

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
Hamma Lakhdar University of El-Oued
Faculty of Arts and Languages
Department of Arts and English Language



Course Packet

Lectures in Civilization for Third Year Students

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Academic year: 2023/2024

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About the Course

Course Description

Civilization course introduces El-Oued University's EFL students to the interdisciplinary field of Civilization Studies through providing thematic and chronological insights to American civilization in the 1st Semester of the final year of their undergraduate studies. Drawing heavily and interactively on the fields of history, political sciences, theology, sociology, economy and philosophy, This course;

1. covers core American studies topics at the introductory level;
2. provides an essential historical background for American studies;
3. and, exhibits scholar ship through application inquiries, inquiry-based projects and reading assignments via critical and analytical reading.

Course Organization

American Civilization's course is series of lectures that are represented in separate seminar groups in which instructions, presentations, discussions and problem-solving activities are designed reflecting the syllabus of the third year Civilization's module. Seminar's contents may draw from the ideas suggested in the assigned reading (s), but they neither duplicate it. Nor, they are thoroughly demonstrated in the learning support handouts of the lessons on the E-learning corner at the university website. For both these books and virtual lessons are complementary didactical inputs, to the in-person real time learning experience, that provide an autonomous interactive learning opportunities for students to consolidate, extend amend their notes in addition to assess and evaluate their learning outcomes through different tasks and audio-visual supports. Aligning with that, both attendance and participation at all class meetings are mandatory for they are equally accredited and accounted for in the continuous assessment's final grades in this module.

Course Objectives



Fundamentally, the goal of the course is to expose students to intellectual and creative possibilities in the field of American Studies, and the ideas, concepts, and themes that have been central to how Americans understand themselves and the United States as a nation. This course will also provide incoming majors with key concepts and analytical tools that can be used in more advanced courses. Emphasis will be placed on students' analytical skills, close reading practices, and critical thinking. Overall, it aims at:

- Explore historical Context /historical events and movements.
- Discuss themes in relation to Contemporary American Civilization
- Enhance Vocabulary and Language Skills
- Foster Cultural Sensitivity and Awareness
- Apply Knowledge Practically.

And this is via highlighting the social, cultural and political development of United States of America from the pre-colonial era until the present reflecting on the roles of:

- women, immigrants, and people of color in American history by examining their choices and the consequences of their decisions in shaping American culture.
- war, industry, religion, and government in shaping American culture.

These objectives provide a comprehensive framework for introducing students to the complexity and richness of American civilization while fostering critical thinking and a deeper understanding of its various facets on the short term. On another interdisciplinary prospect, course's contents deepen understanding of American literature, offer diverse analytical lenses and contextualize literary works within their historical, cultural and social frameworks. Whereas on the long term, this course prepares students for future postgraduate studies in master degree in civilization and literature.

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I. General introduction

Objectives

1. Gain an understanding to the major historical milestones that help shape the American civilization.
2. Learn about the structure and principles of the U.S. political system, including federalism, separation of powers, and key democratic principles.

Introduction

The American civilization is a broad term encompassing the cultural, social, economic, and political developments of the United States. Commonly known as the U.S., this country has grown into:

- a major and influential global power known for its democratic principles including individual freedoms and federalism;
- a vast geographical landscape, ranging from bustling cities to expansive natural resources;
- a diverse cultural, religious and ethnic society, shaped by a blend of indigenous traditions, immigrant influences, and historical events;
- a leading economic and cultural force;
- and a prominent key player in international politics, economics, and cultural exchanges,

since its independence in 1776. Statutes (Speake & LaFlaur, 2002) that were achieved after decades of internal and external conflicts regarding the distribution of power, the organization of society and the relationships of the newly born United States of America with the rest of the World (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). Respectively, in order to establish a profound understanding to the defining elements of the American civilization, the various chapters of the American history ought to be considered on the premises of the pre-mentioned features and characteristics' attribution to different events, characters, course of actions, time periods and locations. The factual perspective that will be explored below in an attempt to depict an unambiguous picture of the various orientations already and still and yet to be taken in its course of actions to define its unique identity both internally and externally.



Historical Overview

Historically, the American civilization traced back to the British settlements established by the British Crown Chartered Companies that sponsored Great Britain's imperialistic ambitions towards the New World through enticing their subjects with the promises of wealth, property, life opportunities, religious liberties and freedom in North America, at the dawn of the 17th C (Edward, 2019).

Initiatively, these oversea expeditions secured the first English permanent settlement known as Jamestown after years of struggle against exposure, starvation, diseases and Indians attacks via:

1. maintaining peace with the Powhatan's tribe with the intervention of Pocahontas who saved the life of Captain John Smith and, eventually, sparing lives of the James fort's settlers before giving herself for intermarriage, later on, in diplomatic gesture between the pale faces and the Indians for several years.
2. securing lucrative Tabacco plantations' economical revenue with the arrival of John Rolfe around 1610.
3. improving the settlement's reputation with the arrival of the first female English settlers to the settlement in 1619.
4. establishing an indentured servitude labor system to secure workforce in the settlements. (A&E Television Networks, LLC, 2021)

Followed by the Jamestown gold diggers, group of religious dissenters– also known as the Separatists or the Pilgrims- fled prosecution and Netherlands' exile boarding on the Mayflower Ship towards the banks of the Hudson River where they established the second permanent English colon exempted from the bondage of the Mayflower Compact under the name of Plymouth Colony in 1620 by:

1. learning how to fish and growing their crops with the help of the Beqout tribe
2. negotiating treaties with Indians' neighbors lead by Willian Bradford and assisted by the Abanaki Squanto.
3. buying acre of lands from Indians (A&E Television Networks, LLC, 2021).

Next in line, another religious freedom seekers known as the Puritans arrived to today's Massachusetts and founded Bay Colony in 1630 where they began to purify the settlement's societies through persecuting those who do not follow their ways of worshipping the God and claiming land by conquering Native Americans, precisely the Pequots' territories (Edward, 2019).

Driven by the English success in these settlements, thereof, waves of eager British subjects, alongside to the French, Dutch and Spanish occupiers, chased their chances “to own a property in the bounties America in the years to come. For America was the only place where an ordinary man could own his piece of land as he never could have in the crowded towns and villages of the old world” (A&E Television Networks, LLC, 2021). Eventually, the English colonizing attempts secured larger parts of Norther America with thirteen colonies total by the end of the seventeenth century.



Figure 1: The Original Thirteen Colonies of Colonial America
Retrieved from Sutori:
<https://www.sutori.com/en/story/the-first-continental-congress-->

Once established, these colonies flourished distinctively from one another in terms of development, economy, ethnic groups and religious denominations. Nonetheless, they

“were united by shared experiences of living under the British Crown and practicing some form of Protestantism (along with Catholicism in Maryland); maneuvering within mercantilist trade rules, struggling with American Indians; being exposed to new philosophical and religious ideas.” (Eugene & Resnik, 2024).

Those gradually contributed in developing a pattern of distinct American cultural identity apart from their original British. The distinction that laid, eventually, the groundwork for the political break from Great Britain by the end of the 18th C.

Upheaval and Quest for Independence

Towards the end of the Middle of the 18th C, colonists’ identity as faithful subjects to the British crown were alienated due to the parliamentary tyrannical, unconstitutional and unfair treatment that violated their long enjoyed Salutory **Neglect policies**- that is:

“The policy of the British government from the early to mid-18th century regarding its North American colonies under which trade regulations for the colonies were laxly enforced and imperial supervision of internal colonial affairs was loose as long as the colonies remained loyal to the British government and contributed to the economic profitability of Britain” (Wallenfeldt, 2021, para.1)-

and therein their freedom ,liberties, property rights and natural rights, as an equal English free men, in order to compensate for Great Britain’s financial loses, to demonstrate its control in the thirteen colonies and tightens its grip on the colonists in the aftermath of the Seven Years War (1756-1763)-



also known as the **French-Indian Wars** (I.e. North American phase of a war between France and Britain to control colonial territory (The Editors of Encyclopædia Britannica, 2021, para.1)) .And this is via enacting :

1. confinement and removal legislations that expropriated and confiscated property rights of the colonists; such as, Royal Proclamation of 1763, the Quebec Act 1774, restricting colonial westward expansion.
2. taxing legislations that charged unreasonable amount of money from the colonies by levying taxes on colonial commodities like papers (Stamp Act 1764) Non- British Imports (Sugar Acts 1764).
3. and, punitive legislations which threatened life, freedom and liberties of the colonists including the Intolerable Acts.

Combined these acts were denounced on the part of the colonists in a full-scaled resistance fought at first with eloquent mutinous activities in a display of the anti-British sentiment developed after activists such as Patrick Henry (Give me freedom or give me death' speech), Thomas Paine (Common Sense' pamphlet), Benjamin Franklin (the Pennsylvania Gazette's newspaper). And it escalated thereafter into lethal confrontation with the redcoats. Before it developed thereby into gathering assemblies of consultation and reconciliation in diplomatic gesture for pledging and reassuring colonial allegiance to the British crown, justifying their conducts as an act of defense and self-preservation and entreating the Monarch attention to repeal these provisions through petitions and declaration of rights and grievances acts in the Virginia Convention, the Stamp Act Convention 1765, the First Continental Congress 1774 and the Second Continental Congress sequentially . Finally, in response to their mother country's compliance with King George's Proclamation for Suppressing Rebellion and Sedition in the colonies, it concluded into full range Revolutionary War of Independence (1775-1783) resulting on absolving the thirteen colonies from all allegiance to the British Crown, dissolving all political ties with Great Britain after the Declaration of Independence (1776), establishing a confederal system of government under the name of the United States of America in correlation with Articles of Confederation (1777) and pronouncing it, at the end of this war, as an independent country after the Second Treaty of Paris (1783) (Sonian, 2016). However, it was not until ratifying the Constitution of America that distinctive characteristics and features of the civilization of America started to prevail including its political ideologies, socio-cultural identity and economic system.



US Political Structure

1. Independent executive branch functioned by the president who implement the laws
2. Bicameral representative legislative branch functioned by the two chambers of the Congress (i.e. (senate & house of representatives) which passes the laws.
3. A federal Judicial branch functioned by the supreme court & other federal court which interpret the laws.

The Electoral College is an election process that was established, in the Constitution, as a compromise between the election of the President by a vote in Congress and election of the President by a popular vote.

Checks & Balance' principle that enables all three branches to mutually control each other so as to prevent any of them to get too powerful.

Developing a Political Identity and Constitutional Reform

In fear of experiencing another tyrannical & sovereign British like experience, the founding fathers of America neither wanted a centralized government nor direct democracy or partisanship in forming their new governing system. Giving to these reasons, a very weak unicameral governing system was established, at first, under the Articles of Confederations with principles of equal representation in the congress, super majority for congressional vote and unanimous vote for amending the articles. Paradoxically, this decentralization of power lead to an interstate tyranny, chaos, upheavals, defiance and escalated eventually into rebellion threatening of grave civil war. Just like Shay's rebellion in 1783 which prompted for political reform in the U.S Confederation.

Emerging American Politics

The American politics is credited to Alexander Hamilton's call for amending the Articles of Confederation in the Annapolis Convention (1786) which served as prelude to the Constitutional Convention's assembly in Philadelphia (1787) in spite of his failure in persuading all states into his provision. Lead by G. Washington, A. Hamilton and different delegates from 13 states, the Philadelphian's convention compromised on a new a constitution through adapting a bicameral legislative structure, executive branch & judicial branch into a more centralized federal governing system in addition to the adaptation of "**The Electoral College**" for presidency. Lacking the total consent of the states, once again, the new constitution was refuted. Nonetheless, it was publicly debated & heavily pressed by "The Federalist Papers" in attempt for persuading the New York voters to support the New constitution before its official ratification in 1791 with the Bill of Rights compromise to establish a representatives democratic federal government that:

1. relied upon a series of **checks and balances**,
2. divided federal authority between the three branches,
3. weakened presidency and strengthened legislature,



Jacksonian democracy was a 19th C political philosophy that expanded suffrage, made political access to ordinary persons, restructured a number of federal institutions & ended a "monopoly" of gov. by elites. For the proper road to reform, according to Jackson, lay in an absolute acceptance

"The corrupt Bargain" A quid pro quo agreement in favor of J.Q Adams to hold the office in spite of losing both the public & electoral votes to A. Jackson

4. choose president through the electoral college instead of public vote.
5. Separate church & state via
6. & wary **direct democracy** and **political parties** as well as **entangling alliances** (i.e. non-interventionism foreign policy)

Political Parties Spectrum & Rise of Democracy

Nevertheless, both parties and democracy rooted deeply in US politics shortly after this constitutional reform due to

1. the controversial views & opinions regarding the future path of US politics between Washington's Secretary of treasury A. Hamilton & Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson (see. A. Hamilton & T. Jefferson's),
2. **"The Corrupt Bargain"** of the 1824 presidential election and A. Jackson political division,
3. rising issue of slavery in the Northern states and anti-slavery ruckus.
4. white males' suffrage movement & broadening of voting rights.

Those eventually lead to the emergence of the Democrat and Republican parties as heirs to the predecessor parties from the 18th & 19th centuries. the two major political parties in US before becoming firmly established and organized on national basis that dominated the political process to accomplish the transfer of executive power from one faction to another via election starting from 1830 onward. Overall, this political evolution and government reforms are summarized in further details in the following timeline diagram:

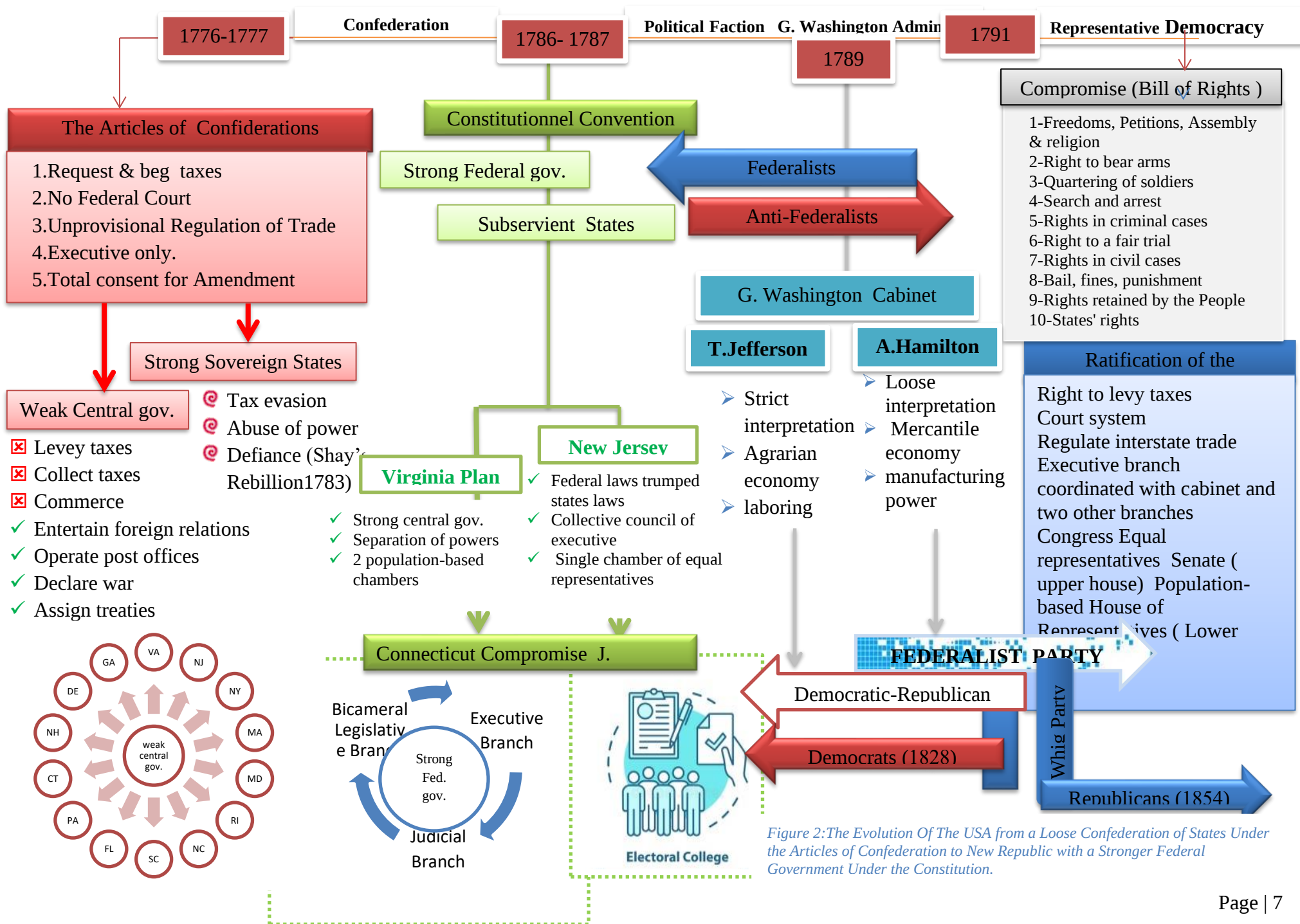


Figure 2: The Evolution Of The USA from a Loose Confederation of States Under the Articles of Confederation to New Republic with a Stronger Federal Government Under the Constitution.



Conclusion

After settling down the political framework for the new republic, the societal norms, economic tendencies and cultural conventions of the American civilization evolved starting with the Antebellum tension (1789–1861), embarking on Reconstruction era's improvements (1865–1877), passing through the Gilded Age's prosperity and corruption (1870s–1900), and ending with the Progressive Era's reforms (1890s–1920s), prior to its fluctuations between the Roaring Twenties (1920–1929) and Modern area (1930s–present) (Eugene & Resnik, 2024). These historical developments therein have created four major cultures reflecting mainly in American's multiculturalism (i.e. *the diverse ethnic culture founded on indigenous Native-American civilizations, European colonial settlement, African-American slavery and later waves of immigration.*), liberalism (i.e. *the political-legal culture based on concepts like individualism, constitutionalism and respect for the law, idealism, "Americanness", such as egalitarianism, morality and patriotism.*), pluralism (i.e. *the multi-faith or pluralist religious culture grounded in the beliefs of colonists and immigrants and its lasting recent prominence.*) and capitalism (*the economic and consumer culture driven by corporate and individual competition and production, which encourages profit and the consumption of goods and services*) ideologies (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). Nonetheless, their manifestations domestically are still to be contested in contemporary America by young people, political activists, radicals, intellectuals, the disadvantaged and minorities via undermining its ideals of national harmony and unity. And they are condemned by many others by questioning the integrity, trust and credibility on the global stage (Wright, 2021).



Further Reading

Pratt, M. L. (2010). American History Stories (Vol. I). Chapel Hill, NC: Yesterday's Classics, LLC.

Pratt, M. L. (2020). America History Stories (Vol. II). Chapel Hill, Carolina : Yesterday's Classics, LLC.



Vocabulary Identification Assignment

Multiculturalism, Liberalism

Federalism, Capitalism

Pluralism

Antebellum, Gilded Age

Reconstruction, Progressive area

The Federalist Papers, Common Sense



Endnotes

For further supports check E-learning page on the university website



II. The American Civil War (1861 – 1865)

Objectives

- Identifying a comprehensive understanding of the conflict by examining its causes, key events, and consequences.
- Introducing the background leading up to the Civil War, including the political, economic, and social tensions between the north and south, especially regarding slavery and states' rights.

Introduction

In its broadest sense civil war refers to the “military conflict centered on territory within a state...over political rights to control that territory” (Brown, McLean, & McMillian, 2018, p. 516) . Correspondingly, the American civil war was a conflict fought from 1861 to 1865 between the federal union forces and the eleven **seceding southern** Confederate States (history.com Editors, 2009) over “the rights of the states, the legitimacy of the union and the issue of slavery” (Brown, McLean, & McMillian, 2018, p. 518) in American. And it was reported to be “the costliest and deadliest war ever fought on American soil, with some 620,000 of 2.4 million soldiers killed, millions more injured and much of the South left in ruin” (History.com Editors, 2009, para1). Additionally, it resulted in social upheaval and total abolition of slavery, fundamentally shaping the United States' political and social landscape through **resolving**

“two fundamental questions left unresolved by the revolution: whether the U.S was to be a dissolvable confederation of sovereign states or an indivisible nation with a sovereign national government; and whether this nation, born of a declaration that all men were created with an equal right to liberty, would continue to exist as the largest slaveholding country in the world.” (McPherson, 2023, para 2)

Causes of the Civil War

- Economic differences between the agrarian south and industrial north
- The sectional strife between the South and the North
- The emergence of the Liberty party, free soil party and Republican party.
- Rights of States.



- Westward expansion.
- Growing abolitionist sentiment and slavery's opposition in the North
- Southerner's fear that the existence of [slavery in America](#) was in danger (McPherson, 2023).

Prelude for the Conflict

In addition to the Abolitionists movement's cause, Uncle Tomas Cabin's propaganda, Turner revolution and Dred Scott case that intensified anti-slavery sentiment in the north, the federal government's compromises regarding the future of slavery in the newly acquired territories in the eve of the new republic and the after-math of the Mexican War were the most prominent millstones that set the stage toward the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861. Owing to the fact that it gradually increased the animosity among the Southerners towards the federal government that constantly undermined the states' rights to self-determination (i.e. depriving the original states' popular sovereignty) and therein their economic interests associated to the expansion of slavery beyond the already established eleven slave states (Princeton Review , 2023), with the following legislations:

The Missouri Compromise

The Missouri compromise is considered the most prominent piece of legislation in the history of America, for it helped postponed the Civil War for more than three decades. Issued in 1820, this compromise temporarily preserved sectional balance and staved off immediate conflict by approving Missouri's admission to the union as free state, rather than slave-state, in exchange for Maine as non-slave state in addition to prohibiting slavery above the 36° 30' latitude line in the in the remaining Louisiana Purchase territory north of this line. And this is in order not to upset the balance between the 11 free and 11 slave states in an attempt addressed the contentious issue of slavery that yielded to successfully preserved sectional balance and staved off immediate conflict. However, pleasing neither parties with a) setting a precedent for Congress to make laws concerning slavery from the point of view of Southerners and b) implying the expanding of slavery into new territory according to the Southerners in addition to c) its failure in resolving the pressing question of slavery and its place in the nation's future, its provisions were sooner repealed by pro-slavery Democrats with the Compromise of 1850 (History.com Editors, 2009).



The Compromise of 1850

In response to the fear of altering the sectional balance between slave and free states, this time, with the acquisition of territory in the West in aftermath of the Mexican-American War (1846 – 1848), following the Gold Rush in California, and the arising national dispute whether or not to permit slavery in the new Western territories, the compromise of 1850 was introduced in series of measures to adjust the sectional debate over this issues by “The Greater Compromiser” Henry Clay. However, it passed only, after the suggestion of Stephen Douglas to break it apart and treat it separately, in the fall of 1860 when it achieved final form as a series of five separate bills (Pinsker, 2016). That made the following main points:

1. Admission of California as a state a free state.
2. Organizing of the Southwest territories New Mexico and Utah without regard to slavery.
3. Adjustment of the border with Texas and New Mexico.
4. Eliminating of the slave trade in the District of Columbia.
5. Implementing a tougher federal Fugitive Slave Law.

Nonetheless, it failed to bring lasting peace and contributed to the growing friction that would lead to the Civil War (History.com Editors, 2018).

The Fugitive slave Act

The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, part of the Compromise of 1850, was a stringent federal law that intensified the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Clause from the Constitution, requiring states to return runaway slaves and imposing severe penalties on those who aided them. This Act was a response to dissatisfaction with the less effective 1793 law and aimed to crack down on the Underground Railroad. Despite its harsh penalties, the Act was poorly enforced, with Northern states passing personal liberty laws to protect escaped slaves and challenge the Act. The Fugitive Slave Act increased tensions between North and South, contributing significantly to the onset of the Civil War (History.com Editors, 2018).

The Kansas-Nebraska Act

The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854, introduced by Senator Stephen Douglas in another attempt to overcome the overgrowing sectional dispute, was a pivotal piece of legislation that significantly



impacted American politics and sectional tensions. The Act aimed to facilitate westward expansion by allowing settlers in the Kansas and Nebraska territories to decide for themselves whether to permit slavery, a concept known as popular sovereignty. This decision effectively repealed the Missouri Compromise of 1820, which had previously restricted slavery in northern territories of the Louisiana Purchase. The Act caused a major split within the Democratic Party, especially among Northern Democrats who opposed the repeal, and contributed to the rise of the Republican Party. This political upheaval further exacerbated national divisions, setting the stage for the Civil War (History.com Editors, 2018).

The Outbreak of the War

The American Civil War was triggered with the Fort Sumter Bombardment in Charleston Bay on April 12, 1861 by the Confederate army with opening fire on the fort and therein forcing the federal garrison to lower the American flag in surrender (History.com Editors, 2009). However, it was not until 1862 that the real fight had begun originally with limited war to restore the Union before developing eventually into a total war “to destroy the Old South and its basic institution of slavery and to give the restored Union a "new birth of freedom," as President Lincoln (1863) put it in his address at Gettysburg to dedicate a cemetery for Union soldiers killed in the battle there. by 1864. This sentimental propaganda plus, the emancipation proclamation announcement on January 1st, 1863 and the blockade of the Confederacy’s accesses to the outside world strengthened the Union’s cause in the conflict. In contrast to the fundamentally weakened cause of Ulysses S. Grant’s reflecting in his domestic policies that increased poverty and inflation owing to the imposing taxes on the public and created class division due to the exemption of aristocrats from the inscription law, bureaucracy and corruption in addition to his failure in winning an international support and recognition from Great Britain and France, on the other extreme (Princeton Review , 2023).

The Course of the Civil War

The course of the American Civil War’s conflict was characterized by significant battles, strategic shifts, and influential figures. The early clashes, such as the First Battle of Bull Run in 1861, revealed the war’s potential for prolonged conflict, while the Battle of Shiloh in 1862 highlighted the intense and costly nature of the fighting. As the war progressed, key victories in the Western theatre, like those at Shiloh and Vicksburg, demonstrated the Union’s growing dominance. Whereas, the



Battle of Antietam in 1862, the bloodiest single day of the war, allowed President Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation redefining the war's objectives. In the same track, decisive battles in the Eastern theatre such as Gettysburg in 1863 and the Siege of Petersburg from 1864 to 1865 marked turning points that led to the eventual downfall of the Confederacy, despite evidence of General Robert E. Lee's tactical prowess (E.g. Second Bull Run's and Fredericksburg Battles), under the relentless pressure from General Ulysses S. Grant. That further weakened the Confederacy war effort by weakening by destroying critical infrastructure and defeating major Southern armies in Grant. Sherman's March to the Sea in 1864-65 and the Battle of Nashville. The course of insurrections leading eventually to surrender of Lee at Appomattox Court House in April 1865 whereby the major hostilities effectively ended with the collapse of the Confederacy and the conclusion of the war (Kiger, 2021).

results and impacts

- Preserving the union;
- Reaffirming federal government prominence over states nationally and internationally;
- Abolishing slavery;
- Reconstruction Area;
- Advancing civil rights (History.com Editors, 2009).

Conclusion

By the spring of 1865 all the principal Confederate armies surrendered, and when Union cavalry captured the fleeing Confederate President Jefferson Davis in Georgia on May 10, 1865, resistance collapsed and the war ended. The long, painful process of rebuilding a united nation free of slavery began. Northern victory in the war preserved the United States as one nation and ended the institution of slavery that had divided the country from its beginning. But these achievements came at the cost of the lives of as many American soldiers as died in all the other wars in which this country has fought combined. The American Civil War was the largest and most destructive conflict in the Western world between the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815 and the onset of World War I in 1914. As a result, Americans resolved not to engage in further wars and focused instead on domestic consideration, particularly rebuilding the south that left in ruins in the aftermath of the Civil War. However, this commitment to peace was soon contested as new conflicts worldwide forced them to reconsider their priorities and position on the world stage.



Further Reading

Mauk, D., & Oakland, J. (2009). American Civilization: An Introduction (Vol. 5th).
London & New York: Routledge.



Further Reflection

In what ways did the Lincoln-Douglas debates foreshadow the issues that would
contribute to the outbreak of the Civil War?



Writing Assignment

Reflecting on the prelude of the conflict, explain how did slavery paved to the break of
the civil war in America?



Endnotes

Expand your notes through checking the audiovisual supports on E-learning
university's web page.



III. America in World Wars I and II

Objectives

1. Explore key factors and events that led to America's involvement in WWI and WW II.
2. Analyze the short-term and long-term effects of the two world wars on the U.S. domestically and internationally
3. Exploring key events and decisions that influenced the shift American foreign policy from isolationism to interventionism during WWI and WWII.

Introduction

World War I and World War II were pivotal events in the 20th century, reshaping global politics, economics, and societies. While often characterized by their dramatic and far-reaching impacts, these conflicts also showcased varying degrees of American involvement and influence. In World War I, the United States initially adopted a stance of neutrality before eventually intervening, significantly affecting the war's outcome and the post-war order. Whereas, in World War II, the American involvement was more direct and substantial, driving the Allied victory and establishing the U.S. as a dominant global power. Understanding America's role in these wars provides insight into the nation's evolving position on the world stage and its lasting legacy in international affairs.

America in World War I

When studying World War I from the American civilization's perspective three aspects of American politics are so often highlighted in US international warfare history including:

1. The early American foreign policies (i.e. the general objectives that guide the activities and relationships of U.S. in its interactions with foreign nations).
2. The post-war American domestic policies (i.e. the type of public policy overseeing administrative decisions directly related to all issues and activity within a state's borders)
3. The different legislation on both levels.

In this respect, America complied to non-intervention foreign policies and neutrality principals in the eve of World War I (i.e. “the international conflict that in 1914–18 that pitted the Central Powers—mainly Germany, Austria-Hungary, and Turkey—against the Allies—mainly France, Great Britain, Russia, Italy, Japan, and, from 1917, the United States” (Showalter & Royde-Smith, 2022, para.1).) and this is due to its:



- early constitutional and governing principles of avoiding entanglement with other countries for fear of external European assaults or internal conflicts and for focusing on internal development of their new born nation,
- adherence to the isolationism foreign policy,
- commitment into the stipulation to Monroe doctrine,
- and, engagement to Woodrow Wilson's expansionist in west America.

In respect to the economic and commercial foreign relations, however, America was highly entangled with the Allies' war affairs as their primary loan's financier and leading munitions' supplier. Nonetheless, owing to the Central Power's actions of retaliations against this financial support, it was not too long before these interventions extended to full range military and political involvement in the cause of the war on the part of U.S. (Eugene V. Resnick, 2022).

Reasons for America's Engagement in World War II

- The British blockade of shipments headed to Germany.
- The German's decision to resume unrestricted submarine warfare in early 1917.
- Sinking of the Lusitania 1915.
- Interception Zimmer telegram- known as Zimmerman telegram 1917- that outlined a German plan to keep the U.S. out of the war by inciting Mexico to wage a war against America in exchange for California lost in the Mexican war (1846-1848).
- The fall of the Tsarist regime in Russia, which made Wilson's claims that he wanted to fight to make the world safe for democracy a bit more plausible.

Altogether these skirmishes in addition to the American's role as main supplier of ammunitions to the Allies lead America to declare war officially against Germany in 1917.

U.S. Contribution in WWI

America's primary contribution to the Entente powers winning the war was economic, as they provided all sorts of arms and money over there. Troops didn't arrive until the spring of 1918 and eventually over 1 million American doughboys served under General John J. Pershing. Not all of these people saw combat - they were much more likely to die of flu than bullet wounds. But their sheer numbers were enough to force the defeat of the exhausted Germans (Green J. , 2017).



Results and effects of World War I on America

- Empowering the federal government
- Extending control over telecommunication rail industries and
- Raising of bureaucracy
- Curtailing individual civil liberties through the **Espionage act 1918** and **Sedition act 1917**.
- Providing incentives for African Americans in north
- Granting franchises to

After the end of this war America retreated anew to shadow of founding fathers' non-entanglement foreign policies, yet soon after it was dragged once again into a second world war (Eugene & Resnik, 2024).

America in World War II

Following the experience of World War I, American had chosen to maintain a stance of neutrality refraining from international entanglement in respect to the aftermath of the World War one's public opinions, congress decisions and political parties' ideological interests. These embodied:

- the strong prevalence of isolationist sentiment evolving from movements such as reactions against Wilsonian internationalism and College's campuses peace movement mid-1930, America First Committee groups.
- focus on recovering the economic crisis of the Great Depression
- Roosevelt quarantine call of 1937 and rallied isolationist sentiment
- The traumatic and disillusionment from WWI
- Domestic concerns and political priorities (Critchlow, 2015)

Respectively, in response to these domestic considerations and in anticipation of World War II conflict, that included virtually in every part of the world during the years 1939–45 involving principally the Axis powers (Germany, Italy, and Japan) and the Allies (France, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and, to a lesser extent, China and later the United States (World War II, 2024) belligerents, U.S. congress passed The Neutrality Acts a series of laws passed in the 1930s. with the primary intent to prevent the U.S. from becoming entangled in overseas wars, particularly in Europe (Charels A. Beard, 1921) through:

- prohibiting the export of arms, ammunition, and implements of war to belligerent nations as well as establishing that American citizen traveling on belligerent ships did so at their own risk with the stipulation of **Neutrality Act of 1935**



- extending the provisions of the 1935 Act and specifically banning loans and credits to belligerent nations, tightening restrictions on American economic involvement in conflicts with **Neutrality Act of 1936**
- permitting the sale of non-military goods to belligerent nations only on a cash-and-carry basis (i.e. countries at war had to pay for goods in cash and transport them using their own ships) by **Neutrality Act of 1937**.
- revising the earlier laws by allowing the sale of military goods to belligerent nations on a cash-and-carry basis in response to the outbreak of World War II and the aim of supporting allies without directly involving the U.S. in the conflict by **Neutrality Act of 1939**.

However, these acts were gradually modified and eventually superseded as the U.S. approached an active involvement in World War II at the heels of the **Lend-Lease Act in 1941**. Issued on March 11, 1941, this act marked a shift from strict neutrality to more direct support for the Allied nations. It was designed to provide military to Allied powers fighting against the Axis powers without requiring immediate payment (i.e. provided on credit) in the purpose of supporting nations deemed vital to U.S defense and it extended ultimately to include food, fuel, and other materials supplies paving the groundwork for more direct involvement in World War II, which formally began after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. The Lend-Lease Act is often seen as a crucial factor in the Allied victory and a turning point in U.S. foreign policy, marking the end of strict neutrality and a move toward a more interventionist stance in global affairs (Hughes & Royed-Smith, 2024).

Reason for America's Engagement in World War II

The growing U.S. support for the Allies along with trade embargoes and restrictions imposed on Japan contributed to the tensions leading to the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. This assault was a surprise military strike launched by the Japanese Imperial Navy against the U.S. naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii at 7 am. It involved a coordinated aerial attack by Japanese fighter planes, bombers, and torpedo planes, targeting the U.S. Pacific Fleet stationed at the base. The attack resulted in significant damage, including the sinking of multiple battleships, destruction of numerous aircraft, and over 2,400 American casualties. This attack led to the United States' formal entry into World War II, with President Franklin D. Roosevelt declaring war on Japan the following day.

U.S. Contribution in World War II



The United States played a crucial role in World War II through its substantial military, economic, and scientific contributions, as well as its strategic and diplomatic leadership. American forces were pivotal in key battles across both the European and Pacific theaters, including the Normandy landings and the island-hopping campaign that led to Japan's surrender. The U.S. transformed its economy into the "Arsenal of Democracy," producing vast quantities of war supplies and equipment and providing critical aid to Allies through the Lend-Lease Act. Technological innovations, such as those resulting from the Manhattan Project, including the development of atomic bombs, were decisive in ending the war. Additionally, the U.S. was instrumental in shaping post-war international institutions like the United Nations, promoting global stability and cooperation. Domestically, the war effort spurred significant social changes, including increased workforce participation by women and minorities, setting the stage for future social movements.

Results and effects of World War II on America

World War II had profound and lasting effects on the United States, shaping its future politics, economy, society, technology and culture internationally and nationally:

- solidified America's position as a leading global superpower with the establishment of the UN and NATO and the shaping of post-war global order.
- catalyzed the U.S. economy setting the stage for the post-war economic boom
- brought significant social transformations for women, African Americans and minority soldiers through increased momentum for racial equality, racial desegregation and social justice.
- marked a shift towards an interventionist foreign policy.
- led to significant advancements in technology and science.

In summary, World War II profoundly transformed America by cementing its status as a global superpower, spurring economic growth, catalyzing social change, shaping its foreign policy, and driving technological advancements. The impacts of the war continue to resonate in American society and its role in global affairs.

Conclusion

The roles of the United States in World War I and World War II underscore a trajectory of increasing global engagement and influence. In World War I, America's eventual entry marked a turning point that contributed to the Allied victory and the subsequent shaping of the Treaty of



Versailles. By contrast, World War II saw a more immediate and comprehensive American involvement, from military campaigns to economic support, which played a crucial role in the defeat of the Axis powers and the establishment of a new world order. These conflicts not only highlighted America's emerging role as a global superpower but also set the stage for its central position in international politics throughout the latter half of the 20th century and beyond.

**Further Reading**

Mauk, D., & Oakland, J. (2009). *American Civilization: An Introduction* (Vol. 5th). London & New York: Routledge.



Identify of the main arguments regarding the American Foreign policies that are highlighted in Mauk, D. and Oakland, J. book of *American Civilization: An Introduction*.



IV. America in the Cold War

Lecture Objectives:

- Understanding U.S.A Cold experience with the Cold War.
- Providing an insight into the highly influential ideological conflicts, historical events, policies and international relations' complexities that helped reshape the geopolitical landscape of America on the national and global scales.

Introduction

The Cold War was a post-war era of ideological and geopolitical tension between World War II former allies, the United States and the Soviet Union, in the wake of Yalta and Potsdam Conferences (Brown, McLean, & McMillian, 2018). Lasting roughly for forty-four years, these political hostilities originated from the ideological differences between firstly, the Soviets' communist objectives in spreading communism, that is acknowledged as:

“a process of class conflict and revolutionary struggle, resulting in victory for the proletariat and the establishment of classless, socialists' society in which private ownership has been abolished and means of production and subsistence belong to community” (Grant, 2012, p. 296),

as well as establishing their socialists' governments in their order to support revolutionary governments, expand Soviet influence, and ultimately create a global Communist alliance (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). And secondly, the American's capitalism interests in containing communism, promoting free market economies and economic development , strengthening alliances, and eventually preventing soviet expansion reflecting on its capitalist ideology (Cox & Stokes, 2012), that “denotes a distinct form of social organization, based on generalized commodity production, in which there is private ownership and/or control of the means of production” (Brown, McLean, & McMillian, 2018, p. 296), on the one extreme and its liberal ideology (Cox & Stokes, 2012), on the other extreme. Regardless, unlike WWI and WWII, the Cold War remained confined to threats, propaganda, and other measures short of open warfare; even though, it intersected with the world wars in terms of the ultimate objective of the conflicted parties in dominating the global stage (McMahon, 2003).



Causes of Conflict

Overall, these bipolar adversaries initiated a 45 years period of contention marked by indirect series of strategic, political and military responses owing to the:

1. bipolar distribution of power after 1945,
2. expansionistic ideology of the Soviet Empire,
3. economic expansionistic and imperialistic behavior of the U.S,
4. and open-door economics and ideological imperatives. (Cox & Stokes, 2012)

Means and Tools of Conflicts

The Cold War's ideological conflict was marked with military competition, arm and space race, espionage, political and economic influence, and a series of proxy wars:

a) Political and Economic Influence

During the Cold War, America's political and economic influence was significant in shaping global affairs. Politically, the U.S. championed democratic governance and capitalism, countering Soviet communism. It formed alliances such as North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and engaged in numerous diplomatic initiatives and interventions to contain communism and support allied regimes. Economically, the U.S. utilized its vast industrial and financial resources to rebuild war-torn Europe through the Marshall Plan, stimulate global trade, and promote capitalist economies, which helped solidify its dominance and counteract Soviet influence. This economic power also supported extensive military investments and technological advancements, reinforcing America's position as a leading superpower in the global arena.

b) Espionage

During the Cold War (1947-1991), espionage was a critical component of the intense geopolitical rivalry between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) were central to U.S. efforts to gather intelligence on Soviet military capabilities, nuclear arsenals, and political strategies, while also preventing Soviet infiltration. Notable cases like Klaus Fuchs, who leaked atomic secrets to the Soviets, and Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, executed in 1953 for allegedly passing nuclear information, highlighted the high



stakes of espionage. Techniques employed included Human Intelligence (HUMINT), with agents and informants, Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) for intercepting communications, and Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) through satellite reconnaissance. Espionage profoundly impacted military and technological advancements, influencing the arms race and shaping strategic decisions. However, it also fueled political tensions and mutual distrust, contributing to the overarching atmosphere of suspicion and competition that characterized the Cold War era. Overall, espionage was a pivotal element in the Cold War, shaping the strategies and outcomes of this prolonged geopolitical struggle.

c) Arm and Space Race

During the Cold War, the U.S. and the Soviet Union engaged in a fierce arms race and space race. The arms race involved the development and stockpiling of nuclear weapons, with both superpowers building increasingly advanced and powerful arsenals. Key events included the U.S. developing the hydrogen bomb and the Soviets testing their own. The space race began with the Soviet launch of Sputnik in 1957, prompting the U.S. to accelerate its space program, leading to achievements like the Apollo 11 moon landing in 1969. Both races were driven by the desire for technological superiority and geopolitical influence, influencing military strategies and international relations throughout the Cold War.

d) Proxy wars

Proxy wars were a significant aspect of the Cold War, where the United States and the Soviet Union supported opposing sides in conflicts around the world, rather than engaging in direct military confrontation with each other. Ideologically speaking, it was battle between Marxism and capitalism (Polgar, 2017). These wars often involved local or regional conflicts but were influenced and sometimes intensified by the U.S. involvement as illustrated in the following table:



Table 1: Summary of U.S. Involvement in Key Conflicts of Proxy Wars adopted from Moghadam, A., Wyss, M., & Rauta, V. (2023). Routledge Handbook of Proxy Wars. NY: Taylor & Francis

Conflict	Conflicted parties	Reasons	U.S. Roles	Outcomes
Korean wars	North Korea vs south Korea	Ideological division Geopolitical interests	Military intervention	In favor of USA
Vietnam War	North Vietnam vs south	Preventing USSR Expansion Southeast Asia's	Military and financial support	Against USA
Afghanistan	Soviet-backed Afghan government vs. Mujahideen	Soviet influence U.S. counteraction	Support for insurgents	In favor of USA
The Suez Crisis	Egypt vs. Britain, France, and Israel	Geopolitical control	Diplomatic pressure	In favor of USA
Angola's Civil War	MPLA vs. UNITA	Cold War's proxy Super power interests	Support for UNITA	Against USA
The Salvadoran Civil War	Salvadoran government vs. FMLN	Ideological conflicts	Military and economic aid	In favor of USA
Nicaragua's Civil Conflict	Contras vs. Sandinista government	Political and ideological struggle	Support for contras	In favor of USA



Proxy wars were a crucial element of Cold War strategy, reflecting the global struggle between the US and the Soviet Union while shaping many regional conflicts and international relations.

Cold War Major Phases and Events

As a result, communism, as an ideology, became a central element both in American foreign and domestic policy. On the one hand, driving international initiatives including the Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan and various military engagements these helped promoting the U.S political-economic agenda in exchange for international aids, generally, and grounding a long-lasting containment policy against the Soviet Union, particularly (The Princeton Review, 2023). On the other hand, reflecting communism infiltration's paranoia in internal disturbance such as the fueling of Red Scare, the rise of McCarthyism and the questioning of civil liberties. Those lead to led to national significant economic and political and social consequences.

The Role of U.S. Foreign Policy' in the Collapse of the USSR

The strategic U.S. foreign policy and its international actions during the Cold War contributed significantly to the collapse of the Soviet Union through means of economic pressure, arms race, support for anti-communist movements, diplomatic isolation, promotion of democratic values and economic and technological competition. For instance, it debilitated the USSR economy with economic sanctions and trade restrictions. Additionally, it weakened its global influence by supporting anti-communist resistance movements internally. In similar fashion, it reduced its global position via promoting democratic values, supporting for reformist movements and isolating communism on the global stage. Additionally, it exhausted the Soviet Union's recourses and exacerbated domestic issues by compelling it to invest heavily in defense. Finally, maintaining a dialogue with Mikhail Gorbachev created an environment conducive to reforms, such as glasnost and perestroika, which ultimately contributed to the USSR's disintegration in 1991. In sum, U.S. foreign policy applied a combination of economic, military, and ideological pressures that contributed to the eventual dissolution of the Soviet Union by exacerbating its systemic weaknesses and promoting global conditions unfavorable to Soviet stability (Amundsen, 20217).



Post-cold War's Effects and Consequences on America

Political Impacts

In addition to positioning U.S. as superpower on the world stage, The Cold War had several significant political impacts on America, including:

- increasing Military and Intelligence Spending,
- implementing domestic Anti-Communism policies,
- shifting U.S Foreign Policy toward containment of communism and military intervention,
- realigning political U.S parties -with the Republican Party,
- updating legislation and policy: (E.g. the National Security Act of 1947 and the Marshall Plan),
- and, rising Civil Liberties concerns as well Military-Industrial Complex with defense contractors and lobbyists.

Economic Impacts

Similarly, the U.S. economy was highly affected with this war, as follows:

- increasing Defense Spending,
- advancing technological Innovations,
- stimulating Economic Growth and Jobs,
- initiating Economic Aid Programs,
- creating stable markets for American goods and fostering international trade,
- cementing Military-Industrial Complex,
- inflation and Economic Pressure,
- and, shifting in Economic Focus (Rust, 2021).

Social Impacts

Basing on the premises of its anti-communism's propaganda, the American society experienced prominent societal influences in the aftermath of the Cold War that were manifested in the:

- prevalence of McCarthyism, blacklists, fear and paranoia,
- emergence of civil rights movements.
- redefinition of immigration and refugee policies,
- permeation of culture and education,



- encouragement of conformity and social norms,
- and, demographic shift towards multiculturalism (Rust, 2021).

Overall, these effects reflected communal responses to perceived the contaminant of communism.

Conclusion

To the United States of America, the cold war was pivotal period in American history as its end led to a significant shift in global power dynamics, with the U.S. emerging as the sole superpower. Emerging victorious, the U.S. cemented its role as the preeminent superpower, advocating for democratic values and free-market capitalism while establishing a network of alliances and international institutions that continue to influence global affairs. The Cold War's legacy persists in America's military capabilities, economic dominance, and cultural reach. However, the end of this period also marked the beginning of new challenges, as the U.S. navigates a more complex and multipolar world. Reflecting on this era underscores both the strategic triumphs and the evolving dynamics that continue to shape America's global role today.



Further Reading

Mauk, D., & Oakland, J. (2009). American Civilization: An Introduction (Vol. 5th). London & New York: Routledge.



Writing Assignment

Write a synopsis explaining how exactly did the resolutions of Yalta conference and Potsdam resolutions attribute to the onset of the Cold War?



Reading Assignment

Identify of the main arguments regarding the American Foreign policies that are highlighted in Mauk, D. and Oakland, J. book of American Civilization: An Introduction.

V. Immigration Waves

Lecture Objectives

- Identify the major waves of immigration to the U.S., including the factors, origins, demographics, and experiences of various immigrant groups and their influence on American society and culture.
- Assess social, economic, and political landscapes. This includes analyzing changes in immigration policy, contributions of immigrant communities to American culture and economy, and the challenges faced by immigrants, such as assimilation and discrimination.

Lecture Reference

This lecture is adopted from Mauk, D., & Oakland, J. (2009). *American Civilization: An Introduction* (Vol. 5th). London & New York: Routledge.

Introduction

Immigration is considered a milestone in American civilization owing to its profound impact on the nation's cultural diversity, economic growth, and demographic expansion. The influx of people from various backgrounds has enriched American culture with diverse traditions, languages, and customs, while also driving economic progress by filling labor shortages, starting businesses, and fostering innovation. Immigration aligns with the founding ideals of freedom and opportunity, reflecting the core principle that the U.S. is a land where individuals can seek a better life. Additionally, immigrant communities have significantly influenced social and political developments, advocating for civil rights and social justice, and contributing to a rich cultural exchange that has shaped American cuisine, music, art, and literature. Thus, immigration has been instrumental in shaping the social, economic, and cultural landscape of the United States.

The First Wave of Immigration: Colonial Period (1680-1776)

The initial wave of European immigration to America, spanning from 1680 to 1776, was marked by a complex interaction between the settlers' pursuit of economic and religious freedoms and their descendants' selective acceptance of newcomers. Although the early founders sought

prosperity and religious liberty, their descendants welcomed the first significant wave of European immigrants only if they adhered to Anglo-American cultural norms and provided needed labor. The reception of immigrants varied widely: New England was often unwelcoming, while the middle colonies exhibited more tolerance and diversity.

The first wave of immigration was significantly influenced by British policies after 1660. The English Crown discouraged emigration from England and Wales but encouraged it from other countries. In 1662, King Charles II granted a charter to the Royal African Slave Company, leading to the arrival of about 140,000 Africans who endured brutal conditions on slave ships.

The largest group of voluntary immigrants were the Scots-Irish. They had moved from Scotland to Northern Ireland in the 1500s and then to the American colonies after 1680 due to economic hardships imposed by the English. Many of these Scots-Irish immigrants paid for their transatlantic passage by becoming indentured servants and settled on the frontier once their service was complete. Their constant quest for better land led them to spread across the American frontier, making it challenging for them to maintain their cultural heritage.

German immigrants, numbering around 200,000, faced more opposition than the Scots-Irish. As the largest non-English speaking group, they clustered in settlements to preserve their language and culture, often avoiding broader colonial politics. Their prosperity and distinct cultural practices, such as their strong work ethic and farming methods, caused envy and resistance among other colonists. Benjamin Franklin expressed concern that Germans might "Germanize" Americans rather than the other way around. The reception of Germans also varied based on their religious affiliations.

Smaller immigrant groups during this period included around 50,000 English convicts and 30,000 poor indentured servants, who quickly assimilated into American society. Irish immigrants included many single male Catholic indentured servants who adapted rapidly due to religious discrimination and difficulty in finding Catholic partners. Scots maintained their cultural identity through close-knit communities and strong family networks, while French Huguenots and Jews faced limited civil rights and occasional attacks but managed to maintain some presence in port towns.

By 1776, the demographic composition of the colonies had shifted significantly. English dominance had reduced to a slim majority of 52 percent, while African-American slaves made up 20 percent of the population, and Native-American cultures were largely pushed west of the

Appalachians. Non-English groups had become a majority in coastal towns, Pennsylvania, the South, and other areas. Despite the prevailing Anglo-American influence, this first wave of immigration contributed to a diverse, religiously tolerant, and pioneering American identity, setting the stage for a federal system of government that balanced power among the diverse states.

The Second Wave of Immigration: The ‘Old’ Immigrants (1820-1890)

Following the American Revolution and the nation's early years, immigration slowed significantly until the late 1820s. The struggle for independence and nation-building had Americanized the colonies, leading to a gradual weakening of ethnic communities. By the 1820s, both Americans and new arrivals viewed the burgeoning second wave of immigration as unprecedented.

Several factors drove Europeans to leave their homelands during this period. While religious persecution and political unrest played roles—such as in the cases of German Jews and European intellectuals—the most significant push factors were economic. Europe's population had doubled from 1750 to 1850, and in countries like Ireland and Germany, rural communities heavily reliant on potatoes faced dire economic conditions. The industrial revolution and urbanization were transforming agriculture, with the shift to large-scale farming and enclosure of common lands creating economic pressures for rural populations.

The industrial revolution and international trade boom spread unevenly, influencing emigration patterns. People from rural areas, where job opportunities were scarce, migrated to cities and then often left for foreign countries. Steamships and trains made migration quicker, safer, and cheaper, while letters from relatives in America provided accurate information about economic opportunities. Out of 60 million Europeans who emigrated between 1820 and 1930, about two-thirds settled in the United States. During this "old" immigration period, 15.5 million people chose America as their new home.

The largest groups among these immigrants were Germans, Irish, Britons, and Scandinavians, though other groups such as French Canadians, Chinese, Swiss, and Dutch also migrated in significant numbers. The promise of abundant land was a major attraction, as was the demand for both skilled and unskilled labor. American railroad companies and state governments actively recruited immigrants from Europe with offers of inexpensive, fertile land and higher wages compared to their

home countries. Events like the Homestead Act of 1862 and the California gold rush further fueled immigration peaks.

The Third Wave of Immigration: The ‘New’ Immigrants (1890-1930)

The third wave of immigration, spanning from 1890 to 1930, marked a significant shift in the origins of immigrants. Immigration from north-western Europe declined markedly during this period, while arrivals from southern and eastern Europe increased dramatically. By 1907, four out of five new immigrants came from these regions. The volume of immigration surged, often exceeding one million annually, matching the total of the previous wave in just twenty-four years. The largest groups among these new immigrants included Italians, Jews, Poles, and Hungarians, along with significant numbers of Mexicans, Russians, Czechs, Greeks, Portuguese, Syrians, Japanese, and Filipinos.

To many Americans, the arrival of these new immigrants felt like a dramatic change. The diverse languages, religions, and customs of the southern and eastern Europeans seemed foreign and unfamiliar. Despite these differences, the fundamental economic motivations remained consistent. Like their predecessors, the new immigrants sought to improve their own and their children's futures. For instance, eastern European Jews fled religious persecution, notably the violent Russian pogroms, similar to earlier waves driven by similar fears.

The late 19th century saw falling ticket prices for trains and steamships, making migration affordable for the very poor and young people, often financed by relatives in America. This affordability allowed some immigrants to view their stay as temporary, with many planning to return home after earning enough money to buy land or start a business in their country of origin. New immigrants tended to be younger, more frequently unmarried, and more likely to travel alone rather than with family.

Changes in American opportunities also influenced the new wave of immigration. The closure of the frontier in 1890 ended the era of free land grants, and fewer immigrants found work in agriculture. Instead, many turned to the burgeoning industries in large northeastern and midwestern cities. Although America had a high demand for factory workers, mechanization meant that most available jobs were unskilled and poorly paid. The Japanese in California exemplified success by purchasing and developing less desirable land into productive farms.

The Fourth Wave of Immigration: 1965 to the Present

The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 marked the beginning of the fourth major wave of immigration, which surged to unprecedented levels by the late 1990s, setting new records for immigration in American history. This wave not only included many immigrants within the hemispheric limits, which were expanded to a global cap of 320,000 in 1980, but also encompassed hundreds of thousands of immediate relatives and refugees who were exempt from these limits. Additionally, it involved millions of undocumented immigrants who entered the country either by crossing borders illegally or overstaying temporary visas such as those for students or tourists.

Between 1960 and 2007, nearly 39 million people legally settled in the U.S. Initially, in 1960, the largest immigrant groups were primarily European, with only one Latino group and no Asian groups among the top ten. The growing presence of Mexicans hinted at future trends. By the 1990s, during the peak of this wave, around 11 million more immigrants arrived. By 2007, after the peak, the immigrant landscape had shifted dramatically: no European groups were among the top ten largest nationalities. Instead, three-quarters of the foreign-born population were Latino (51 percent) or Asian (25 percent). Notably, 42 percent of the immigrant population consisted of individuals from countries not in the top ten, highlighting the diversity of this wave.

Mexican immigrants saw their numbers increase significantly, rising from 6 percent in 1960 to nearly a third of the total immigrant population. This wave includes a broad spectrum of socio-economic backgrounds. While some immigrants are highly skilled professionals, such as engineers, doctors, and entrepreneurs, the majority, both legal and illegal, are similar to past waves—above average in their home countries in terms of education and economic status but below average in the U.S. They often migrate due to disruptions in their traditional economies caused by commercialization and industrialization.

The socio-economic lower end of this wave includes refugees from wars and disasters, such as those from Southeast Asia fleeing the Vietnam War in the 1960s and 1970s. Additionally, many of the poorest immigrants have entered the U.S. as relatives of more skilled immigrants or to take on jobs that Americans typically avoid, such as domestic work. Latino women, for example, have been recruited as live-in nannies and housekeepers, and through networks of female contacts, they often help their families migrate and improve their socio-economic status.

The diverse nationalities and backgrounds of these immigrants have led to varied settlement patterns, including Hmong communities in Minneapolis, Vietnamese in the Mississippi Delta, East Indian hotel owners across the Sunbelt, and Middle Eastern Muslims in Detroit and New Jersey. Large Latino populations have emerged not only in major cities and the Southwest but also in rural areas and small towns in the South and Midwest, where their numbers have grown by 70 to 80 percent according to recent censuses. The growth of these foreign-born communities has spurred contemporary forms of racism and nativism, as some Americans respond to the changing demographics with broad stereotypes.

Conclusion

In 1982, a Gallup poll revealed that Americans generally viewed ethnic groups more favorably if they had been in the U.S. longer, with Irish Catholics and Jews receiving positive assessments, while more recent non-white groups like Puerto Ricans, Vietnamese, and Haitians were less favorably regarded. Asian immigrants, often perceived as "model minorities" due to their higher education and capital, were mistakenly generalized, overlooking the diverse experiences of many who faced economic and social challenges. The term "Hispanics" was similarly problematic, lumping diverse Latino groups together and associating them with illegal immigration. The debate over illegal immigration has been contentious, with some arguing that it undermines the rule of law and lowers wages, while others believe that illegal immigrants fulfill necessary roles and are exploited. Legislative responses include the 1986 Immigration Reform and Control Act, which provided amnesty to many but struggled with enforcement, and the 1990 Immigration Act, which liberalized immigration policies. However, growing opposition led to stricter measures in the mid-1990s and the post-9/11 era, including enhanced border controls and biometric checks. By the early 2000s, the U.S. faced a complex immigration situation with high levels of legal immigration and an estimated 9-11 million illegal immigrants, reflecting ongoing public and political divisions on immigration policy.

VI. Women in America

Lecture Objectives



- Developing an awareness about American Femme Legacy.
- Examine the significant roles and achievements of American women throughout history.
- Assess current challenges and progress regarding gender equality and women's rights in America.

Introduction

Historically, women's status in America was determined by English common law, traditions and conventions that:

- Women ID in the Old World**
- Mental status:** small brain thus neither able to think nor able to learn
 - Religious status:** the reason of all men suffering and the world demise
 - Social status:** controlled , guided and attended for by men
 - Legal status:** non-existed in the eye of the low

1. lowered the women status (a.) intellectually, (b.) religiously, (c.) socially and (d.) legally (See.ID)
2. and inflicted on them costumes which accustomed women to be obedient and submissive to men through assuming particular **domestic roles and vocational responsibilities** including:
 - attending to the needs & wishes of men,
 - getting ready for marriage,
 - producing & nursing children,
 - maintaining household,
 - and passing traditions & conventions to their daughters.

Giving to these reasons, women were socially and legally subservient to their spouses who had held responsible for their **property, person & choice** in terms of the *Coverture* through which they lost their **legal identity &** rights in owning or inheriting property, making wills, entering a contract or sue or being sued.

A tradition that passed silently along with the first waves of English female immigrants into the New World and persisted to

America. That was initiated as early as 1619 to improve the reputation of the settlements through bringing 20 women to Jamestown for attending to the domestic needs of Virginia's bachelors.

However, the Old-World stereotypical image of women began to change gradually in America where the female colonists had proven themselves as capable and as rational as men during the American revolution through assuming **political & military roles** including:

- condemning tyranny & injustice,
- boycotting British goods,
- signing documents of resistance, daughters of liberty
- helping & fighting in the battle fields,
- participating in protests,
- & assuming political roles in debating decisions.

Antebellum America: America in the time between the formation of the U.S. government & the outbreak of the American Civil War.

⇒ Consequently, American women improved status via shifting their roles from vocational trainers (i.e. teaching their daughters household work) and nursing sons into instructional educators whose main responsibility lies in raising future citizens (i.e. their sons) of America. Thanks to that, middle class women had finally an access to education and literacy in **Antebellum America** (Ware, 2015).

Abigail Adams, American First Lady; Wife & Advisor of J. Adams; First spokeswoman of women rights in the American History,

Nevertheless, women neither got recognition. Nor they were accounted for in the **constitution** of America which imported the common tradition of coverture upon the women who once again became legally and socially dependent to men by marriage. In spite of the efforts of **Abigail Adams** who implored her husband, John Adams, and the other members of the Continental Congress not to forget about the nation's women sacrifices and contribution for America's independence. A quest that was declined and never granted until 1893 **Married Woman Property Act** in Mississippi.

Women in Antebellum America

1. Oppressed & empowered by virtues of piety, **purity, submissiveness & domesticity.**
2. Feme Coverture.
3. Owned as property
4. Counted in census by not considered as citizens.
5. Deprived legal rights & civil rights & political rights.

Struggle for Rights & Equality

The Cult of Domesticity: a late 19th C American philosophy in which a woman's value was based upon her ability to stay home and perform the "duties" of a wife and mother. It was established as reaction to the work of poor women in "the Great Depression"

In the 19th C, middle class women become more active and visible by fashioning public role through managing the ideology of domesticity- also known as "***The Cult of Domesticity***" or "***True Women Hood***" - in the American society. Where they joined and formed societies dedicated to everything from literary interests to the antislavery movement before, joining voices together to begin a long fight for freedom, equality, civil rights & political rights through:

The Suffrage movement (1869-1920): a decades-long fight to win the right to vote for women in the United States

1) ***the Suffrage movement*** which had given all women over 21 the vote in the USA by 1920, after a long way fight with violence, political turmoil & social upheaval, through the ***nineteenth amendment*** to the American constitution.

2) ***Civil rights movement*** which granted women, Pay Equality (Equal ***pay act John 1963 F. Kennedy***), Work Equality (Civil ***Rights Act 1964 Lyndon B. Johnson***) & Education Equality (***The Education Amendments 1972 Richard Nixon***).

Those ended up eventually with shattering more glass ceilings that assumed the 20th C American woman all roles & responsibilities as those of men.

Conclusion

Historically, the stories of American women are a testament to resilience, innovation, and leadership. From the patriotic daughters of liberty who battled for independence to the trailblazing suffragists who fought for voting rights until the groundbreaking scientists and activists who have shaped modern society, women have been pivotal in advancing shaping every single aspect of the American civilization. A struggle that is continued today to break barriers and inspire change, whether through their roles in government, business, arts, or community activism. Their diverse experiences and achievements reflect a broader narrative of perseverance and empowerment, highlighting both the strides that have been made and the challenges that remain. Hence, as the contributions of American women is reflected, it's crucial to recognize the ongoing efforts to achieve gender equality and celebrate the rich mosaic of voices and experiences shaping the U.S. And although their legacy encourages embracing diversity, advocating for justice, and supporting one another in the pursuit of a more equitable American society. Gender equality in this country is a far cry from the indiscrimination seen in many other countries. For American women still experiencing gender discrimination in wage gaps between men and women, underrepresentation of women in leadership positions, disparities in career advancement opportunities, and persistent biases in hiring and promotion practices. Additionally, issues like unequal access to healthcare and ongoing struggles with workplace harassment also highlight the ongoing challenges related to gender inequality.



Further Reading

Berkin, C. (1979). Women of America: A history. Houghton Mifflin School.



Writing Assignment

Examine the following source carefully then write a historical source analysis using the six analysis skills on the basis of this lecture Handout.

Source: “[...]by the way in the new Code of Laws[...] I desire you would Remember the Ladies, and be more generous and favourable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the Husbands[...] If perticular care and attention is not paid to the Laidies we are determined to foment a Rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any Laws in which we have no voice, or

Representation.” *An excerpt from Letter from Abigail Adams to John Adams, 31
March - March 31, 1776*

VII. Slavery in America

Lecture Objectives

- Acknowledging the institution of slavery, its impact on the nation, and its legacy.
- understand the origins and development of systemic racism and how it has shaped American society.
- Encourages a commitment to justice and equality.

Introduction The American Institution of Slavery

Slavery, that is the system of forced labor, was not an American invention. Nor it was a racial institution. For the practice of human enslavement was traditionally practiced as a form of punishment for convicted criminals and a sign of captivity for wars' captives, since the eve of human civilizations. And it had prevailed when freedom and liberty of men was determined by their religious denominations, social stratification, economic estate or political status for thousands of years in the Old World in the Middle Ages. In the New World, however, a shift of definition to slavery and the enslaved was introduced, in the 1600s, along with the establishment of British American North colonies, as a tradition of hard labor, poor living conditions and humiliation that exerted through intimidation, brutality and dehumanization and identified by race and perpetuated through heredity (Williams H. A., 2014) after the Middle Passage- that is *the forced voyage of captive Africans across the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas. It was the second stage of the triangular trade, or the route of the Atlantic slave trade. This route traded goods from Europe for African captives who were then traded for goods from the Americas* (Middle Passage, 2024, para. 1)- and Western colonialism in the sixteenth, seventeenth & eighteenth centuries (Williams H. A., 2014).

Prelude for Slavery: Roots and Origins of the American Institution of Slavery

Historically, the American institution of slavery traced back to the indentured servitude system- also known as the Indenture or the Covenant –that is a form of labor where an individual is under contract to work without a salary to repay an indenture or loan within a certain timeframe. In the eve of the American civilization, this contract served as a type of barter system for many immigrants seeking new life in America, but could not afford the steamship fare for the journey that made possible by an employment contract with a wealthy U.S. landowner to perform a type of work for a fixed period of time. Respectively, the London Company encouraged indentures towards Virginia where the lucrative tobacco plantation was flourishing and developing in order to fill for

the inexhaustible need of manual labor, on the one hand, and to fulfil the British expansionist campaign in the Americas, on the other hand.

Giving to these reasons, many Europeans and very few Africans enslaved themselves voluntarily and unconditionally as servants via the bondage of the indentured servitude contract to colonial landlords in exchange of:

- Ship fare prior to the term of their indenture;
- Housing and food during the term of their indenture;
- Freedom dues including: 100 acre of land, bushel of corn, new set of clothes, a gun, money in addition to their freedom at the end of their indenture term.

By the stipulation of such indenture, early colonial America hold by far more white servants (i.e. slaves) than Africans in addition to smattering of war captives' Indians. And, as promised, many of them gained back their freedom, an acre of land and sum of money to start their own lives as property owners, including Africans. Just like Anthony Johnson and his wife Marry who led prosperous and dignified life, like any other colonists, after surviving the terms of their contract within the slavery like institution of servitude in Virginia's tobacco fields (i.e. servants were owned as planter's commodities and properties; hence, they were treated as slaves rather than servants) (Bagwell & Bellows, 2015). However, this was not the case for four million Transatlantic and middle passage passengers in the next decades; because, an explicit act of human slavery began to take roots in colonial America, soon after.

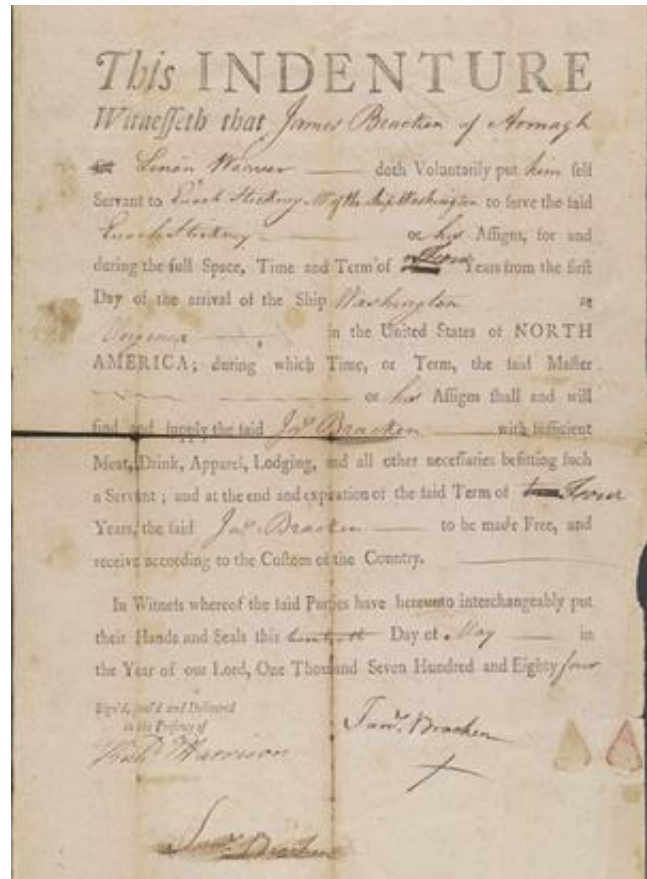


Figure 3: Indenture of James Bracken Retrived from University of Virginia Special Collections. (s.d.). Indenture of James Bracken. Retrived le 08 26, 2021, sur Encyclopedia Virginia: <https://encyclopediaofvirginia.org/8029hpr-58dc1f50d02a4bf/>

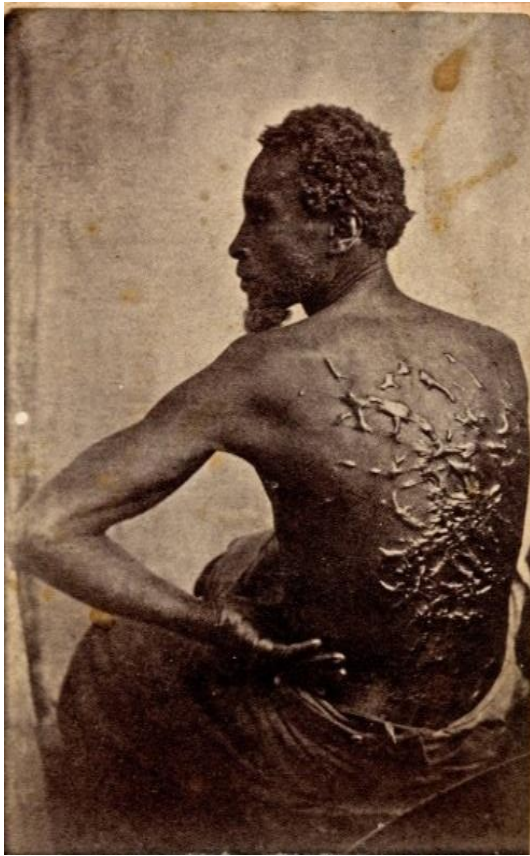


Figure 4: Figure 1: "The Scourged Back" A 1863 photograph that shows the whipping scars on Gordon, a former slave in Louisiana who escaped to Union lines. Credit McPherson & Oliver, collection of the Illinois State Historical Library (The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1863)

By the beginning of the 18th C century, a prelude for an institution of human enslavement was established in Virginia deliberately after effectuating an act concerning servants and slaves - "The Virginia Slave Code of 1705" that reads:

"Be it enacted, by the governor, council, and burgesses, of this present general assembly, and it is hereby enacted, ... That all servants imported and brought into this country, by sea or land, who were not Christians in their native country, ... shall be accounted and be slaves" An excerpt from The Virginia (The House of Burgesses) Slave Code of 1705.

- by which transatlantic passengers were either indentured or enslaved basing on their religion. And this due the inexhaustible demands of the plantation economy which were suffering perpetual laborer shortage with the end of terms for most indentured servants. Giving to this reason, the Virginian planters conspired for a longer and a cheaper

labor force especially with the expansion of the uncouneted for Transatlantic Crossings into the New World.

By the authority aforesaid, many passengers, including the imported Africans, were enslaved or indentured against their will in the plantation fields where they had been worked to death and ill-treated by their owners. So often, this oppression and injustice led to unsuccessful attempted escapes that ended up with public unfair trials to the escapees whose punishment varied from whipping to longer terms of servitude.

REESTABLISHMENT OF SLVERY: AFRICANS & AFIRICAN AMERICANS SLAVES

Although Africans were imported to the European settlements in the early stages of the European's colonization campaigns in the New World, as reported in the letter of John Rolfe, it was not until the times of colonial America that they had been legitimately admitted to Slavery by race. An act of racial discrimination that traced back to the Jamestown where the first life sentence of



“About the latter end of August, a Dutch man of Warr ... arrived at Point-Comfort... He brought not anything but 20. and odd Negroes, which the Governor and Cape Marchant bought” *An excerpt from a letter from John Rolfe to Sir Edwin Sandys (1619/1620)*

- 🕒 (1661) enslaving African escapees for life.
- 🕒 (1662) enslaving children born to African slave mother.
- 🕒 (1767) denying baptism or Christianity as path for Africans' freedom.
- 🕒 (1767) desecrating African slaves for attempted escape
- 🕒 (1668) destroying slaves of the slaves
- 🕒 (1705) “Negros shall be adjudged as real estate.”

Timeline of servitude & slavery in Virginia through House of Burgesses Legislations (Bagwell & Bellows, 2015).

slavery was brought upon John Punch the Negro for attempted escape from servitude contract. For, this incidence marked the shift of servitude into a permanent slavery for millions of Africans in colonial America, especially Virginia. That imported more and more Africans through human trafficking and negotiated importation duties for more of them before codifying Slavery, gradually, through series of Virginian laws and legislations (see. Timeline of servitude & slavery in Virginia) by the House of Burgesses. That lead eventually to the establishment of a new institution of slavery where slavery is identified by race & perpetuated through heredity.

Life of African American Slaves Under the American Institution of Slavery

The new practice of people of color's enslavement in the American institution of slavery violated all human rights, for African slaves, via:

- denying and depriving them from basic human rights including nutrition, healthcare, marriage, family, education,
- working them to death in plantation fields in spite of their condition, age or gender,
- owning them as a commodity or property,
- selling and buying them in auctions for named price,
- Sexually assaulting, harassing and manipulating them for reproduction of more slaves,
- punishing, whipping, torturing and even murdering them without trials (Williams H. A., 2014).

Legacy of the American Institution of Slavery: effects & impacts

The practice of slavery in the new world led to an American legacy that:



1. is credited for the initiation of a poisonous tradition of black slavery in America.
2. developed a racial ideology of Racism;
3. contributed to the Emergence of the Abolitionist Movement in 1830;
4. rose conflict and hatred between the citizens of America (i.e. secession of the Southern Colonies from the Union in 1860 & 1861;
5. created the deadliest and the costliest Civil War in History of America.

Conclusion

“all persons held as slaves within any State, or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.” *An excerpt from Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation July 22nd, 1862.*

Unlike white slaves or Indians who gained their freedom either through their religion, color or knowledge, African Americans had to fight their way out from slavery. And though many enslaved Africans made efforts to gain individual freedom by escaping, negotiating their position with their owners, buying their freedom or participating in violent uprising. It was not until Dec. 1865 that slavery had been abolished legally by the ratification of the *Thirteenth Amendment* -primarily credited to the *Abolitionist Movement* and the Republican government of *Abraham Lincoln*- to the *Constitution*. Three years later, African Americans, including former slaves, were granted *citizenship* with the *Fourteenth Amendments* before granting African American men the right to vote in 1870.

The 13th Amendment, adopted on December 18, 1865, officially abolished slavery, but freed Black peoples’ status in the post-war South remained precarious, and significant challenges awaited during the Reconstruction period. Previously enslaved men and women received the rights of citizenship and the “equal protection” of the Constitution in the 14th Amendment and the right to vote in the 15th Amendment, but these provisions of the Constitution were often ignored or violated, and it was difficult for Black citizens to gain a foothold in the post-war economy thanks to restrictive Black



codes and regressive contractual arrangements such as sharecropping. Despite seeing an unprecedented degree of Black participation in American political life, Reconstruction was ultimately frustrating for African Americans, and the rebirth of white supremacy—including the rise of racist organizations such as the Ku Klux Klan (KKK)—had triumphed in the South by 1877. Almost a century later, resistance to the lingering racism and discrimination in America that began during the slavery era led to the civil rights movement of the 1960s, which achieved the greatest political and social gains for Black Americans since Reconstruction.



VIII. Health care

Lecture Objectives

- Describe the key components of the U.S. health care system, including providers, insurance, and regulatory bodies.

Introduction

Health care is one of the five social services, including retirement pensions, unemployment payments, housing needs, disability allowances and 'welfare' aid, offered to Americans by the private, public and voluntary sectors (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). As opposed to healthcare that is the system in which medical treatment of individuals is provided and received, health care refers to the process of providing and receiving medical treatment with the function of diagnosis and treatments of health problems (Raymond L. Goldsteen, Karen Goldsteen, & Benjamin Goldsteen, 2017). Its central focus is preventing the exacerbation of the latter as well as restoring health, and its main function is diagnosis and treatment health problems (Raymond L. Goldsteen, Karen Goldsteen, & Benjamin Goldsteen, 2017). Controversially, access to healthcare can vary widely...inspite the fact that "the USA is the highest per capita spender on private and public health care in the world" for non- emergency care often depends on insurance coverage and individual financial means. In addition to The U.S. has high healthcare costs, including premiums, deductibles, and out-of-pocket expenses. Costs are driven by factors like administrative expenses and high service prices.

Historical Overview

The history of the U.S. healthcare system is marked by significant developments and reforms that have shaped its current structure. In the pre-20th century period, healthcare was rudimentary and largely based on home remedies and traditional practices brought by European settlers. Medical care was provided by local practitioners with minimal formal training, as medical education was not well-established...The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw the beginning of professionalization in medicine. The Flexner Report of 1910 was a pivotal moment, as it criticized the state of medical education and led to major reforms. This report emphasized the need for rigorous standards and accreditation for medical schools, which greatly improved the quality of medical training and the professionalism of healthcare providers. During this time, there was also significant growth in hospitals and medical facilities, driven by advances in medical science and public health.



Post-World War II America saw further transformation in healthcare. Employer-based insurance became prevalent as a result of wage controls during the war, with companies offering health insurance benefits to attract and retain workers. This practice became widespread and established the basis for the modern employer-sponsored insurance system. The Social Security Amendments of 1965 introduced Medicare and Medicaid, which marked a significant expansion of federal involvement in healthcare by providing insurance coverage to seniors, low-income individuals, and families.

The late 20th century was characterized by increasing concerns about rising healthcare costs. The introduction of managed care organizations (MCOs) aimed to address these concerns by focusing on cost control through coordinated care and network management. The growth of Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) in the 1970s, promoted by the HMO Act of 1973, sought to provide comprehensive services while managing expenses, reflecting a shift towards more structured and cost-conscious healthcare delivery.

In the early 21st century, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010 marked a major reform in the U.S. healthcare system. The ACA aimed to expand insurance coverage, improve healthcare quality, and reduce costs through measures such as the individual mandate, establishment of health insurance exchanges, and Medicaid expansion. This legislation led to a notable decrease in the number of uninsured Americans and improved access to preventive services, although it has been subject to ongoing political debate and efforts for repeal or modification.

Recent years have seen continued debate over healthcare policy, with rising costs and innovative solutions such as telemedicine, value-based care, and new payment models being explored. These innovations reflect ongoing efforts to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the healthcare system while addressing persistent challenges related to cost, access, and quality.

The major U.S. healthcare legislations were enacted to address specific issues and challenges within the healthcare system. Here's a breakdown of the reasons behind each key piece of legislation:

Constituents of health care in US

In America, health care constitutes of five constituents:

- Healthcare work force
- Practice settings



- Organizations responsible for working force training
- Research
- and system oversight (Raymond L. Goldsteen, Karen Goldsteen, & Benjamin Goldsteen, 2017)

Organization of health care in U.S.

Health care in United States of America is organized in relation to the exacerbation of health problems into:

- an eliminating risk factors' injuries and diseases' primary prevention (e.g. using automobile seat belts, practicing safe sex with condoms, and promoting vaccination.)
- an early detection and treatment' secondary prevention
- and, a rehabilitation and efforts to limit the long-term effects of the disease' tertiary prevention

These focus on reducing its incidence in the population, managing and treating advanced, diagnosed diseases to minimize complications and disability and early reducing the impact of an existing disease in the order mentioned. Still health care primary concern is secondary and tertiary.

Types of Health Services Provided

Healthcare delivery in the U.S. is organized into various levels of care, each fulfilling specific roles and responsibilities. Its system delivers services to individuals (personal health services) and to population groups (community health services). Personal health services are divided into primary, secondary, and tertiary care.

1. Primary Care

This is the basic level of health care addressing most routine health and illness concerns. It includes preventive measures such as lifestyle changes, immunizations, prenatal care, and regular health screenings. Primary care is usually provided by physicians, though nurse practitioners and physician assistants also offer this type of care in some regions. It handles common causes of acute and chronic conditions, including respiratory issues, infections, injuries, and chronic diseases like hypertension and



arthritis. Primary care is a foundational aspect of the system, provided primarily by General Practitioners (GPs) and Family Physicians. These healthcare providers offer routine care, preventive services, and manage the overall health of their patients. They play a crucial role in maintaining long-term health and addressing common medical issues.

2. Secondary Care

This level involves services from specialists typically arranged through referrals from primary care providers. It includes various surgical procedures and diagnostic interventions performed by specialists such as cardiologists and radiologists... Specialty care, on the other hand, involves specialists who focus on particular areas of medicine, such as cardiology, oncology, and orthopedics. These specialists have advanced training in their respective fields and provide in-depth treatment for more complex or specific health conditions. Patients often need a referral from their primary care physician to see a specialist, which helps ensure coordinated and appropriate care. Hospitals and urgent care centers are critical components of the healthcare system, providing a range of services to address various medical needs. Hospitals are equipped to handle a broad spectrum of care, including emergency services, surgeries, and inpatient care. They are essential for treating severe or complex medical conditions that require extensive resources and specialized expertise.

3. Tertiary Care

This is highly specialized care requiring advanced facilities and equipment not available in most community hospitals. It includes complex procedures like organ transplants, open-heart surgery, advanced cancer treatments, and care for extremely premature infants. Tertiary services are provided mainly at major medical centers. In contrast, urgent care centers offer immediate care for non-life-threatening conditions that require prompt attention, typically outside of regular office hours. These centers bridge the gap between primary care and emergency services, providing convenient and timely treatment for urgent but less severe health issues (Raymond L. Goldsteen, Karen Goldsteen, & Benjamin Goldsteen, 2017).

Public Health Programs



1. **Medicare:** A federal program primarily for individuals aged 65 and older, and for some younger individuals with disabilities.
2. **Medicaid:** A joint federal and state program that provides health coverage for low-income individuals and families.
3. **Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP):** Provides coverage for children in families with incomes too high to qualify for Medicaid but too low to afford private coverage.

Private Health Insurance

4. **Employer-Sponsored Insurance:** The most common form of health insurance, provided as a benefit by many employers.
5. **Individual Market:** Health insurance purchased directly by individuals, often through marketplaces established under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Conclusion

The U.S. health care system often sparks controversy because it intersects with several core principles and values of the country, including individualism, equality, and freedom. For universal health care or government intervention clashes with the strong emphasis placed on the American convention of individual responsibility and self-reliance basing on the criticism of undermining personal freedom and individual choice with a single-payer system or government involvement irrespective to believe of its proponents in the necessity for everyone to ensure an access to health care believe. In the same fashion, the market-based approach to health care contradicts with values equality via exacerbating inequality and accessing disparity despite the views of those in favor of a more market-driven system argument of promoting innovation and efficiency. Last but not least, health care regulations is seen to infringing on freedom of choice's principle, particularly in terms of personal and economic decisions sparking debates about government overreach and personal choice.

Objectives

- To provide a foundational understanding of the U.S. foreign policy framework, its historical evolution, and core principles.
- To delve into specific components of U.S. foreign policy and their impacts
- To explore current challenges and debates in U.S. foreign policy.

Broadly speaking, a foreign policy refers to the strategies and goals developed after “domestic considerations, policies or behaviors of other nations and plans to advance specific geopolitical designs” (Encyclopaedia Britannica., 2024) “that guide a nation’s relations with other countries” (McGraw Hill , 2009, p. 247). Foreign policies often involve diplomacy, war alliances and international trade (Encyclopaedia Britannica., 2024).

Respectively, American foreign policies are defined as the US government's objectives and activities aimed at managing its international relationships with other countries and groups for the sake of national security, free and open trade, world peace, democratic governments and concerns for humanity (McGraw Hill , 2009). These are manifested through diplomacy, international treaties and agreements, economic cooperation, military alliances, humanitarian assistance, and efforts to address global challenges such as climate change, terrorism, and human rights violations. And they are shaped by geopolitical considerations, historical alliances, domestic politics, and the evolving international landscape (W.W. Norton and Company, Inc. , 2021).



Figure 5: Protesters rally during the “March on Washington for Gaza” in front of the White House in Washington, DC, on January 13, 2024. Retrieved from PHOTOS: Thousands march for Gaza in Washington, DC. (2024, January 13). (NBC Washington Staff) Retrieved March 15, 2024, from NBV washington: <https://www.nbcwashington.com/local/photos-thousands->

Whereas in other extreme living proofs and evidence show that The U.S. has often altered its



international tactics and actions to influence global affairs to align with its interests or strategic alliance through manipulation, coercion, exploitation, covert operations economic pressures, disregarding human rights and international laws. More recently, influence the application of democratic values and human rights such as the U.S different stand in wars in Gaza and Ukraine (Kravik, 2024). Additionally, the U.S. has faced criticism for disregarding human rights and international laws, notably in the War on Terror, where practices like enhanced interrogation at Abu Ghraib prison were condemned despite national security justifications. Historically, it has supported political movements or coups, such as the 1953 overthrow of Iran's Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh, to safeguard its interests, particularly in oil and counter Soviet influence. Coercion through economic sanctions and diplomatic pressure is another tool, exemplified by sanctions on North Korea aimed at halting its nuclear program. The exploitation of foreign resources has also been a strategy, as seen with early 20th-century U.S. businesses like the United Fruit Company in Latin America, which led to long-term repercussions for those nations. Covert operations, such as the CIA's failed Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961, further illustrate U.S. efforts to exert control through secrecy and indirect action. Economic pressures, including the longstanding embargo against Cuba initiated in 1960, have been used to compel political change.

Historical context

Historically, U.S foreign policies have evolved over time from isolationism in the 19th century to internationalism in the 20th century in response to historical events, geopolitical dynamics, and shifts in global power structures. Initially avoiding global involvement, the U.S. later engaged in world affairs to enhance national security and expand influence. Key milestones include the Monroe Doctrine in 1823 and the acquisition of overseas territories following the Spanish-American War. The U.S. shifted between isolationism and interventionism until World War II, after which it embraced a global leadership role during the Cold War. The collapse of the Soviet Union marked America as the dominant superpower, but ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and the War on Terrorism post-9/11 underscored continued international engagement and military intervention (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). Overall these changes are represented in doctrines and policies implemented across various presidential administrations as follows:



Tableau 1: A Concise Summary to U.S. Foreign Policies' Doctrines and Policies Implemented Across Various Presidential Administrations

Doctrine/Policy	Description	Causes/ reasons	Key features and objectives	Influence and Impacts on U.S. Foreign Policy
Monroe Doctrine (1823)	Asserted U.S. dominance in the Western Hemisphere, opposed European colonization	Fear of European re-colonization of newly independent Latin American nations	Prevent European intervention in the Americas, establish U.S. influence in the region.	Established precedent for U.S. intervention in the Americas, shaped U.S.-Latin American relation.
Truman Doctrine (1947)	Containment policy against Soviet expansionism, provided economic and military aid to allies	Response to Soviet actions in Eastern Europe, perceived threat of global communist expansion	Counter communism, support nations resisting Soviet influence, beginning of Cold War containment strategy.	Guided U.S. Cold War strategy, led to formation of NATO and military alliances, influenced U.S. aid programs
Eisenhower Doctrine (1957)	Extended containment to the Middle East, provided aid to countries threatened by communism	Concerns over Soviet influence in the Middle East, protection of oil resources	Prevent spread of communism in Middle East, secure access to oil resources.	Expanded U.S. influence in the Middle East, supported anti-communist regimes, shaped oil diplomacy.
Nixon Doctrine (1969)	Emphasized allies' responsibility for defense, reduced U.S. military commitments	Fiscal constraints from Vietnam War, desire for burden-sharing among allies	Shift burden of defense to allies, reduce U.S. military involvement globally.	Shifted focus to diplomacy and negotiation, reduced direct U.S. military involvement, influenced arms control talks



<i>Carter Doctrine</i> <i>(1980)</i>	Stated U.S. would use military force to protect Persian Gulf oil supplies	Response to Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, protection of vital U.S. economic interests	Defend U.S. interests in Persian Gulf, ensure access to vital oil resources.	Established U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf, shaped energy security policies
<i>Regan Doctrine</i> <i>(1985)</i>	Supported anti-communist movements globally, aimed to roll back Soviet influence	Belief in promoting democracy and freedom globally, opposition to Soviet-backed regimes	Provide aid to anti-communist forces, undermine Soviet-backed regimes.	Provided aid to anti-communist forces, escalated Cold War tensions, influenced military spending
<i>Bush Doctrine</i> <i>(2001)</i>	Asserted right to preemptive strikes against perceived threats to U.S. national security	Response to September 11 attacks, perceived threats from terrorism and rogue states.	Justify War on Terror, invade Afghanistan and Iraq	Justified military interventions in Afghanistan and Iraq, shaped U.S. counterterrorism policies
<i>Obama Doctrine</i> <i>(2009)</i>	Emphasized multilateralism, diplomacy, and soft power to address global challenges	War fatigue from Iraq and Afghanistan, belief in diplomatic solutions to global problems.	Reduce U.S. military engagements, focus on diplomacy and international cooperation.	Prioritized diplomacy over military action, led to nuclear arms reduction agreements, shaped climate policies.
<i>Trump Doctrine</i> <i>(2017)</i>	Prioritized "America First," emphasized bilateralism, economic interests over global engagement.	Electoral promises to reduce U.S. involvement abroad, criticism of	Reevaluate trade agreements, reduce foreign aid, confrontational stance towards adversaries.	Withdrew from international agreements, shifted trade policies, strained alliances.



	multilateral institutions.			
<i>Biden Doctrine</i> (2021)	Focus on rebuilding alliances, strengthening multilateral institutions, and addressing global challenges	Critique of Trump-era policies, climate change urgency, commitment to human rights and democracy.	Restore U.S. leadership in diplomacy and human rights, address climate change and authoritarianism.	Rejoined international agreements, prioritized climate diplomacy, reshaped COVID-19 response



Core Principles and Theories of American Foreign Policies

American foreign policy is shaped by a range of key principles and doctrines that guide the nation's interactions with other countries. In theory, U.S. foreign policy's decision-making and strategy formulation are attributed to several core principles and theories such as realism, liberalism, constructivism.

Realism

Realism suggests that states primarily act in their own self-interest, focusing on power, security, and survival in an anarchic international system. In the context of American foreign policy, realism has often influenced decisions such as maintaining military strength, forming strategic alliances (e.g., NATO), and pursuing policies to ensure national security and economic interests. Realist thinkers argue that these actions are necessary to protect and advance the United States' position in a competitive global environment (Cox & Stokes, 2012).

Liberalism

Liberalism, that is “the belief that it is the aim of politics to preserve individual rights and to maximize freedom of choice” (Brown, McLean, & McMillian, 2018),

“is one of the prominent domestic theories in American foreign policies... Its logic dictates that America's foreign policies should replicate the liberal democratic polity... According to liberalism, the core objectives of American foreign policy is to promote the expansion of individual liberties across the globe.” (Cox & Stokes, 2012).

Today democracy promotion - also known as democratic peace-, free trade and international institutions are the three pillars of liberal theory of U.S. foreign policies. As it has been argued that the former is in the national interests of the US and therein manifested either through softpowers (e.g. diplomacy) or unilateral actions (Iraq and Libya) . Whereas the latter is believed to help in rectifying international cooperation (Cox & Stokes, 2012).

Constructivism

Constructivism focuses on how ideas, norms, and identities shape international relations. In American foreign policy, its perspectives highlight the importance of diplomacy, cultural exchange, and

the influence of shared values (such as democracy and human rights) in shaping alliances and interactions with other nations. it encourages understanding how perceptions and beliefs affect state behavior, influencing policies related to cultural diplomacy, public diplomacy, and efforts to build partnerships based on shared norms and identities. (Cox & Stokes, 2012)

American Exceptionalism

American Exceptionalism is a concept deeply embedded in American identity and political discourse, influencing both domestic policies and foreign relations. It posits that the United States is inherently unique among nations due to its historical development, political institutions, and ideological foundations attributing to factors such as the American Revolution, the Constitution, the frontier spirit, and a commitment to individual liberty and democracy. Additionally, it suggests that it has a special mission or destiny in the world, often perceived as a moral responsibility to spread democratic ideals, human rights, and free-market capitalism globally. This belief in a mission influences foreign policy decisions, including interventions in other countries to promote democracy or confront

perceived threats to American values. In terms of foreign policy, American Exceptionalism can shape decisions related to military interventions, alliances, humanitarian aid, and support for international organizations. It often emphasizes America's role as a global leader and defender of democracy, influencing policies ranging from the Cold War containment strategy to contemporary efforts to combat terrorism. Overall, American Exceptionalism continues to play a significant role in shaping the United States' role in global affairs, influencing how Americans perceive their country's place in the world and the responsibilities that come with it. This principle has been a subject of debate both within the United States and internationally. Critics argue that it can lead to arrogance, unilateralism, and interventions that undermine sovereignty and international law. However, supporters argue that it reflects a commitment to universal values and a willingness to lead in addressing global challenges (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).



Figure 6: A depiction to one of the Many Violations of American Army's Against unarmed civilians during its intervention in Iraq, ostensibly for peacekeeping purposes Retrived from <https://alummcenter.com/?p=3040>.



National Interest

American foreign policy traditionally prioritizes the national interest, which includes economic prosperity, national security, and the maintenance of global influence. This perspective often guides decisions related to trade agreements, military alliances, and diplomatic engagements. For example, policies such as the Monroe Doctrine, which aimed to prevent European intervention in the Americas to safeguard U.S. interests, reflect a focus on national interest (Cox & Stokes, 2012).

Moral Imperatives

American foreign policy also incorporates moral imperatives, which are ethical principles and values that the United States aims to uphold and promote globally. These may include human rights, democracy promotion, humanitarian intervention, and the rule of law. Humanitarian interventions, such as U.S. involvement in conflicts like Kosovo or Libya, often stem from a belief in moral imperatives to protect civilians or uphold international norms (Cox & Stokes, 2012).

In practice, American foreign policy often integrates elements from both such theories and principles, though the emphasis may shift depending on the geopolitical context, administration priorities, and global challenges at hand. Each theory provides a lens through which policymakers analyze and navigate the complexities of international relations, offering insights into strategic decision-making, alliances, conflict resolution, and efforts to promote global stability and prosperity. The tension between national interest and moral imperatives shapes American foreign policy decisions. Policymakers must often balance these considerations: prioritizing national security and economic interests while also addressing global humanitarian concerns and promoting democratic values. The degree to which these principles influence policy can vary depending on the administration in power, prevailing international circumstances, and domestic political factors. Overall, understanding how national interest and moral imperatives interact is crucial for comprehending the complexities of American foreign policy, as it navigates between pursuing strategic objectives and upholding ethical commitments on the global stage (Cox & Stokes, 2012).

Key players and their responsibilities in US foreign policies

The U.S. foreign policies involve multiple governmental layers. Accordingly, they are dealt with through and according to the political system wherein the president, Congress, State Department,



National Security Council are involved through holding different responsibilities regarding the foreign policies and international affairs (see table 02) (book). Additionally, they are influenced and implemented by others several other key actors including: Department of Defense (DoD), Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Ambassadors and Diplomatic Corps, Congressional Committees, International Organizations and Alliances, Business and Economic Interests through assuming different on the global stage. These actors work together to shape and execute U.S. foreign policy, navigating complex international relations, diplomacy, defense strategies, and global economic interests. (McGraw Hill , 2009). This table highlights the roles and responsibilities of key players in Congress, the State Department, and the National Security Council, emphasizing their contributions to shaping and implementing U.S. foreign policy (Viotti, 2010).

Table 2: A Summary to the Key Players' Responsibilities in Forming U.S Foreign Policies

Key players	Institution/Position	Responsibilities
Congress	House Foreign Affairs Committee	- Reviews and approves foreign aid - Conducts hearings on foreign policy issues - Provides oversight on international agreements
	Senate Foreign Relations Committee	- Reviews and approves treaties and international agreements - Oversees diplomatic appointments and policies - Conducts hearings on foreign policy and international relations.
State Department	Secretary of State	- Formulates and implements U.S. foreign policy - Negotiates treaties and agreements - Oversees U.S. embassies and consulates - Represents U.S. interests abroad.
	Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs	- Manages diplomatic relations with foreign governments - Assists in formulating foreign policy strategy - Oversees regional and bilateral affairs.
	Assistant Secretary of State	- Focuses on specific regions or issues (e.g., European Affairs, East Asian Affairs) - Coordinates regional policies and diplomacy.
National Security Council (NSC)	National Security Advisor	- Advises the President on national security and foreign policy matters - Coordinates NSC activities - Integrates U.S. foreign policy with national security objectives.
	Deputy National Security Advisor	- Assists the National Security Advisor in policy development - Manages day-to-day operations of the NSC - Coordinates between various government agencies.
	Director of National Intelligence (DNI)	- Oversees the U.S. intelligence community - Provides intelligence support to national security and foreign policy decisions - Coordinates intelligence activities and assessments.



Conclusion

In summary, the examination of U.S. foreign policy highlights its complex interplay of national interests, ethical considerations, and global dynamics. Its strategies and decisions are shaped by historical legacies, strategic objectives, and evolving global contexts. These often in reality are realized at the expense of the previously mentioned theoretical aspects of these policies resulting in This can lead to the erosion of ethical principles, exacerbation of humanitarian crises, and disruption of global stability, further complicating international relations. Hence, understanding these policies is crucial for comprehending how the U.S. navigates its role on the world stage and influences international relations. This awareness enhances comprehension of global affairs and prepares individuals to engage with the complexities of international diplomacy.



Further Reading

Viotti, P. R. (2010). American foreign policy. UK: Cambridge, UK ; Malden, MA : Polity.



Writing Assignment

Examine the following source carefully then write a historical source analysis using the six analysis skills on the basis of this lecture Handout.

1. How do domestic policies influence foreign policy decisions within the US?
2. In what ways does foreign policy affect domestic policies in America?
3. How is foreign policy related to and affected by domestic policy? (3:50 – end)
4. Provide examples of domestic policies that have significantly altered the US foreign policy?
5. Do you agree or disagree with this statement from the video: “The United States defends human rights by holding governments accountable to their obligations under human rights standards and agreements”. Explain your reasoning.

X. American Multi-Culturalism

Lecture Objectives

- Grasp the basic definition of multiculturalism and its significance in American society.
- Explain different intergroup relations in terms of their relative levels of tolerance
- Give historical and/or contemporary examples of each type of intergroup relation
- Recognize major cultural groups in the United States and understand their contributions to American society.
- Introduce and practice key terms such as diversity, inclusion, assimilation, and cultural heritage through various activities.

Introduction

Multiculturalism is a central aspect of contemporary USA. As concept, “‘Multiculturalism’ entered public discourses in the late 1960s and early 1970s, when both Australia and Canada began to declare their support for it” (Jeffrey Lehman, 1999). Namely it “refers to the coexistence of people with many cultural identities in a common state, society, or community” (Oxford Reference, 2024). As a prescriptive term,

“It has involved the creation of structures in which the incorporation of immigrants and ethnic minorities occurs fairly and with the recognition that the desire of immigrants and minorities to retain aspects of their cultures is reasonable, and that cultural diversity is itself desirable and benefits the nation in a variety of ways...it has an equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory strand that is often ignored in debates about the meaning and effectiveness of multiculturalism” (Jeffrey Lehman, 1999).



Figure 7: “Students Protest Segregation at The State Capital Building in Atalanta on Feberuary 1, 1962” Retrieved from Hatfield, E. A. (2024). Segregation. (Georgia Humanities, University of Georgia Press) Retrieved 7 8, 2023, from New Georgia Encyclopedia :

Nonetheless, how various cultural, ethnic, and racial groups interact within a society, particularly in the context of the United States, has been ascribed into different approaches overtime prior to their prevalence into multicultural perspective (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). These were reflected in a history of, first, an enforced segregation, precisely De jure segregation, which most prominently witnessed in the Jim Crow laws (codified in Supreme Court case *Plessey v. Ferguson* (1896)) that required segregated facilities for blacks and whites



subjugating the African American therein to legalized discrimination extending to public facilities, schools, and housing (Intergroup Relationships, s.d.). And it most profoundly experienced in in Anti-miscegenation laws that prohibited interracial marriage and relationships, enforcing racial segregation and discrimination primarily from the late 19th C until the Supreme Court case of *Loving v. Virginia* (1967). Second, an attempted assimilation which seen in immigrants and their descendants blending into U.S. culture and adopt those of mainstream American culture while keeping only and occasionally symbolic gestures of their original ethnicity (E.g. Irish Americans Saint Patrick's Day celebration, Hindu Americans Diwali festival festivities, Mexican Americans Cinco de Mayo festivities) in exchange for the oblivion of other aspects of their originating culture for the rest of the year. Third, an advocated melting pot philosophy which realized in unitary and fourth an ideal of the United States as a "salad bowl" which emerged in pluralism. These together concluded with multiculturalism through maintaining and valuing diverse cultural identities. (Intergroup Relationships, s.d.)

In America, multiculturalism has been the answer to the claims of unitary culture and cultural pluralism because for many Americans it is the belief "in which multiple traditions are the ideal, and no cultural group, however old or influential historically, receives priority" (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). However, "Americans disagree over the nature of the process and what the ultimate goal should be: the integration, assimilation, even homogenization, of newcomers or the acceptance of a permanently pluralistic society" (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).

Origins and Roots of American Multiculturalism

The climate of cultural diversity that prevailed in the United States at the end of the 20th century was a product of:

- political upheavals (e.g. the civil rights movement suffrage movements) and economic ones (such as the migration of Third World peoples to more prosperous industrialized nations.)
- Territorial expansion of the new republic (i.e.
- Wars refugees
- Immigration and naturalization American policies
- Anglo-Americans' acceptance of foreigners
- The European colonization campaigns
- The transatlantic trade and middle passage human trade
- Indigenous people. (Jeffrey Lehman, 1999)

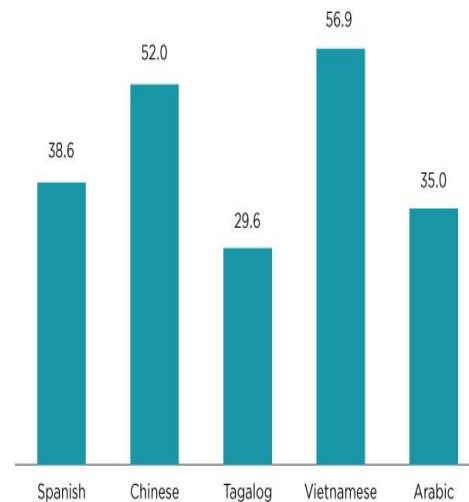


Overall, these factors contribute to the multifaceted characteristics and features of multiculturalism in the country among of which:

Characteristics and features of multiculturalism in America

1. Ethnic and racial diversity with total of 1,500 Race and ethnicity groups recognized in six ethnic categories: whites, blacks, Asians, Amerindians/ Alaska natives, pacific islanders, and mixed ethnicity.
2. The existence of religious intuitions or affiliations such An Lạc Temple in Indianapolis, Masjid Al-Huda in Nebraska.
3. Cuisines and ethnic minority's motherhoods such as Chinatown (New York City), Little Havana (Miami), Fredericksburg, in central Texas. (ERA Franchise Systems LLC, 2023)
4. Multilingualism with various others spoken languages beside English

Figure 4.
Most Frequently Spoken Languages at Home by English-Speaking Ability: 2019
(In percent)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, 1-year estimates.

Figure 8: An Illustrative Sample for 4. Multilingualism in U.S.A

The significance and contribution of ethnic minorities in the American society

In addition to their continued influential evolution in the U.S. technology, business, sport, culture, cuisine and economy, the history stands as a witness to the achievements that these individuals have made for America. And this through their unique traditions, innovations, and perspectives over the time that include the following examples

Y

Table 3:A Concise Overview to several of the Contributions of Various Cultural Groups to American Society

Cultural Group	Contributions	Examples
African Americans	- Creating new and unique forms of Music (e.g. The blues and jazz) - Broadening the perspective of literature through powerful narratives on race and identity. - Advancing racial equality.	Mariana Anderson Alex Haley, Toni Morrison, Terry McMillian Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, Malcolm
Hispanic/Latino Americans	- integrating of dishes into American food culture - Arts (significant contributions to art contributions to art and entertainment - Introducing Hispanic perspectives to global literature.	Tacos, enchiladas, salsa Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, Lin-Manuel Miranda Gabriel García Márquez, Sandra Cisneros
Asian Americans	- Technology and Innovation (contributions to tech and science) - Cuisine (popularization of diverse Asian foods) - Arts and Entertainment (diverse stories and perspectives) - Cultural Heritage (celebrations and traditions)	Steve Jobs, various scientists and engineers
Native Americans	- Arts and Crafts (traditional and contemporary contributions) - Environmental Stewardship (knowledge and practices in conservation) - Political Advocacy (fight for Native American rights and sovereignty) - Preserving and sharing of traditions	Beadwork, pottery, weaving Wilma Mankiller, Russell Means
Jewish Americans	- Entertainment (impact on film, television, and comedy) - Science and Medicine (notable advancements and contributions) - Philanthropy (support for social justice, education, and health)	



Challenges and disadvantages of American Multiculturalism

Similar to the past American experiences of the widespread discrimination, economic exploitation, antforeign movements and debates over equality, opportunity and national identity fueled by contacts, conflicts and mixing of cultures (Mauk & Oakland, 2009), multiculturalism still entails many challenges in contemporary America, especially for ethnic minorities. As these groups are the weakest link and victims to its shortcoming in the light of the lack of the combination of jurisdictions of different cultures through legislative decree to guarantee an equal right to them.

- Communal conflicts (E.g. 2020 George Floyd protests; Executive actions on immigration in Trump administration)
- Lower living standards
- Poor economic infrastructure
- Limited political and economic freedom
- Pervasive corruption Criminal Justice System
- Oppressive government
- Shorter life expectancy
- Poor education. (Heycke, 2023)

Conclusion

Despite its reputation as a "melting pot," the United States continued to wrestle with a fragmented population divided along ethnic, social, and religious lines. Established groups often felt threatened by efforts to integrate newcomers. Starting in the 1970s, affirmative action programs aimed to counter employment and educational discrimination against minorities and women through quota systems. However, this approach sparked controversy and criticism, with opponents arguing it constituted "reverse discrimination." Landmark decisions like the US Supreme Court's ruling in *University of California vs. Bakke* (1978) and California's Proposition 209 (1996) sought to restrict or eliminate affirmative action preferences. Critics also condemned what they viewed as excessive demands for inclusivity, citing instances of overly stringent "politically correct" language and behavior. During the 1990s, diversity training in businesses, schools, and the military shifted focus from merely eliminating differences to celebrating diversity. Events such as Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Gay and Lesbian Pride Parades underscored a growing acknowledgment of the contributions diverse groups made to shaping the multifaceted identity of multicultural America.



Writing Assignment

Do you believe immigration laws should foster an approach of pluralism, assimilation, or amalgamation? Which perspective do you think is most supported by current U.S. immigration policies involving incarcerating undocumented children and separating them from their parents, and 'the wall'?



XI. American Church, State and Politics

Lecture Objectives

- Develop an understanding to the principle of separation of church and state in regard to the American civilization.
- Provide an overview to the religious observance, religious diversity and religiosity of Americans.

Introduction

Religion represents a significant aspect of American culture, stemming from the diverse faiths brought by colonists, slaves, and immigrants over centuries. Early settlers fleeing religious persecution sought to establish communities based on unconventional beliefs, while others maintained their established denominations. These religious motivations laid a foundational and moral groundwork for the new nation. Later immigrants also often retained strong ties to their native faiths, preserving them in their new homeland (Beal, 2008).

Roots & Origin of the American religious Institution

1. The 15th and 16th European Colonization campaigns in the Americas;
2. The religious expeditions and pilgrimage of the religious freedom seekers;
3. Slave trade & the Atlantic crossing;
4. The missionary Movement 19th and 20th century;
5. The immigration waves (during the colonial era, mid to late 19th and 20th century)
6. The 1st and the 2nd Great Awakening.

Historical Characteristics Features of Religion Observance and Influence in America

- Distinctive religious diversity or pluralism
- Religious activity with evangelical and fundamentalist characteristics has been important at various times.

- Continued yielded conflict within faiths, between religions and in the larger society.
- Emphasis on the social aspects of religion and the provision of social welfare by the churches.
- Religion has been closely linked to a belief in democracy and freedom.
- Religious identities and membership of churches have often been connected with social class and ethnicity.
- There is a constitutional emphasis on separating religion from the state.

Current Trends Towards Religion

In contemporary American civilization, however, religion takes a more sociological perspective with sociologists arguing its function and importance in the society. Where, the functionalism theory argues on the role of religion in serving several functions for society. These include (a) giving meaning and purpose to life, (b) reinforcing social unity and stability, (c) serving as an agent of social control of behavior, (d) promoting physical and psychological well-being, and (e) motivating people to work for positive social change. While the conflict theory adopts the view that religion reinforces and promotes social inequality and social conflict. It helps convince the poor to accept their lot in life, and it leads to hostility and violence motivated by religious differences. Whereas symbolic interactionism theory remain neutral keeping the essence of religion stance to American by focusing on the ways in which individuals interpret their religious experiences. It emphasizes that beliefs and practices are not sacred unless people regard them as such. Once they are regarded as sacred, they take on special significance and give meaning to people's lives (Sociology, 2016).

The religious diversity in America

National surveys show that about 50% of Americans identify as protestants; 20% identify as Catholics; 6% identify as none Christian faith and 23% do not identify with religion at all. within the protestant faith there are large of denominations including both mainstream denominations. Such as Presbyterians, Lutherans and evangelical churches like Baptists and Methodist.

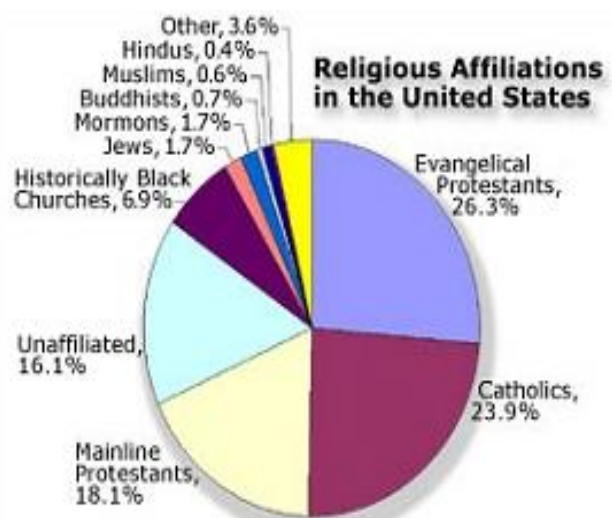


Figure 9: U.S. Religious Landscape Adopted from America in context: U.S. Religious Landscape Is Marked by Diversity and Change. (2007). (U.S. Embassy Belgium.) Retrieved January 4, 2024, from My America: <http://1website.be/myamerica/php/american.php?aID=21>



Church States and Politics

Religion in American Politics

With regard to religion and politics, the United States established itself as a nation in 1776, one of the key principles enshrined within the first amendment to the Constitution stated that “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.” in order to protect Americans’ rights to religious freedom. As part of this, the US cannot establish a religion nor prevent free exercise of religion. The Founding Fathers took an unprecedented step when they refused to establish a state religion. Yet, Jefferson’s reservations & Madison provision helped pressed for adding a bill of rights for full religious freedom & the separation of church & state. Respectively, Religion & politics were separated to avoid religious wars & weaken the influence of the church’s role in civil government via:

1. omitting “God reference” in the new constitution,
2. vesting religious freedom,
3. jarring religious tests for office-holders and state courts,
4. abolishing taxpayer support for religious cause, e) & deeming churches as private institutions (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).

When the U.S. Constitution removed the government support of one specific religion or church, it created what historians call the “American Spiritual Market,” meaning that Americans had dozens of options to choose from when it came to their religious practice and belief. Any small disagreement about theology, doctrine, or practice might lead to a church schism, which would produce another denomination that was ostensibly the same, but with one or two minor changes.

It prohibits the government from establishing or promoting any religion and protects individuals' rights to practice their own faiths. While originally applying only to the federal government, the principle has been extended to states through the Fourteenth Amendment (1868). It prohibits the government from establishing or promoting any religion and protects individuals' rights to practice their own faiths. While originally applying only to the federal government, the principle has been extended to states through the Fourteenth Amendment (1868) (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).



Church and States

In the USA, church states and politics are separated due to the clause of the First Amendment, which prohibits Congress from establishing or supporting a national religion and protects individuals' rights to practice their faith, on federal level and the fourteenth amendment, which has been interpreted to extend these protections to state governments as well (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). "At the same time, the concept has remained highly controversial in the popular culture and law. Much of the debate over the application and meaning of the phrase focuses on its historical antecedents" (Green, 2014) and religion's role in public life. Respectively, unlike in the past, churches are independent in sese that there are no church taxes, official religious holidays, or state-supported churches. Churches and religious groups are self-supporting and provide significant charitable contributions and community services. Nonetheless, there have been instances of overlap between church and state, as states have historically restricted religious freedoms for certain groups, and the Supreme Court has occasionally ruled on exceptions to these rules. As in the examples of the Supreme Court cases of **Engel v. Vitale (1962)** which ruled against state-sponsored school prayer (Dierenfield, 2007); in contrast to, **Burwell v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc. (2014)** which allowed for religious exemptions from certain health care mandates (Snow, 2009). In addition to evidence of politicians blurring these lines by supporting faith-based initiatives (E.g. George W. Bush's) (Mauk & Oakland, 2009) and the influence of lobbying groups, including those representing Jewish organizations, those shape legislation and policy decisions through financial contributions and strategic advocacy (Mearsheimer & Walt, 2008). Hence, some argue that the separation of church and state is being compromised, while others advocate for a more prominent role of religion in public affairs. The Supreme Court has not ruled phrases like "In God We Trust" as unconstitutional, reflecting the continued presence of religious elements in national symbols and practices. Overall, while religion's formal influence in national politics is limited, personal beliefs and active religious groups still play a role in shaping political and social issues.

Conclusion

Despite the constitutional separation of church and state, religion has permeated various aspects of American society beyond purely denominational boundaries. It influences social norms, economic practices, and political discourse, sparking ongoing debates about its role in shaping education, politics, and ethical frameworks. While there is a commitment to keeping religion distinct from formal political



processes, some critics argue against excluding religion entirely from public life, questioning the feasibility and desirability of such a separation. This tension reflects the ongoing evolution and influence of religious beliefs and practices in shaping the broader cultural landscape of the United States.

**End Note**

Religious History by Berkin, C. (1979). Women of America: A history. Houghton Mifflin School.



XII. American Industry and Manufacturing

Lecture Objectives

- Provide a comprehensive overview of American industry and manufacturing, highlighting key historical milestones, current trends, and future prospects.

Introduction

The United States has a rich history in industry (i.e. “a classification for a group of companies that have similar business activities.” (Gorton, 2024, para.1)) and manufacturing (i.e. “The process of turning raw materials or parts into finished goods through the use of tools, human labor, machinery, and chemical processing” (Kenton, 2024, para.1).) that dates back to the late eighteenth century. Intrinsically, it started with the Industrial Revolution, which transformed agrarian economies -that is the “type of economy primarily based on agriculture, where most of the production and revenue come from farming and the cultivation of land” (StudySmarter GmbH, 2023, para.1)- into industrialized ones through innovations like the steam engine and mechanized textile production. The early 19th century saw the rise of factories, particularly in New England, contributing to urbanization and labour shifts. The Civil War spurred manufacturing demands, and post-World War II, the U.S. emerged as a global leader, with the automotive industry exemplifying mass production through assembly lines. However, from the late 20th century, the sector faced challenges from globalization and competition. Despite this, advancements in technology, such as automation and digital processes, continue to reshape manufacturing, focusing on efficiency and sustainability.

American Industry and Manufacturing

The evolution of American industry and manufacturing from the Industrial Revolution to the present day reflects a dynamic transformation marked by significant technological advancements and shifts in production focus. Beginning in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, the Industrial Revolution catalyzed the growth of industries such as textiles, iron, and steel, laying the foundation for America's industrial might. By the late 19th century, the Gilded Age saw a surge in heavy manufacturing and the rise of major corporations in sectors like steel, automotive, and railroads. The 20th century introduced further innovations with the advent of mass production techniques and the expansion of high-tech industries, including electronics and aerospace. The latter half of the century and the early 21st century have been characterized by a shift towards high-technology and service-oriented industries, with manufacturing increasingly focusing on advanced



technologies such as computer systems and aerospace components. Despite these advancements, the sector has faced challenges, including economic fluctuations and a decline in blue-collar jobs, yet it remains a critical component of the U.S. economy, continually adapting to technological changes and global market demands (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).

Historically, manufacturing and industrial production have played a vital role in the U.S. economy. Today, this sector remains a dominant global force, characterized by technological advancement and significant diversity. It constitutes 19.8 percent of the U.S. GDP. Key areas include the production of heavy transportation and automotive equipment (such as vehicles, aircraft, and aerospace components), non-electrical goods, electrical machinery, food products, chemicals, steel, consumer goods, mining, lumber, oil, telecommunications, electronics, and high-tech hardware (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).

The traditional industrial and manufacturing core of the USA is centered in the Midwest region, including the Great Lakes area, southern Michigan, northern Ohio, and the Pittsburgh region of Pennsylvania. While growth and production in this area have varied, with some sectors declining or transitioning to high-tech industries, other industrial regions have emerged and expanded. The Northeast, Northwest, and Southwest (especially California) now focus on high-tech and computer manufacturing. Additionally, the Southeast and Texas have seen rapid industrial growth, particularly in steel, chemicals, and high-technology sectors (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).

This industrial and manufacturing base is exemplified by major corporations like General Motors (Detroit) and Ford (Michigan) in the automotive sector, Exxon (New York) in oil refining, IBM (New York) in computers, General Electric (Connecticut) in electronics, and Boeing (Seattle) in aerospace and defense. Despite this, the automobile industry faced severe challenges in 2008, with major players such as General Motors, Ford, and Chrysler confronting the possibility of bankruptcy. Although industrial and manufacturing production growth rates have varied, including a decline of 1.7 percent in 2007, the U.S. remains the world's top producer of industrial goods. In 2007, manufacturing employed 13.7 million Americans, and combined with jobs in mining, construction, and chemicals, these sectors constituted 22.6 percent of the workforce. Nevertheless, the number of blue-collar workers has been steadily decreasing (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).



Conclusion

In conclusion, the industry and manufacturing sector in the United States has evolved significantly over the centuries, shaping the nation's economy and identity. From the early days of the Industrial Revolution to the technological advancements of today, American manufacturing has demonstrated resilience and adaptability. While challenges such as global competition and labor shortages persist, the ongoing embrace of innovation, sustainability, and a focus on workforce development position the sector for a promising future. As the U.S. continues to navigate the complexities of a rapidly changing global landscape, a commitment to fostering a robust manufacturing base will be crucial in ensuring economic stability and maintaining its competitive edge. Ultimately, the strength of American industry lies not only in its rich history but also in its capacity to innovate and respond to emerging trends, securing a vibrant and sustainable future for generations to come.

XIII. American Social Classes and Economic Inequality

Lecture Objectives

1. Identifying and describing social stratification system in America as well as types of social mobility.
2. Recognize characteristics that define and identify class
3. Providing a comprehensive overview into economic inequality in America.

American Social Classes

Social class is a grouping of people based on similar social factors including wealth, income, education, and occupation. These factors affect how much power and prestige a person has. The US is the most highly stratified society in the industrialized world. Class distinctions in America operate in virtually every aspect of Americans lives, determining the nature of their work, the quality of their schooling, and even the health and safety of their citizens. The number of years a person spends in school, plus the prestige of his or her occupation, plus the amount of money he or she accumulates over time, determines one's social class. Still, there is a surprising amount of disagreement among sociologists on the number of social classes in the U.S. and even on how to measure social class membership (Social Class in the United States, s.d.).

Measuring Social Class and Social Mobility

Social class can be measured either *objectively* or *subjectively*. Namely the objective method classifies people according to their socioeconomic status (SES) (i.e. occupation, education, or income). While, people themselves chose their **stratum** in the subjective method. Most sociologists, however, favor the former measures in the stratification of U.S society due to the imprecision of the latter. Yet, even with these objective measures there is disagreement between functionalist theorists and conflict theorists on which objective measures to use. Functionalist sociologists rely on measures of (SES) to determine someone's social class. Whereas, conflict sociologists' classification tends for ownership of the means of production and other dynamics of the workplace.

Social Mobility

By definition, social mobility refers to the degree to which, in a given society, an individual's, families, or group's social status can change throughout the course of their life through a system of social hierarchy or stratification. Individuals can experience:

1. Upward social mobility

Upward social mobility refers to the increase or upward shift in social class by gaining fame, getting rich, earning a college degree, getting a job promotion, or marrying someone with a good income (Lumen Learning & OpenStax, 2021).

Examples:

- a. Oprah Winfrey: A poor African American who rose from a challenging childhood in poverty to become a media mogul and philanthropist, ultimately amassing a net worth in the billions (Lumen Learning & OpenStax, 2021).
- b. Michael Jordan: An African American who went from a modest upbringing to become a basketball legend, achieving immense success through sports endorsements and business ventures.

2. Downward social mobility

Downward social mobility is lowering one's social class through business setbacks, unemployment, or illness, dropping out of school, losing a job, or getting divorce (Lumen Learning & OpenStax, 2021).

Examples:

- a. Mike Tyson: A richest athlete of his time who mobilized from the top stratum to the bottom of the social class system hierarchy after depleting his net worth with financial trouble and personal struggle.
- b. Michael Jackson: An upper-class famous star who suffered a significant decline in his social status due to financial losses and criminal allegations.

3. Structural Social mobility

The societal changes that enable a whole group of people to move up or down the social class ladder (Lumen Learning & OpenStax, 2021). Unlike downward social mobility and its counterpart, the upward social mobility, that refers to the ability to change individual's social status according to one's own efforts, this type of mobility is considered a uncontrolled forced shift. And this is due the fact that it is attributed to factors beyond one's control including shifts in economic structure, technological advances, globalization, changes in the labor market, government policies, demographic changes, historical events. Nonetheless, the people's movement in structured social mobility can be in either an upward or downward direction (Yadav, 2023) 2014).

Examples:

- a. The Civil Rights Act and immigration legislation that helped dismantle institutional barriers for marginalized groups, allowing for greater access to jobs and education.
- b. The decline of manufacturing jobs and the rise of the service and tech sectors have changed job availability, benefiting those who can transition to new industries.
- c. Moving from rural to urban areas has provided individuals greater access to jobs, education, and social networks that promote upward mobility.
- d. Affordable Care Act have improved access to healthcare, enabling people to work and pursue education without the burden of medical debt.

The American Social Classes Trends

In spite of its classes and egalitarian assumed portrait, social and economic disparities have always grouped the Americans into working-, middle- and upper-class model starting by the Industrial Revolution, through the Gilded Age and up to the present day. Gradually, these periods contributed into widening the gap between different social strata in the American society resulting in further stratifications ascribing minority ethnic groups into groups such as: lower-middle class, an unemployable and alienated under-class. While, the majority groups believed themselves to belong to the middle-class on the basis of their incomes and lifestyle that have been improved after the rise in service-sector white-collar employees and a growth in professional and executive grades (Mauk & Oakland, 2009). By contrast, sociologists have outlined as many as six or seven social classes based on SES, lifestyle, the school's people's children attend, a family's reputation in the community, how "old" or "new" people's wealth is, and so forth.



Table 4 : Overview of Social Class Distribution in Present-Day America

Social Class		Membership	Money	Education	Occupation
Upper Class	<i>Upper-upper Class</i>	<i>Wealthy, powerful, & influential Families.</i>	Old money	Expensive private schools	Serve on the boards of museums, corporations, and major charities
	<i>Lower-upper Class</i>	<i>The working rich</i>	New money		Government officials, large business owners, or top executives
Middle Class	<i>Upper-middle Class</i>	<i>Educational background and an average income</i>	Salary	College, most-post graduate or professional degrees	Bankers, lawyers, engineers, corporate managers, or financial advisers
	<i>Lower-middle Class</i>			College degrees, 2-year degrees or a high school degree	White-collar jobs: nurses, teachers
Lower Class	<i>The Working class</i>	<i>Less educational background & low income</i>	Wages	Do not have 4-year college degrees	Blue collar jobs: factory work, construction,..ect Less skilled clerical positions
	<i>The Working Poor</i>			Lack high school degrees	Semiskilled or unskilled jobs: janitors, house cleaners, migrant laborers,

Overall, despite the fact that in an open system of social stratification like in the U.S, status is achieved through merit or effort, and social mobility between classes is possible through education and certain opportunities or getting a divorce. The benefits and opportunities of higher social classes tend to accumulate and expand, while lower social classes struggle with systemic barriers that hinder their economic advancement. For individuals in higher social classes often enjoy better-paying jobs, superior education, and greater opportunities for wealth accumulation, while those in lower social classes may face lower wages, limited educational access, and fewer chances to build wealth. These advantages and disadvantages are compounded by differences in job security, social networks, and access to health care, which perpetuate and widen the economic gap between classes. In fact, US social class leads to economic inequality by creating and reinforcing disparities in income, education, and wealth.

Economic Inequality

Although US depicted itself as an egalitarian society, an economic inequality in the distribution of economic assets and income among individuals or groups is observed within its society. This disparity encompasses differences in wealth, income, and access to resources and opportunities between the different social groups and genders. It is manifest in various forms, like differences in salaries, ownership of property, and access to education and healthcare. This inequality is attributed according to (Oakland & Mauk:2008 p.672) into:

- Actual increase in relative poverty;
- low wages for average female workers;
- ethnic groups and unskilled /semi-skilled;
- the existence of an under-class;
- the decline of trade unions;
- low tax rates for the wealthy.

Historically, income inequality has long been a significant problem in the U.S., with a large percentage of wealth going to a small percentage of the population. It has been attributed to historical social ills—such as slavery, immigration problems, and Japanese internment camps. Precisely, the shared prosperity of the decades following World War II would come to an end during the 1970s; the poor economic situation led to new policies that favored the wealthy. It is imperative

that future government policies provide opportunities to those with less in an effort to bridge the income-inequality divide (Mauk & Oakland, 2009).

Wealth inequality is higher in the United States than in almost any other developed country and has risen for much of the past 60 years. Racial wealth inequities have persisted for generations, reflecting the long-standing effects of racist policies, not individual intentions or deficits. In a nation that professes that those who work hard and play by the rules should be rewarded with social and economic upward mobility, these persistent disparities are a stark reminder that, as a society, we have not achieved this goal. On the long term, it effects social mobility, economic stability, and overall quality of life for different segments of the population. In essence, economic inequality highlights the gaps between the affluent and those with fewer economic resources. (Mauk & Oakland, 2009)

XIV. References

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