

# Unit 5: Progressivism, Empire Building, and World War I

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **AP U.S. History**  
Time Period: **January**  
Length: **6 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## **Enduring Understandings**

---

The latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century saw a rise in industrialization and urban social conditions.

Immigration had a definitive push/pull effect on the American identity.

The Populist and Progressive movements were in direct response to the social challenges of the period.

The US moved away from the Monroe Doctrine and look to expand her involvement on the world stage.

World War I dramatically altered the European landscape and political map.

American neutrality was abandoned and our involvement help spur growth home and abroad.

## **Essential Questions**

---

What was a trust?

Are monopolies ever good?

What is the role of government when it comes to protecting the public from business?

How successful were the Progressives when it came to women and minority rights?

Why did people come to America? What did they expect? What did they actually find?

How have cities become part of the American narrative?

What is an empire? Did the US want to build one?

What caused WWI? Why did Wilson want to stay out?

Did we really make a difference in the outcome of WWI?

## **Content**

---

### Vocabulary and Key terms

Gilded Age

Trust Busting

Populist/Progressive

Suffrage

Isolationism/Doctrine

Initiative/Recall/Referendum

Nativism

Vertical/Horizontal Integration

## **Skills**

---

Compare and contrast the living conditions for a 19<sup>th</sup> century urban immigrant/oligarch.

Evaluate the need and desire that form the big business and big government dynamic.

Create a thesis that attacks/defends the contributions of the Populist/Progressive movements.

Compose an effective speech that Wilson could have used during his “League of Nations” battle.

Evaluate source material and play them in context of bias and relevance.

Define “empire building” in both the early 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century mindsets.

Observe and highlight key moments from the period

## Resources

---

## Standards

---

SOC.6.1.12.A.1.a	Explain how British North American colonies adapted the British governance structure to fit their ideas of individual rights, economic growth, and participatory government.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.a	Assess the importance of the intellectual origins of the Foundational Documents (i.e., Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and Bill of Rights) and assess their importance on the spread of democracy around the world.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.b	Compare and contrast state constitutions, including New Jersey’s 1776 constitution, with the United States Constitution, and determine their impact on the development of American constitutional government.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.c	Compare and contrast the arguments of Federalists and Anti-Federalists during the ratification debates, and assess their continuing relevance.
SOC.6.1.12.A.2.d	Explain how judicial review made the Supreme Court an influential branch of government, and assess the continuing impact of the Supreme Court today.