Unit 7: Cold War and Social Change in America Post 1960

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

Enduring Understandings

The Cold War was actually hot on many fronts and lasted the better part of 50 years.

The Cold War pitted the ideologies of capitalism against communism.

The Space Race was both a political and technological contest between the two superpowers.

The Cuban Missile Crisis was the closest we have ever approached MAD (mutually assured destruction).

Vietnam helped transform almost every aspect of American's relationship with their government.

The Civil Rights movement of the 60s still echoes loudly today.

The Baby Boomers challenged the traditional values of all authority figures.

Essential Questions

Why was the Cold War actually hot?

What are the key traits in socialism/communism/capitalism?

What was the Final Frontier and why did we need to conquer it?

Should we ever consider the nuclear option?

Why was Kennedy's death seen as an end to Camelot?

How did we wind up in Vietnam?

How could we have won in Vietnam?

How did pop culture helped define the 60s.

Why didn't Boomers trust anyone over 30?

What role did the white majority have in maintaining Jim Crow?

Why was there a split between King and Malcolm X?

How do the 60s still resonate today

Content

Vocabulary and Key terms

New Frontier

Satellite countries

Iron Curtain

NASA/Sputnik

Great Society

Hawks/Doves

1968 (Tet,RFK,MLK)

Grandma’s Nightshirt

Hippies/Black Panthers

Skills

Trace the key events of the Cold War and evaluate their impact on today’s geopolitical map.

Define the practices of communism and capitalism when applied to economics.

Hypothesize on what JFK’s impact would have been if he had not been assassinated.

Highlight our involvement in Vietnam and explore possible ways to victory.

Identify the key protest movement of the 60s and evaluate their impact.

Recognize the successes and failures of the Civil Rights movement and apply them to the racial questions of today.

Research the impact of the 60s social movements on today.

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.