</td>
<td>Used the strike to accomplish goals.</td>
<td>Sought complete destruction of the capitalist system, to be replaced by worker-owned &quot;syndicates&quot; in each industry.</td>
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<td>Doesn’t challenge capitalism...just wants a bigger slice of the pie.</td>
<td>Militant tactics (strikes &amp; sabotage) led to confrontations with police.</td>
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<td>During World War I, the US gov’t arrested IWW members and leaders.</td>
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- Tactics used by employers AGAINST labor unions included the use of corporate spies, hired police forces, blacklists, yellow dog contracts, and scabs.
- The US gov’t generally sided with business interests over labor during the 19th century. Courts issued injunctions (orders to stop a strike) and the National Guard was sometimes called in to enforce these orders and put down strikes.
- There were three major strikes during the 19th century:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Great Railroad Strike (1877)</th>
<th>• Prompted by a 10% wage cut for railroad workers.</th>
<th>• A national strike...starts in W. Va and spreads throughout the US.</th>
<th>• Pres. Hayes orders troops to put down the strike, citing interference with the US mail and military transportation.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homestead Strike (1892)</td>
<td>• Begins when the Carnegie Steel Plant in Homestead, PA announces a 22% pay cut.</td>
<td>• The steelworkers union refuses the contract, and Carnegie Steel &quot;locks out&quot; union members.</td>
<td>• The company uses a paid army from the Pinckerton Detective Agency to secure the plant and admit workers, and a pitched battle erupted between the &quot;army&quot; and the strikers.</td>
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<td>Pullman Strike (1894)</td>
<td>• Begins when the Pullman Co. cuts wages, but doesn’t lower prices for employees living in its factory town of Pullman, Illinois.</td>
<td>• Pres. Grover Cleveland orders US Marshalls and troops to suppress the strike.</td>
<td>• State militia eventually aided in the reopening of the plant.</td>
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The Rise of the City

- Between 1880 and 1890, cities in the US grew rapidly as result of rapid industrial growth and large scale immigration.
- Cities grew upwards and outwards:
  - Vertical growth:
    - cheap steel & the invention of the elevator enabled the construction of the first skyscrapers.
    - Louis Sullivan ("The Father of the Skyscraper")
    - The dumbbell tenement was designed to provide light and ventilation to urban dwellers, but overcrowding and poor sanitation was the norm.
  - Outward growth:
    - Transportation improvements such as omnibuses, cable cars, and electric streetcars led to larger cities.
    - Specialized shopping, entertainment, and business districts emerged.
    - Suburbs provided an escape from city noise, crowds, and odors.
    - The urban working class crowded into ethnic ghettos (e.g., Little Italy, Slovenian Village, The Angle) near their places of work.

- The urban environment
  - Cities typify the “Gilded Age”: dazzling on the outside, but with a grimy underside.
  - Pollution was the norm
    - Garbage; impure water; lack of sewers; privies (outhouses) and wells for water often meant contamination of the water supply; hundreds of thousands of horses meant manure and urine filled the streets, as well as dead horses; flies; dust.
  - But, cities also offered:
    - Electric lighting.
    - Entertainment: vaudeville, amusement parks (at the end of trolley lines), professional sports
    - Department stores (Cleveland has first indoor mall: The Arcade)

- Politics:
  - "City Bosses” – party leaders who used their power often for personal gain. By controlling party resources, they could ensure that politicians were elected, but expected favors in return. By helping immigrants to find jobs, politicians gained loyal voters; by awarding contracts for construction of schools, roads, bridges, etc., they city bosses gained donations for their party and bribes.
  - Boss William Marcy Tweed was probably the most notorious city boss. He defrauded the city of New York of some $15 million dollars through bribes, kickbacks, and graft. He was eventually charged with crimes found guilty and sentenced to prison.

Immigration

- Drawn by jobs, immigration to the US skyrockets in the post Civil War period, resulting a new wave of nativism.
- "New Immigrants"
  - included increasing numbers of eastern and southern European immigrants.
  - Many were Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, or Jewish.
  - Ellis Island – major processing center on the east coast. Literacy tests and examinations for physical and mental illness are given.
- Chinese immigration
  - In California, many Chinese came for work in the railroad and mining industries.
  - Dennis Kearny leads an anti-Chinese movement.
  - Angel Island is the major processing center for immigrants on the west coast.
1882 Congress passes the **Chinese Exclusion Act** which forbids Chinese laborers from entering the US. This marked the first time a specific ethnic group was barred from entering the country.

- Nativist groups, such as the **American Protective Association** responded by calling for legislation to prevent immigrants from entering the US.

## IV. The Progressive Era

- The Progressive Era was a wave of reform at all levels and in all political parties as Americans attempted to deal with the problems brought on by urbanization and industrialization. Progressives believed that the solution to these problems was a strong, regulatory government.

- Far from being a unified movement, Progressives tackled a variety of issues including restoring the power of the people in gov’t; environmental protection; women’s rights; racial equality; combating monopoly; dealing with urban poverty; safer working conditions; etc. Many of these problems were revealed by journalists, nicknamed "**muckrakers**" who publicized the problems of the day in newspapers and magazines. Often, dramatic events, such as the **Triangle Fire**, led to calls for reform.

- Not all "Progressives" shared the same beliefs about how to approach the problems of the day. **Theodore Roosevelt** (Republican) called for a "**New Nationalism**" with a vigorous government strictly regulating big business. Woodrow Wilson’s (Democrat) "New Freedom" called for the gov’t to use its anti-trust power to break up monopolies to allow more competition in the marketplace.

- Key achievements of the Progressive Era included:
  - the **16, 17, 18, and 19th Amendments** (an income tax, directly elected senators, prohibition, and women’s suffrage)
  - the **Meat Inspection / Pure Food & Drug Acts** - The Meat Inspection Act was the result of public outrage at conditions in meat packing plants that were revealed in Upton Sinclair's muckraking novel *The Jungle (1907)*. A companion law, the Pure Food and Drug Act
  - Breaking up trusts. President Theodore Roosevelt was the first president to really use the Sherman Anti-Trust act to break up large monopolies, ordering the dissolution of JP Morgan’s Northern Securities Company. President Woodrow Wilson strengthened anti-monopoly laws with the passage of the **Clayton Anti-Trust Act**, which outlawed monopolies and trusts, and protected labor unions.
  - Increasing the power of democracy. Power to the people was increased with the passage of laws that gave voters the power of **recall** (voters can remove an official from office with a majority vote); **initiative** (voters can propose laws directly to their legislatures); and **referendum** (voters can approve or reject a proposed law). In addition, the **secret ballot** was adopted.
  - Banking was reformed with the **Federal Reserve Act**, which created the first truly national banking system since the destruction of the Bank of the United States during Jackson’s presidency. The Federal Reserve created 12 district banks which could increase or decrease the amount of currency in circulation by raising or lowering the interest rate (cost of borrowing money) charged to member banks throughout the nation. This created a mechanism for adjusting the currency supply to combat inflation or deflation.
  - Laws were also passed to make workplaces safer, with limitations on working hours passed by numerous states.
  - Finally, progressive mayors such as Cleveland’s **Tom Johnson** reformed urban life by modernizing sewer, water systems, and trash collection; destroying the power of city bosses; constructing parks and recreation areas; improving public transportation, etc.
V. The Age of Imperialism

- In the 1890s, the United States experienced a “New Manifest Destiny,” beginning under William McKinley in which the US expanded its control beyond our continental borders. The annexation of Hawaii began the process, and the acquisition of Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines as a result of the Spanish-American War firmly set the US on a new path of imperialism.

- Causes of imperialism
  o Imperialism was rooted promoted by a number of factors:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reasons for Imperialism</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economic</td>
<td>The Second Industrial Revolution increased US demand for raw materials for industrial production and markets to sell our surplus products to.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Competition</td>
<td>The powers of Europe were already exercising control over most of Africa and, in the 1870s, were taking control of large portions of Asia as well. The US did not want to fall behind in international trade. In order to protect trade routes and exert power, the US navy was expanded to include new coal-powered battle ships (the Great White Fleet). To provide fueling stations and bases for this fleet, the US also sought to gain control of strategic islands, as well as growing interest in constructing canal across Latin America (a feat accomplished with the construction of the Panama Canal).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideological</td>
<td>The belief in Anglo-Saxon superiority factored heavily in our conquest of other nations. This attitude is reflected in the White Man’s Burden (a poem by Rudyard Kipling) which suggested that Anglo-Saxon nations had a duty to spread their civilization to “primitive” people throughout the world. Another justification came from Social Darwinism which argued that strong nations should overtake weaker ones.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The Spanish-American War
  o Causes:
    ▪ The Cuban Revolution - Jose Marti’s Cuba Libre movement is resulting in destruction of US owned property in Cuba and disrupting trade. Most American’s are sympathetic to the Cuban revolutionaries, who they see as “freedom fighters.”
    ▪ Delome Letter – an intercepted letter from the Spanish Ambassador that insults President McKinley...further enflames anti-Spanish sentiment in the US.
    ▪ Yellow Journalism – sensationalistic newspapers that helped fuel war fever.
    ▪ Sinking of the USS Maine – when one of the new US battleships mysteriously exploded in Havana Harbor, most Americans blamed Spain. It was later revealed that the likely cause was a fire that ignited the ammunition hold of the ship.
  o Consequences:
    ▪ War ends quickly, with more soldiers dying from disease that from Spanish bullets.
    ▪ Theodore Roosevelt, leader of a cavalry unit known as the Rough Riders became an instant national hero.
    ▪ In the Treaty of Paris, the Spain gives Cuba independence, and gives the US the islands of Guam and Puerto Rico. In addition the US purchased the Philippines for $20 million. Having initially worked with the Filipino nationalist Emilio Aguinaldo to liberate the Philippines from Spain during the war, the US then
waged a 3-year war (The Philippine-American War) against those same nationalists to take control of the islands after Spain was defeated.

- The "Imperialist" Presidents
  o William McKinley 1896-1901
    - Naval build-up: "The Great White Fleet"
    - Annexes Hawaii 1898. The government had been overthrown by American planters who called for annexation to the US against the will of most Hawaiians.
    - Enters the Spanish-American War (1898); acquires PR and Guam; purchases the Philippines.
    - The Philippine-American War (1901-1903)
    - Boxer Rebellion in China (1900) – when Chinese nationalists (The Boxers) begin attacking western trading houses, missionaries, and investments in China, the US and other nations send troops to put down the rebellion.
    - "Big Stick" Diplomacy:
      - Roosevelt’s philosophy: "talk softly and carry a big stick." For TR, the this means using military power to advance American interests.
      - E.g., The "Big Stick" is used in Panama when the US military assists Panama in revolting against Colombia so that the US can construct the Panama Canal.
      - The Roosevelt Corollary (to the Monroe Doctrine): US may intervene in the affairs
        - Roosevelt Corollary used when we send troops into Santo Domingo and Haiti to prevent European powers from sending in forces to collect unpaid debt.
  o Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909)
    - Moral Diplomacy: US power used to support American goals, often cast in "moral" terms.
      - E.g., in response to an oppressive military gov’t in Mexico, Wilson refuses to recognize the gov’t and arms and equips rebels.
      - After the outbreak of World War I, Wilson enters the war to: "make the world safe for democracy," and declares it to be the “war to end all war.” His 14 Points establish goals for a better postwar world...but largely fail to achieve the ideal.
  o Woodrow Wilson (1913-1920)

- World War I
  o M.A.I.N. causes of WWI:
    - M = Militarism; A = Alliances; I = Imperialism; N = Nationalism
    - The arms build up, entangling alliance system, and intense national rivalries finally boiled over as a result of the assassination of Austria-Hungarian Archduke Franz Ferdinand.
  o When war broke out in Europe in 1914, America attempted to remain neutral, but trade with the Allies (Britain & France), German U-boat attacks on shipping, and the Zimmerman Telegram (in which Germany requested Mexico enter the war against the US in exchange for getting back territory lost in the US-Mexican War of 1845) drew us into the war. The US restricted civil liberties and launched a massive war effort. The war ends with few of the goals (i.e., Wilson’s 14 Points) achieved.
  o The Homefront in WWII
- Mobilization – preparation for war
  - Selective Service Act (Draft) was instituted to quickly raise an army.
  - **Food Administration** – encouraged the population to conserve food through campaigns such as “meatless Mondays,” “wheatless Wednesdays,” planting “victory gardens,” etc.
  - **Committee on Public Information** – George Creel led a propaganda campaign aimed at encouraging support for the war; used films; speakers; and posters (e.g., the **Christy Girls**) to “sell the war.”
  - Liberty Loan Drives – the war was paid for in part through selling bonds to citizens.
  - The **War Industries Board** was created to ensure that resources such as iron, steel, and coal were sent only to essential wartime industries. The US gov’t also took over the nations railroads & shipyards, and prohibited the manufacture of liquor during the war to save grain.

- Workers
  - The war created opportunities for both women and African-Americans to work in northern war industries.
  - The **Great Migration** was the first mass movement of African-Americans to northern cities and occurred as a result of the war. Racial tensions after the war flared with the reemergence of the KKK (this time based largely in northern states such as Indiana) and in the **Chicago Race Riot** (1919) and **Tulsa Race Riot** (1921).

- The War and Civil Liberties
  - Dissent was not tolerated during the war. The **Sedition and Espionage Acts** of 1917 were passed, making it illegal to criticize the war or interfere with the war effort.
  - In **Schenck v. United States (1918)** the US Supreme Court upheld the Acts. Charles Schenck was arrested for distributing pamphlets criticizing the draft and convicted under the Sedition Act. The Court argued that his pamphlets created a “clear and present danger” to the US, and therefore were not protected by the First Amendment. In essence, his argument that the draft was unconstitutional was akin to “shouting fire in a crowded theater.”
  - German-Americans were also subjected to persecution during the war. Propaganda created a hatred of everything German. German language was banned; the works of German composers were no longer played; German author’s books were burned. “Frankfurters” became “hot dogs,” hamburgers became “Salisbury Steak,” and sauerkraut became “liberty cabbage.” Even German measles was renamed a more patriotic “liberty measles.”

- The Peace Process
  - US entry into the war helped swing the tide of the conflict to the Allied Powers.
  - At the **Paris Peace Conference**, the **Treaty of Versailles** was created. Wilson called for a “lasting peace without victory,” but the treaty definitely made Germany the loser when it:
    - Required Germany take full responsibility for the war.
    - Germany must pay $33 billion in war reparations to the Allies.
    - Germany was stripped of its military and some territory.
Wilson did succeed in getting the nations of the world to agree to form a "League of Nations" to prevent future wars. However, upon returning home, Republicans in US Senate rejected the Treaty of Versailles and refused to allow the US to join the League of Nations because of fears that the US would be drawn into future conflicts. After a bloody war that achieved no real objectives, the US was not in a mood for more international involvement. Without US involvement, the League would be severely weakened, but that mattered little to Americans at the dawn of the 1920s. The era of isolationism had begun!

I. The Roaring Twenties (1919-1929)

- Alternative names: The Jazz Age; the Aspirin Age

- America "returned to normalcy" in the 1920s. Exhausted by Progressive meddling and disillusioned by the ugliness of World War I, the US turned to pro-business, isolationist Republicans and distracted itself with a glittering new consumer culture.

- Post War Trouble.

  o Fear of Foreigners. The immediate post-war period was marked by fear of foreign radicals (especially Communists who had overthrown the Russian monarchy in the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution). Anti-immigrant hysteria hit a high point, as immigrants fleeing war-torn Europe descended on the United States. Stemming largely from eastern and southern Europe, many of these immigrants had embraced radical political ideas such as anarchism and socialism, which was seen as a threat to American democracy and capitalism. The result was a third wave of nativism in US History. During the Red Scare (1919), the US gov't cracked down on suspected radicals, arresting a deporting thousands. The Palmer Raids were one such crackdown, after a series of bombings resulted in the US Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer arresting hundreds of immigrants. As a result of this anti-immigrant sentiment, the US Congress passed the National Origins Act which restricted immigration by those from “undesirable” parts of the world (i.e., Eastern and Southern Europe) while allowing immigration from Northern and Western Europe to continue.

  o Racial Tensions. Race tensions were also high in the post war period. The movement of African-Americans to northern cities during the Great Migration, coupled with an economic downturn, resulted in tensions between returning soldiers, white ethnic groups, and African-Americans as they competed for jobs. The Chicago Race Riot (1919) and the Tulsa Race Riot (1921) were just two of dozens examples of racial violence in the period after World War I. In addition, the KKK appeared again. Unlike previous incarnations of the KKK, this time the group had large organizations in northern states,
and promoted what it called “100% Americanism,” which meant it opposed not only African-Americans but immigrants, Catholics, bootleggers, women’s rights, birth control, and anything that it argued violated “traditional American values.” I guess you could say that, in the 1920s, the KKK was an equal opportunity hatred organization!

PHOTO: KKK MARCHES ON WASHINGTON

- The “Roaring Twenties”

  o The consumer economy boomed in the 1920s, with more goods available through credit and installment plans and promoted through advertising campaigns which used new techniques (such as emotional, rather than factual appeals) to “turn desires into needs.”

  o New technologies (automobiles such as the Model T, radios, films, and household appliances) changed American life forever. One impact of cars, nationally broadcast radio programs, and movies was to break the isolation of communities, encourage the exchange of ideas, and to help form a truly national culture.

  PHOTO MODEL T

  o At the same time cultural changes (jazz, urbanization, the appearance of “flaming youth” and flappers, the promotion of birth control, the teaching of evolution, and complete disregard of the Prohibition laws by speakeasies) challenged traditional beliefs and values. A conflict between tradition values emerged, witnessed by the revival of the KKK and the Scopes “Monkey” Trial, the highly publicized trial of a Tennessee high school teacher who taught evolution despite a state law that prohibited it from the public school curriculum.

  o African Americans continued migrating northward, a process that began in World War I, marking the formation of important urban communities such as Harlem, that would become influential centers of black culture. During the Harlem Renaissance a burst of creative energy resulted in prominent African American writers (e.g., Langston Hughes; Nora Zeale Hurston); painters (e.g., Palmer Hayden); and musicians.

- The pro-business environment of the 1920s was also seen in politics. During this period, the Republican Party dominated national politics, and promoted low taxes, high tariffs, and little regulation of business practices. Calvin Coolidge (1923-1928) captured this spirit through statements such as “the man who builds a factory builds a temple; the man who works there worships there” and “the business of America is business.”

- However, the false prosperity of the 1920s collapsed with the Black Tuesday Stock Market Crash in October 1929, exacerbating an already weak farm economy. Millions of dollars in savings and investment was wiped out in just a few days. President Herbert Hoover’s response was limited by his overall belief in “rugged individualism” and in “laissez-faire” economics, although he did take unprecedented steps in creating the Reconstruction Finance Corporation to issue loans to businesses and states and the construction of the Boulder (Hoover) Dam.

II. The Great Depression and the New Deal (1929-1940)

- The economic downturn that brought an end to the prosperity of the 1920s was the longest and most significant depression in United States history. It was not caused by one event, but by many factors, including:

  o Too much consumer debt and too little savings; this was largely the result of the easy extension of credit (installment plans; buying stocks on margin; etc.).

  o Over-speculation in get-rich-quick schemes: stocks; real estate; etc.

  o An uneven distribution of wealth; the gap between rich and poor grew and the middle class grew smaller during the Twenties. This left an unbalanced economy, with too few dollars in the hands of the majority of consumers.
When the economy was jarred by the stock market crash, it resulted in a “death spiral” in which cuts in production resulted in layoffs, which further reduced demand for goods in other industries.

**Life During the Depression.**

- Unemployment reached an average of 25% in the nation. In some areas, and among some groups, it was worse. For instance, 33% of African-Americans were thrown out of work.

- Farmers in the Great Plains were especially hard hit. On top of falling prices, a severe drought resulted in top soil erosion known as the "Dust Bowl." Oklahoma was ground zero for the Dust Bowl, leading thousands of farmers, called the Okies, to migrate from their farms to other states in search of work.

- In addition to Okies, hoboes (groups of unemployed men and teenagers) rode the rails in search of better opportunities. Some families, having lost homes, set up camp in make-shift shanty towns under bridges, along rivers, or in parks. These were nicknamed Hoovervilles.

- Bank closures were a major problem with 10,000s of banks closing between 1929-1932. When banks failed, there was no protection for those who had deposited their savings in the institutions, and they lost everything. This resulted in bank runs, in which investors scrambled to withdraw their money before it was too late.

**The Election of 1932**

- With much of the nation convinced that President Hoover was not doing enough to combat the Depression, Franklin Delano Roosevelt was swept into office in a landslide victory in 1932. FDR promised a “New Deal” for the American people, but it was unclear what precisely that meant.

- The Election of 1932 also marked the first time African-Americans voted in large numbers of a Democrat. As a result of the Depression, they abandoned their traditional support for the "party of Lincoln" and became part of FDR's New Deal Coalition, the name given to the alliance of northern urban dwellers, farmers, southerners, and African Americans that voted to elect FDR in 1932 and re-elect him in 36, 40, and 44.

**The Hundred Days Congress**

- Once in office, FDR pledged “bold action,” and called Congress into a session that became known as the 100 Days Congress. During that first one hundred days, FDR made good on promises to bring about his Three R's of relief, recovery, and reform. To halt the crisis in banking, FDR declared a mandatory Bank Holiday in order to give the gov’t time to inspect banks to ensure only healthy ones were reopened. Those that were allowed to reopen could only do so if they offered deposit insurance through the FDIC, a new agency that guaranteed that depositors would get their money back if a bank failed.

- To combat unemployment, FDR and the Congress created the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) which employed young men to work on environmental projects, the Public Works Administration (PWA) which helped the states build bridges, roads, and schools and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) which created a system of dams for flood control and hydroelectricity in the Tennessee River valley.

- To assist farmers, the Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) attempted to raise prices by paying farmers not to grow crops. The plan was controversial, since

**Other New Deal programs:**

- Other programs of importance included the National Recovery Administration (NRA) which created uniform codes of fair competition for industries: minimum wages, maximum hours, no child labor, quality standards, and allowing unions. The Social Security Act created a national pension plan and unemployment insurance. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) was another program of public projects, such as Post Offices, bridges, and roads, but it also paid artists, writers, and performers to create works of cultural importance, including John Steinbeck’s work, The Grapes of Wrath, the
WPA Slave Narratives, and 1000s of murals on public buildings.

- Critics of the New Deal
  - During his Presidency, FDR was enormously popular (he was elected four times!), but still faced criticism from both the left and right.

  - Critics on the Left. Critics on the left often felt the New Deal wasn’t doing enough to combat the Depression. They included Communists, Socialists, and politicians who saw an opportunity to gain votes by making wild promises to those desperate for help:
    - Senator **Huey P. Long** who proposed a radical program called “Share Our Wealth.” Long’s plan called for a guaranteed income of $5000 for every American paid for by a 100% tax on incomes over $1 million dollars. When Long announced he was considering running for President in 1936, his popularity threatened to draw votes away from FDR. However, he was assassinated in 1935.
    - **Francis Townshend** was a California doctor who gained support for a plan to give every American over the age of 65 a monthly payment of $200 per month, which they would be required to spend. Townshend Clubs sprang up across the country, but ultimately the passage of the Social Security Act undercut his proposal.

  - Critics on the Right. Conservatives also criticized the New Deal which they claimed was communistic or socialistic. They decried the amount of money spent, the waste and fraud that sometimes occurred, and the use of taxpayer dollars to fund social experiments.
    - **Fr. Charles Coughlin**—initially a supporter of FDR—was a Catholic priest who broadcast a weekly radio show with an audience of millions. By 1935, he began criticizing FDR for spending too much, and began blaming the Depression on a conspiracy of international Jewish bankers. He was finally silenced by the Catholic Church.
    - **The Supreme Court** was probably FDR’s biggest obstacle in his first term. Dominated by judges who had been appointed in the 1920s by Republican Presidents, the Court declared many New Deal programs (including the NRA and the AAA) to be unconstitutional. In response, FDR proposed that Congress enlarge the Supreme Court (he claimed to reduce their workload, but it was pretty apparent that the real reason was so that he could appoint judges more favorable to his agenda.) The **Court Reorganization Plan** was heavily criticized by both Democrats and Republicans as a power grab by FDR and he abandoned the plan.

- Effects of FDR’s New Deal
  - Changed forever the relationship of the American people to the Federal government.
    - Washington was now the center of action and the many federal programs and agencies (the **Alphabet Soup**) increased the impact of the national gov’t in people’s lives.
    - FDR was seen by many as a “father figure.” His frequent press conferences and weekly radio address (the **Fireside Chats**) made him seem a part of people’s lives.
  - Built up the American infrastructure.
    - Many of America’s roads, bridges, and schools were constructed during the New Deal. Much attention has been paid to this, as many of these structures are badly in need of replacement or rehabilitation today.
  - Increased the national debt.
    - FDR’s approach to the Depression was to spend money to attempt to “prime the pump” and reverse the cycle of recession. The result was yearly deficits (spending more than you make) and a growing national debt. However, spending on the New Deal would pale in comparison to what was spent fighting World War II.
  - Reduced the problems of the Depression, but didn’t end it.
    - FDR used to like to say that “no one starved” during the Depression, and that’s true. The Depression reduced unemployment, but it still didn’t drop below 10% until World War II started.
- Saved the capitalist system by reforming it.
  - By making important regulations, such as minimum wages, laws regulating workplace safety, and new rules for banking and the stock market, the US restored confidence in the capitalist system.

III. World War II
- During the Great Depression, the US adopted isolationist economic and foreign policies:
  - Smoot-Hawley Tariff – the highest peacetime tariff ever put into effect, it taxed foreign goods at 60%. Designed to protect American jobs, it’s had the unintended consequence of hurting trade as other nations put up their own tariff barriers.
  - Neutrality Acts of 1935-1937 – as a response to the Nye Committee report (which had concluded that the US was drawn into World War I as a result of arms dealers and bankers), the US Congress passed the Neutrality Acts. These acts made it illegal to:
    - Sell weapons to any nation at war;
    - Travel aboard a ship of any nation at war;
    - Give loans to nations at war.
- As a result of the worldwide depression, many turned to strong, aggressive leaders who promised their people a “return to glory.”
  - Adolph Hitler in Germany
  - Benito Mussolini in Italy
  - Francisco Franco in Spain
  - Joseph Stalin in Russia
- Fighting their own economic problems, the nations of the world did little to stop the aggressions of these leaders:
  - 1937 – Japan invades Manchuria (China).
  - 1938 – Hitler seizes Czechoslovakia
  - 1939 – Hitler signs a Non-Aggression Pact with Stalin and invades Poland, starting WWII.
- Many Americans, including Charles Lindbergh and the America First Committee wanted to stay neutral in the war between Germany/Italy and GB/France. However, the US Congress began to revise it’s neutrality provisions in response to the growing crisis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foreign Crisis</th>
<th>US Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invasion of Poland and start of WWII</td>
<td><strong>Cash and Carry Act</strong> – we will sell weapons to the Allies if they pay cash (no loans) and pick the weapons up themselves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall of France</td>
<td><strong>Destroyers Deal</strong> - the British navy desperately needs ships but has no cash, so we trade 50 WWI-era destroyers in exchange for the use of 8 bases throughout the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Battle of Britain – Hitler is bombarding London as preparation for an invasion.</td>
<td><strong>Lend-Lease Act</strong> – The US pledges it become the “arsenal of democracy” by giving all aid necessary without payment (we will lend or lease supplies) to the Allies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attack on Pearl Harbor</td>
<td>The US declares war on Japan, and then Germany.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- The Home Front in World War II

  o The full resources of the United States were harnessed in the effort to win the war, resulting in nearly full employment and ending the Depression.

  o War Production Board – put into effect mandatory rationing of goods needed for the war. Butter, eggs, gasoline, rubber, nylon, and copper were all rationed. Production was increased and new techniques developed to speed shipbuilding, such as prefabrication.

  o The Office of Scientific Research and Development also mobilized scientists. Radar, sonar, computing, pesticides such as DDT, synthetic rubber, nylon, and life saving medical advances such as blood plasma, sulfa drugs, and penicillin were all developed during the war. The biggest scientific program of the war was the Manhattan Project which employed over 130,000 people and spent $2 billion developing the atomic bombs that were used against Japan in August 1945.

  o Women found opportunities to work in heavy industries such as aircraft assembly and munitions production. Rosie the Riveter became a patriotic symbol of the women who worked long hours. Women were also employed in the armed services, performing office and clerical work, or doing tasks such as flying planes to air bases across the country, that freed men up for fighting.

  o African Americans also found new opportunities, continuing the Great Migration that had begun in World War I. The army was still segregated, but African-American units such as the Tuskegee Airmen earned commendations for their service. Many of these soldiers pledged to fight both racism abroad and racism at home as part of the NAACP’s "Double V" campaign. In war industries, the US gov’t banned discrimination in hiring and created the Fair Employment Practices Commission to enforce the law.

  o Executive Order 9066 – Japanese Americans were subject to severe discrimination after the attack on Pearl Harbor. FDR issued Executive Order 9066, which forced Americans of Japanese ancestry to report to detention camps throughout the US. Japanese Americans lost their homes, farms, and businesses. The order was upheld by the Supreme Court in Korematsu v. United States (1944).

- Major Military Events

  o The European Theater

    ▪ Operation Torch – invasion of North Africa and the attack on the “soft underbelly of the Axis”: Italy.

    ▪ D-Day / Operation Overlord – the invasion of Normandy, France. Opens up a western front as the Allies advance toward Germany.

    ▪ Battle of Bulge – German counter-offensive that pushes the Allies back, but ultimately fails.

  o The Pacific Theater


    ▪ Battle of Midway – Halts the Japanese advance towards Hawaii.

    ▪ Battle of Coral Sea – Halts the Japanese advance towards Australia.

    ▪ Island Hopping – the strategy used by the US in the Pacific...taking key islands as they advanced towards Japan’s “home islands.”

    ▪ Marianas - Island chain that allowed the US to put air bases within striking range of Japan. The Japanese fight to the death.

    ▪ Okinawa – Final island taken before the end of the war...the use can now launch round the clock air raids over all of Japan. The Japanese, desperate and nearing defeat, resort to kamikaze attacks to defend Okinawa.

    ▪ The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
IV. Post War America

V. Korea and Vietnam