

Curriculum at a Glance American History Tutorial

Within each unit, rather than surveying the breadth of the time period, students will find an area of individual focus for their own inquiry from an array of content options. After immersing themselves in their chosen content pieces, which include document-based questions, textbooks, lectures, documentaries, primary sources, and multiple-choice questions, students will identify a question that they want to explore in greater depth in the form of a 4-5 page paper. Extensive attention to the writing process, including iterative draft, feedback, reflection, and revision, culminates in a tutorial conversation. In these conversations, students read their paper aloud in a small group setting and then all group members, including the teacher, construct a conversation based on the paper which further explore the implications, conclusions, and potential further areas of inquiry raised by the paper. Tutorial courses, based on the model practiced at Oxford University and Williams College, emphasizes process as much as product, depth over breadth, and independent student inquiry.

Unit Name	Essential Content and Skills
Colonial America	Content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Contact among Europeans, Native Americans, Africans, and the environment. Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Annotation and question generation.</i>
Constitution and Confederation	Content: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The break with Great Britain ● The Founding Documents (Declaration of Independence, Articles of Confederation, Constitution, Bill of Rights) ● Federalism and Anti-Federalism Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Primary Source analysis</i>
Antebellum America	Content <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National territorial and economic expansion ● The spread of slavery and the rise of antislavery

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Political conflict and compromise <p><i>Skills:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Student Independence and self-assessment</i>
<p>The Civil War and Reconstruction</p>	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Causes and course of the Civil War ● Reconstruction <p><i>Skills:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Ability to synthesize a large and varied set of sources</i>
<p>The Gilded Age and the Progressive Era</p>	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Industrialism and the rise of corporate America ● Social and political responses to perceived problems with American society <p><i>Skills:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Sustaining inquiry</i>
<p>The Great Depression, New Deal, and World War II</p>	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Causes of the Great Depression ● The New Deal and its critics ● World War II and its aftermath <p><i>Skills</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Recognizing and evaluating multiple perspectives</i>
<p>America Since 1945</p>	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Cuban Missile Crisis ● Civil Rights ● Vietnam ● The Roots of 9/11 <p><i>Skills:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Extending conclusions to expose hidden connections and implications.</i>