

**Prerequisite courses:** none

**Grade level:** 9-12

## Course Description

This course examines the key events, movements, and figures that shaped modern America from the Progressive Era to the 21st century. Students will explore the social reforms of the early 20th century, the impacts of two world wars, and the challenges of the Great Depression. The course delves into the Cold War's influence on global and domestic affairs, the fight for civil rights, and the shaping of contemporary America through political, technological, and cultural shifts.

This course is part of the Exceptional Students Course Suite, designed for high school students working three or more grade levels behind. The Exceptional Students courses are ideal for students whose IEPs allow them to earn credit for below-grade-level coursework.

## Course Objectives

Students will meet the following goals in this course.

- Analyze the reforms and societal changes of the Progressive Era and their impact on American politics, business, and society.
- Understand the causes, major events, and consequences of World War I and World War II, including the Holocaust and the role of American leadership.
- Examine the effects of the Great Depression and the New Deal on American society and government.
- Explore the Cold War's global impact, including the arms race, space race, and the spread of communism.
- Evaluate the strategies, successes, and challenges of civil rights movements for various groups, including African Americans, women, Latinos, and individuals with disabilities.
- Investigate the political, economic, and social transformations of late 20th and early 21st century America, including technological advancements and the response to terrorism.

## Student Expectations

This course requires the same level of commitment from students as a traditional classroom course.

Students are expected to spend approximately 5–7 hours per week online on:

- interactive lessons, which include a mixture of instructional videos and tasks.
- assignments, in which they apply and extend learning in each lesson.
- assessments, including quizzes, tests, and cumulative exams.

# US History Essentials II

## Communication

Teachers will communicate with students regularly through discussions, emails, chats, and system announcements. Students will also communicate with classmates, either via online tools or face to face, to collaborate, ask and answer questions in peer groups, and develop speaking and listening skills.

## Grading Policy

Students will be graded on work completed online and work submitted electronically to the teacher. The weighting for each category of graded activity is listed below.

Grading Category	Weight
Assignments	20%
Lesson quizzes	30%
Unit tests	30%
Cumulative exams	20%

## Scope and Sequence

When students log on to Imagine Edgenuity, they can view the entire course map—an interactive scope and sequence of all topics under study. The units of study are listed below

Course Units
Unit 1: The Progressive Era and World War I
Unit 2: The Roaring 20s and the Great Depression
Unit 3: World War II
Unit 4: The Cold War and Civil Rights
Unit 5: Shaping of Modern America