

# Unit #1: Vietnam

Content Area: **Generic Content Area**  
Course(s): **Generic Course**  
Time Period: **Semester 1**  
Length: **7 weeks**  
Status: **Published**

## Unit Introductions

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The American war in Vietnam has been one of the more controversial events in US foreign policy history. A careful consideration of the dynamics of the conflict is essential for proper understanding of the current outlook of the nation on its support for overseas military exercises.

## Standards

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- 0x SOC.9-12.6.1.12.12 Cold War tensions between the United States and communist countries resulted in conflict that influenced domestic and foreign policy for over forty years.  
Analyze ideological differences and other factors that contributed to the Cold War and to United States involvement in conflicts intended to contain communism, including the Korean War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, and the Vietnam War.
- 0x SOC.9-12.6.1.12.A.12.a Postwar United States (1945 to early 1970s)  
Analyze the reasons for the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union, and evaluate the impact of these events on changing national boundaries in Eastern Europe and Asia.
- 0x SOC.9-12.6.1.12.PW1 Explain how and why differences in ideologies and policies between the United States and the USSR resulted in a cold war, the formation of new alliances, and periodic military clashes.

## Essential Questions

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What were the containment policies of JFK and how were they significant during the Cold War Era?

What are the salient aspects of insurgency warfare?

What problems does a liberal democracy face when conducting protracted insurgency warfare with oppressive states?

What was the significance of the Vietnam War to the evolving foreign policy of the United States?

Why did the interwar diplomatic initiatives of the American government fail to bring a satisfactory conclusion

to the war?

How did innovation in military technology impact the military and social impact of the war?

What major military episodes did the most to lead the war toward its ultimate conclusion?

What solutions may have existed for the Vietnam problem that may have achieved success more effectively than the war?

What impact did the Vietnam War have on American society including race relations?

What are the "lessons of the Vietnam War" for future American foreign policy formulation and execution?

## Goals/Objectives

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Ref's	Description
0x	• Analyze historical events relative to the modern world
0x	• Analyze social, political, and cultural change
0x	• Apply problem-solving to develop solutions
0x	• Evaluate communication of information for soundness of evidence and potential bias
0x	• Evaluate concepts and themes through historical periods
0x	• Examine source data to test credibility and evaluate bias
0x	• Formulate questions from multiple perspectives, using multiple sources
0x	• Reconcile primary and secondary source information

## Content

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- Describe American views and actions vis a vis French policies in Indo-China from 1945 through 1954.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the geography and culture of South East Asia during the time period 1945-1973.
- Describe the menu of counter-insurgency options available to nations combating insurgents. available
- Explain the methods and devices of insurgency warfare
- List and describe important diplomatic initiatives undertaken by the USA to bring about a successful conclusion to the war
- Name and describe significant technological developments in the Vietnam Wars that were historically meaningful.

- Outline the important military, political, and diplomatic events of the 3rd Vietnam War (1964-1973)
- Outline the important political, military, and diplomatic events of the 1st Vietnam War (1945-1954)
- Outline the important political, military, and diplomatic events of the 2nd Vietnam War (1954-1963)
- Recount instances of personal courage and honor accomplished during the Vietnam Wars

## Skills

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Ref's	Description
0x	• Analyze charts, tables, and political cartoons
0x	• Compare and contrast
0x	• Critical thinking
0x	• Data Analysis
0x	• Distinguish facts from opinions
0x	• Identify main ideas and details
0x	• Media literacy
0x	• Reading for content mastery
0x	• Supporting positions
0x	• Understand political, economic, and physical maps