



## US History L2 Unit 4 - American Foreign Policy

### Unit Focus

As American society developed throughout the 20th century, the country's position in the world substantially changed. Inevitably, like all nations, the United States continues to balance its global interests while holding true to its founding principles. With the rapidly changing dynamics of the 21st Century information age, the intricacies of diplomacy, collective security, and globalization challenge the US government and its interests and actions around the globe. A major dilemma, which has become more apparent with global extremism and polarization, is that of determining a particular approach or course of action and the potential impacts of that action. Included in the evaluation of foreign policy is the importance of geographic reasoning and its influence on diplomatic decision-making. This unit encourages students not only to develop a clarity in their underlying beliefs about foreign policy at specific "decision points" in the 20th century, but also to understand the impact of the various foreign policy tools available to preempt, respond to, and influence contemporary global issue and conditions. Continued reading, research, opinion/argumentative writing, and historical thinking skills will also be of focus during several workshop sessions as students further develop their thesis statement and outline, make deeper connections to the themes from unit 4, and begin working with peers and the instructor to draft a paper and reflect on the process.

### STAGE 1: DESIRED RESULTS – KEY UNDERSTANDINGS

ESTABLISHED GOALS	TRANSFER	
<p><b>Common Core Standards</b>  <i>History/Social Studies : 12</i>            919843 <i>Reading History</i>            919844 <i>Key Ideas and Details</i>            919852 <i>Integration of Knowledge and Ideas</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.11-12.8 Evaluate an author's premises, claims, and evidence by corroborating or challenging them with other information.</li> </ul> <p>919858 <i>Writing History &amp; Science</i>            919859 <i>Text Types and Purposes</i>            CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.11-12.1 <i>Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.11-12.1E Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from or supports the argument presented.</li> </ul> <p>919872 <i>Production and Distribution of Writing</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.WHST.11-12.5 Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.</li> </ul> <p><b>Performance Standards</b>  <i>Social Studies : 12</i>            1011321 <i>DIMENSION 2: APPLYING DISCIPLINARY CONCEPTS &amp; TOOLS</i>            1011342 <i>Economics</i></p>	<p>T1 Apply historical knowledge to develop connections to other eras/situations or provide insight into a contemporary issue (<i>Engaging in Global Issues</i>)</p> <p>T2 Pose and pursue question(s) to better understand an issue and draw conclusion or seek patterns based on a synthesis of evidence (<i>Synthesizing</i>)</p>	
	MEANING	
	UNDERSTANDINGS	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS
<p>U1 Historical events and developments are shaped by specific individuals, groups, and unique circumstances of time and place, as well as broader historical contexts.</p> <p>U2 The outcome of any historical event may not be intended or predicted.</p> <p>U3 Geographic reasoning requires using spatial and environmental perspectives, skills in asking and answering questions, and being able to apply geographic representations.</p> <p>U4 Rules, laws, and processes help people make decisions on issues to balance individual freedoms and common good.</p>	<p>Q1 How did this event occur? Why did this event occur?</p> <p>Q2 How do historians recognize past problems and apply their understandings to present issues?</p> <p>Q3 How can geographic reasoning be applied to infer useful information and make decisions?</p> <p>Q4 What are the challenges and potential impacts of taking action?</p> <p>Q5 Why do I need to develop claims and use evidence from multiple sources?</p>	

## STAGE 1: DESIRED RESULTS – KEY UNDERSTANDINGS

- ECO.9--12.9 Explain how current globalization trends and policies affect economic growth, labor markets, rights of citizens, the environment and resource and income distribution in different nations.  
*1011352 Geography*
- GEO.9--12.12 Evaluate how globalization, competition for scarce resources and human migration contribute to conflict and cooperation within and among countries.  
*1011365 History*
- HIST.9--12.1 Evaluate how historical events and developments were shaped by unique circumstances of time and place as well as broader historical contexts.
- HIST.9--12.16 Integrate evidence from multiple relevant historical sources and interpretations into a reasoned argument about the past.
- HIST.9--12.8 Analyze how current interpretations of the past are limited by the extent to which available historical sources represent perspectives of people at the time.  
*1011383 DIMENSION 3: EVALUATING SOURCES & USING EVIDENCE*
- INQ.9--12.9 Refine claims and counterclaims attending to precision, significance and knowledge conveyed through the claim while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both.  
*1011388 DIMENSION 4: COMMUNICATING CONCLUSIONS & TAKING INFORMED ACTION*
- INQ.9--12.16 Assess options for individual and collective action to address local, regional and global problems by engaging in self-reflection, strategy identification and complex causal reasoning.
- INQ.9--12.13 Critique the use of claims and evidence in arguments for credibility.

**Student Growth and Development 21st Century Capacities Matrix**

*Critical Thinking*

- Synthesizing: Students will be able to thoughtfully combine information/data/evidence, concepts, texts, and disciplines to draw conclusions, create solutions, and/or verify generalizations for a given purpose.

*Global Thinking*

- Engaging in Global Issues: Students will be able to analyze complex issues and their implications and/or consequences.

U5 The validity and strength of a claim, counterclaim, and an argument are based on the effective use of evidence from multiple sources and alternate perspectives.

### ACQUISITION OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL

#### KNOWLEDGE

#### SKILLS

K1 The definition, key elements, and American foreign policy classification based on Barron's continuum

K2 Historical turning points in U.S. foreign policy and the role of the State Department

K3 Post WWII/Cold War elements which influenced U.S. foreign policy and the examples of economic, political, and military foreign policy actions

K4 Globalization, Extremism, and the foreign affairs agenda of the U.S. government in a post 9/11 world

K5 The future of U.S. Foreign Affairs and the various perspectives and viewpoints which influence international relations

K6 Content Vocabulary: foreign policy, diplomacy, alliance, independence, sovereignty, interdependence, annexation, imperialism, empire, regime, isolationism, containment, collective security, deterrence, interventionism, detente, domino theory, preemptive war, preventive war, Four Freedoms, Truman Doctrine, Democratization, Communism, Socialism

S1 evaluating the context of historical events

S2 analyzing and evaluating interpretations of past events based on historical sources and perspectives

S3 integrating evidence from multiple sources and interpretations into an argument

S4 explaining how globalization affects economic elements in different nations

S5 evaluating how globalization contributes to international conflict and cooperation

S6 refining claims and counterclaims

S7 critiquing the credibility of claims and evidence in arguments

S8 assessing options for individual and collective action

S9 providing a concluding statement which supports the argument

S10 developing and strengthening writing through planning