

unit 7 apush study guide

unit 7 apush study guide is an essential tool for students preparing for the Advanced Placement United States History exam, focusing on the period from 1890 to 1945. This era encompasses significant transformations in American society, politics, economics, and foreign policy. Understanding the major themes and events of Unit 7, such as Progressivism, World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, and World War II, is crucial for mastering APUSH content. This study guide provides a comprehensive overview of these key topics, highlighting important legislation, influential figures, and pivotal moments that shaped the United States during this time. By exploring causes, effects, and historical interpretations, learners can develop a nuanced understanding of Unit 7. The following sections will break down each major topic for efficient review and exam readiness.

- Progressive Era Reforms
- American Imperialism and World War I
- The Roaring Twenties and Cultural Changes
- The Great Depression and the New Deal
- World War II and Its Impact

Progressive Era Reforms

The Progressive Era, spanning from the 1890s to the 1920s, was marked by widespread social and political reform aimed at addressing the problems caused by industrialization, urbanization, and political corruption. Reformers sought to improve working conditions, regulate big business, and expand democratic participation. This period laid the foundation for modern American government and society by challenging laissez-faire policies and promoting social justice.

Political Reforms

Key political reforms during the Progressive Era included the introduction of mechanisms such as the initiative, referendum, and recall, which gave citizens more direct control over legislation and elected officials. The 17th Amendment, ratified in 1913, established the direct election of U.S. senators, reducing corruption and increasing democratic accountability.

Economic and Labor Reforms

Progressives pushed for regulation of monopolies and trusts to curb corporate abuses. The Sherman Antitrust Act and the Clayton Antitrust Act were used to break up large corporations that stifled competition. Labor reforms focused on improving workplace safety, reducing child labor, and establishing reasonable working hours, highlighted by legislation such as the Keating-Owen Child Labor Act.

Social Justice and Women's Rights

The Progressive Era saw significant activism for social justice, including efforts to improve public health, sanitation, and education. The women's suffrage movement gained momentum, culminating in the 19th Amendment in 1920, which granted women the right to vote. Reformers like Jane Addams pioneered social work and settlement houses to assist immigrants and the urban poor.

- Initiative, referendum, and recall
- 17th Amendment (direct election of senators)
- Sherman and Clayton Antitrust Acts
- Keating-Owen Child Labor Act
- 19th Amendment (women's suffrage)

American Imperialism and World War I

At the turn of the 20th century, the United States expanded its influence overseas, adopting a policy of imperialism. This era was also defined by America's involvement in World War I, which marked its emergence as a global power. Understanding the causes, key events, and consequences of this period is vital for mastering Unit 7.

Causes of American Imperialism

Driven by economic interests, military strategy, and a belief in cultural superiority, the United States pursued territorial acquisitions in the Caribbean, Pacific, and Latin America. The Spanish-American War of 1898 resulted in the annexation of territories such as Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines, signaling America's new role as an imperial power.

Entry into World War I

Initially committed to neutrality, the U.S. entered World War I in 1917 due to factors

including unrestricted German submarine warfare and the Zimmerman Telegram. The war effort led to significant domestic changes, including mobilization of the economy, increased government power, and heightened nationalistic sentiment.

Postwar Impact and the Treaty of Versailles

After the war, President Woodrow Wilson advocated for the League of Nations and the Fourteen Points aimed at establishing lasting peace. However, the U.S. Senate rejected the Treaty of Versailles and the League, reflecting isolationist tendencies. The postwar period also saw social unrest and the Red Scare due to fears of communism.

- Spanish-American War and territorial acquisitions
- Causes of U.S. entry into WWI
- War mobilization and propaganda
- Wilson's Fourteen Points and League of Nations
- Postwar isolationism and Red Scare

The Roaring Twenties and Cultural Changes

The 1920s, often referred to as the Roaring Twenties, was a decade of economic prosperity, cultural transformation, and social change. This period witnessed the rise of consumerism, new technologies, and shifts in social norms that challenged traditional values.

Economic Boom and Consumer Culture

Mass production techniques, especially in the automobile industry, fueled economic growth and increased consumer goods availability. Credit systems and advertising encouraged widespread consumption, changing the American lifestyle significantly during this decade.

Social and Cultural Developments

The era was characterized by significant changes in cultural expression, including the Harlem Renaissance, which celebrated African American culture and creativity. Jazz music gained popularity, and new roles for women emerged, exemplified by the flapper image. However, the decade also saw growing tensions over immigration, Prohibition, and religious fundamentalism.

Political Climate and Challenges

The 1920s experienced political conservatism with limited government intervention in the economy. The rise of the Ku Klux Klan, immigration restrictions like the Immigration Act of 1924, and the enforcement of Prohibition highlighted cultural conflicts during this time.

- Mass production and consumer credit
- Harlem Renaissance and jazz culture
- Women's changing social roles
- Prohibition and the 18th Amendment
- Immigration restrictions and nativism

The Great Depression and the New Deal

The stock market crash of 1929 triggered the Great Depression, the most severe economic crisis in U.S. history. Widespread unemployment, bank failures, and poverty defined the 1930s. The New Deal, introduced by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, represented a series of government programs designed to promote recovery and reform.

Causes and Effects of the Great Depression

The Great Depression resulted from multiple factors, including stock market speculation, banking weaknesses, and a decline in consumer spending. Its effects were devastating, causing massive unemployment, homelessness, and a significant decline in industrial output.

The New Deal Programs

Roosevelt's New Deal included relief for the unemployed, recovery of the economy, and reforms to prevent future depressions. Key programs included the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), Social Security Act, and the Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA). These initiatives expanded the federal government's role in economic and social welfare.

Criticism and Legacy

The New Deal faced criticism from both the political left and right but fundamentally changed the relationship between Americans and their government. It established a precedent for federal responsibility in economic stability and social welfare that continues to influence policy.

- Stock market crash of 1929
- Unemployment and bank failures
- Civilian Conservation Corps and Social Security
- Agricultural Adjustment Act and labor reforms
- Expansion of federal government powers

World War II and Its Impact

World War II (1939–1945) was a defining event in American and global history. The U.S. initially maintained neutrality but eventually entered the war after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The war effort transformed the American economy and society and established the United States as a global superpower.

Causes and U.S. Entry

The rise of totalitarian regimes in Germany, Italy, and Japan led to global conflict. The U.S. provided material support to Allied powers before formally entering the war in 1941. The attack on Pearl Harbor catalyzed American involvement in both the European and Pacific theaters.

Homefront Mobilization

The war mobilized the economy, ending the Great Depression through massive industrial production. Women entered the workforce in unprecedented numbers, symbolized by “Rosie the Riveter.” Rationing, war bonds, and propaganda campaigns supported the war effort domestically.

Military Campaigns and Outcomes

Key military campaigns included D-Day, the Pacific island-hopping strategy, and the use of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Allied victory reshaped the global order, leading to the establishment of the United Nations and the beginning of the Cold War.

- Neutrality and Lend-Lease Act
- Attack on Pearl Harbor
- Economic mobilization and women in the workforce

- D-Day and Pacific campaigns
- Atomic bombs and postwar global order

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the main topics covered in Unit 7 of the APUSH study guide?

Unit 7 of the APUSH study guide primarily covers the period from 1890 to 1945, focusing on American imperialism, World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, and World War II.

How did American foreign policy change during Unit 7 (1890-1945)?

During Unit 7, American foreign policy shifted from isolationism to a more interventionist approach, marked by imperialism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, involvement in World War I, and active participation in World War II.

What were the causes and effects of the Great Depression as outlined in the Unit 7 study guide?

The causes of the Great Depression included stock market speculation, banking failures, and overproduction. Its effects were widespread unemployment, poverty, and significant government intervention through the New Deal programs to stimulate economic recovery.

How did the New Deal programs address the economic challenges of the 1930s?

The New Deal programs implemented by President Franklin D. Roosevelt aimed to provide relief for the unemployed, recovery of the economy, and reform of the financial system to prevent future depressions, including initiatives like Social Security, the WPA, and banking reforms.

What role did the United States play in World War I according to the Unit 7 study guide?

The United States initially maintained neutrality but eventually entered World War I in 1917 due to factors like unrestricted submarine warfare and the Zimmermann Telegram, contributing to the Allied victory and shaping the postwar international order.

How did societal changes during the Roaring Twenties reflect the cultural shifts of the era?

The Roaring Twenties saw significant cultural shifts including increased urbanization, the rise of consumer culture, jazz music, the Harlem Renaissance, and changing roles for women, exemplified by the flapper lifestyle and increased political participation.

Additional Resources

1. *America's History: Volume 1*

This comprehensive textbook by James A. Henretta offers an in-depth exploration of early American history, including the key themes covered in Unit 7 of APUSH. It covers the period from the Civil War through the early 20th century, focusing on Reconstruction, industrialization, and the Progressive Era. The book provides detailed political, social, and economic context to help students grasp the complexities of this transformative era.

2. *The Gilded Age and Progressive Era*

Written by historian Robert D. Johnston, this book examines the critical developments during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, aligning closely with Unit 7 topics. It discusses the rapid industrial growth, urbanization, labor movements, and the rise of reform efforts that characterized the Gilded Age and Progressive Era. Johnston's analysis helps readers understand the causes and consequences of these changes in American society.

3. *Reconstruction: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877*

By Eric Foner, this acclaimed work dives into the Reconstruction period, a key focus of Unit 7 in APUSH. Foner provides a detailed narrative of the political struggles, social changes, and racial tensions that defined the post-Civil War United States. The book is essential for understanding the challenges of rebuilding the nation and the long-term impacts on American democracy.

4. *The Rise of Industrial America: A People's History of the Gilded Age*

This book by Page Smith offers a grassroots perspective on the industrial boom and social upheavals of the late 19th century. It covers topics like labor strikes, immigration, and the rise of monopolies, which are crucial for Unit 7 studies. Smith's narrative brings to life the experiences of everyday Americans during this transformative period.

5. *The Progressive Era*

Authored by Murray N. Rothbard, this concise book explores the reform movements that emerged in response to the problems of industrialization and urbanization. It highlights key figures and policies that aimed to address corruption, inequality, and social justice issues. This text serves as a valuable resource for understanding the motivations and impacts of Progressive Era reforms.

6. *Industrializing America: The Nineteenth Century*

By Walter Licht, this book offers a detailed account of America's transition from an agrarian society to an industrial powerhouse. It focuses on technological innovations, labor dynamics, and economic changes during the 1800s, all of which are pertinent to Unit 7 themes. Licht's work provides context for the economic foundations that shaped modern America.

7. *The Age of Reform*

Richard Hofstadter's classic work analyzes the social and political reform movements from the late 19th to early 20th centuries. It delves into the ideologies and efforts behind Progressivism, Populism, and other reform initiatives. This book is essential for understanding the cultural and political climate of Unit 7's timeframe.

8. *America's Reconstruction: People and Politics After the Civil War*

This book by Bruce Levine offers a detailed look at the Reconstruction era, focusing on the political battles and social changes during this critical period. It emphasizes the experiences of African Americans and the efforts to redefine citizenship and rights. Levine's narrative helps clarify the complexities and legacies of Reconstruction.

9. *Labor in America: A History*

By Melvyn Dubofsky and Joseph A. McCartin, this text explores the history of the American labor movement, a significant aspect of Unit 7. It covers the rise of unions, labor conflicts, and government responses from the late 19th century onward. This book provides valuable insights into the struggles and achievements of workers during America's industrial transformation.

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