

# Unit 07: The Cold War 1945-1991

Content Area: **Social Studies**  
Course(s): **US History 2**  
Time Period: **Semester 2**  
Length: **3 Weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Standards

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	Historical events and developments were shaped by the unique circumstances of time and place as well as broader historical contexts.
SOC.6.1.12.HistoryCC.12.a	Examine constitutional issues involving war powers, as they relate to United States military intervention in the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and other conflicts.
SOC.6.3.12.HistorySE.1	Analyze the impact of current governmental practices and laws affecting national security and/or First Amendment rights and privacy (e.g., immigration, refugees, seizure of personal property, juvenile detention, listening devices, deportation, religion in schools).

## Enduring Understandings

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1. What roles have dissent and political activism played in the struggle for freedom and equality?
2. How do views from the Left and Right, either radical and moderate, influence or respond to the progression of equality and freedom in America and the world?
3. What impact has technology and Industry had on political, social and military history in America?
4. What are the pros and cons of US interventionist foreign policies during the period from 1898-present and how has that policy affected views of American society both domestically and abroad?
5. What role has the executive, legislative, and judiciary branch played in shaping and reacting to societal and political changes in the United States?
  - Students will determine, through media literacy skills and lateral, close reading strategies when evaluating primary and secondary resources the following: 1. context of the text; 2. reason for the text; 3. type of source the text is; 4. the point of view of the author of the text 5. the intended audience for the text 6. evaluate the stance of the text
  - Students will use Historical Thinking Skills to evaluate sources and ideas. Comparison, Contextualization, Continuity and Change over Time, Periodization, Synthesis, Claims, Point of View, Intended Audience, and Purpose.
  - Students will observe, note, and draw conclusions with the understanding that there are multiple perspectives. Multiple perspectives is the foundation to understanding the why and how of history.

Documents, primary sources, historical readings will be evaluated.

## **Essential Questions**

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1. How did the world become polarized behind the US and USSR after WWII?
2. How did the Cold War affect the lives of Americans?
3. How did the government address Cold War fears?
4. How did the relationship between the US & USSR change throughout the Cold War?
5. How successful was American foreign policy in addressing the spread of communism? (Containment, Domino Theory, Korea & Vietnam, Marshall Plan etc)

## **Knowledge and Skills**

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### **Cold War in the late 1940's and through the 1950's**

Obj: What were the various theories regarding when and why the Cold War began

- *Yalta & Potsdam*
- *The Development of the United Nations*
- *The Iron Curtain*
- *Satellite Nations*
- *Containment policy*

- *Soviet v. American aims for postwar Europe*

Obj: How can one explain what the U.S. policies were toward Europe after WWII and understand how they increased the tensions between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.

- *Truman Doctrine*
- *Marshall Plan*
- *Split of Germany and the Berlin Airlift*
- *Development of NATO and the Warsaw Pact*
- *CIA & KGB*

Obj: How did the Cold War impact the lives of both Americans as well as people living in the countries effected by Cold War policies.

- *HUAC*
- *Hollywood 10*
- *Blacklisted*
- *Loyalty Review Board*
- *The McCarren Act*
- *Spy cases (Alger Hiss & the Rosenberg's)*
- *McCarthyism - Roy Cohn*
- *Cold war and the media*
- *Bomb Shelters*
- *Fear of Nuclear War "Duck and Cover"*

Obj: What was the effectiveness of Truman's and Eisenhower's policies concerning the Cold War?

- *The arms race (Development of the H-Bomb)*
- *Response to Communist uprisings (For example in Hungary)*
- *Eisenhower Doctrine*
- *Brinkmanship*
- *U-2 Spy Incident*
- *Khrushchev*
- *Response to Sputnik*
- *The Korean War*
  - *Communism in China (Civil War)*
  - *Chiang Kai-Shek and Mao Zedong*
  - *38th Parallel*
  - *The Macarthur counterattack*
  - *Macarthur versus Truman*
  - *Stalemate*

#### Cold War through 1960's-70's

Obj: What was the effectiveness of Kennedy's policies concerning the Cold War?

- *Flexible Response*
- *Castro and Cuba*
- *The Bay of Pigs Fiasco*
- *Cuban Missile Crisis*
- *The Berlin Wall*
- *Hot line*
- *Limited Test Ban Treaty*

Obj: What were Eisenhower's and Kennedy's policies towards Southeast Asia, and the repercussions of those policies.

- *Domino Theory*
- *The French in Vietnam and Dien Bien Phu*
- *The Geneva Accords*
- *Support for Ngo Dinh Diem*
- *Ho Chi Minh and the Vietminh*
- *Vietcong and Ho Chi Minh Trail*
- *Kennedy's Advisors*
- *Buddhist Monks Protest*
- *Diem assassination, unstable government*

Obj: Examine the progression of the Vietnam War under the Johnson Administration.

- *The Tonkin Gulf Resolution and controversy surrounding it*
- *Unfair Draft*
- *Robert McNamara, Dean Rusk, General Westmorland*
- *Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN)*
- *Operation Rolling Thunder & Search and Destroy*
- *Jungle warfare*
- *TET Offensive*
- *Johnson Withdraws*

Obj: What were the policies of Nixon and Kissinger in regard to Vietnam, and how they escalated the war, and ultimately ended it.

- *Vietnamization*
- *Peace with Honor*
- *Silent Majority Support*
- *Invasion of Cambodia*
- *My Lai Massacre*
- *Paris Peace Accords*
- *Impact of Vietnam Conflict on Vietnamese-Americans and other AAPI citizens during and after the war*

Obj: What impact did the war in Vietnam have on U.S. society.

- *Impact of TV*
- *Credibility gap*
- *The body count*
- *Draft & role of minorities in combat roles*

- *African American perspective*
- *Treatment of wounded soldiers*
- *Protest movement (The New Left, Students for a Democratic Society, Free Speech Movement)*
- *Hawks and Doves, "Love it or leave it"*
- *Kent State Massacre (response to Cambodia)*
- *1968 Democratic National Convention*
- *Opposition to the war (Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr.)*

Obj: What impact did the war in Vietnam have on the international view of the United States as well as the legacy of the war.

- *Pol Pot & Khmer Rouge*
- *Agent orange & Napalm effects*
- *Feelings toward government*
- *The Pentagon papers*
- *War Powers Act*
- *Fall of Saigon*
- *Vietnam Veterans*
- *Perception of America (My Lai, etc.)*

Obj: What was the effectiveness of President Nixon's approach to dealing with Cold War foes.

- *Realpolitik*
- *Detente*
- *Nixon's visit's to China and Soviet Union*
- *Ping Pong Diplomacy*
- *Salt I Treaty*

s. Obj: Where were the major reasons for the short life of the Ford and Carter presidencies

- *Ford (Carrying out Nixon's policies)*
- *Human Rights Foreign policies*
- *Success and failures of this policy (Collapse of Detente)*

### Cold War in the 1980's and early 90's

Obj: What was Reagan's foreign policies which contributed to the progression of the Cold War during the 1980's and evaluate the various theories concerning the end of the Cold War.

- *Increase Defense Spending*
- *Strategic Defense Initiative*
- *Mikhail Gorbachev*

- *Glasnost & Perestroika*
- *INF Treaty*
- *War in Afghanistan*
- *Fall of the Berlin Wall & Reuniting Germany*
- *Support of anti-communist regimes and human rights violations (Contras)*
- *Proxy wars in Central America*
- *Tiananmen Square*
- *Boris Yeltsin*
- *Communism in the Post Cold War (Vietnam, Laos, North Korea, China Cuba)*
- *Relations with former Cold War foes*
- *Russian foreign policy since collapse.*
- *Lingering issues*

## **Transfer Goals**

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Students will be able to independently use their learning to solve issues of polarization throughout the world and to find ways to compromise to avoid disaster and tragedy.

Students will be able to independently apply the lessons of the Cold War to their dealings with others and in making arguments to support a particular point of view.

## **Resources**

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Textbook: *The Americans* by Gerard A Danzer 2012

American Yawp - Stanford University: Edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright; updated yearly starting in 2019

Who Built America by Christopher Clark et. al 2007

Openstax - Rice University 2003

Taking Sides by William Miller 21st edition 2002

AP Textbook: *By the People* by James Fraser 2014

Liberty, Equality and Power- Murrin 1999

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Including Nuclear Experiments reading 1945

Including Candy Bomber reading 1948

Churchill Iron Curtain speech 1946

Including readings 2nd red scare 1950

Including JFK Berliner speech 1963

Additional Resources from WH databases, and articles connected to the content, including primary readings, historiography, and secondary sources.

Modifications for Text Lexiles/Different reading levels

Learning Ally subscription, Newsela (free version), Google Translate, Upfront Magazine digital version

## **Assessments**

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<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mKgdwpriGuRcVHIVCJUdBek7lih12Q0ckKSTC4TMUXs/edit>

## **Modifications**

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<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ODqaPP69YkcFiyG72fit8XsUIe3K1VSG7nxuc4CpCec/edit>