

# The History of Voting in the U.S.A.

Instructor Names

Spring 2020

## Course Objectives and Prerequisites

This course will meet the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith requirements for U.S. History and fulfill one semester of a STEM elective for any student attending Arkansas School of Mathematics, Sciences, and the Arts. This course will discuss voting in the United States since the colonial times and will include a variety of mathematical topics related to voting and redistricting. Students must have completed College Algebra with a C or above.

## Textbook

Carnes, Mark C., and John A. Garraty. *The American Nation: A History of the United States*. Boston: Prentice Hall, 2012.

## Course Outline:

### Unit 1: Colonial America

#### 0.0.1 European Settlement of the New World (Chapters 1 & 2)

- Explore the connections of early America to the European government.

#### 0.0.2 Colonial America and the American Revolution (Chapters 3 & 4)

- This unit will examine the financial relationship between Colonial America and England. Students will learn about nominal dollars.

#### 0.0.3 National Growing Pains & the Emergence of a National Economy (Chapters 7 & 8)

- The beginning of the stock market and an examination of indices to understand the early economy of the US.
- Governor Gerry of Massachusetts

**0.0.4 Jacksonian Democracy and the Making of Middle Class America (Chapters 9 & 10)**

**0.0.5 Westward Expansion and the Development of Sectionalism (Chapters 11 & 12)**

**Unit 2: The United States of America (until 1920s)**

**0.0.6 Civil War & Reconstruction (Chapters 13, 14 & 15)**

- 14th Amendment in 1868 guarantees citizenship to African Americans
- 15th Amendment in 1870 *“The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.”*

**0.0.7 Westward Expansion and Industrialization (Chapters 16, 17 & 18)**

**0.0.8 Intellectual developments and the Progressive Era (Chapters 19, 20 & 21)**

**0.0.9 Imperialism and the Great War (Chapters 22 & 23)**

**Unit 3: The United States (1920s-Current)**

**0.0.10 The Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression (Chapters 24 & 25)**

- The 19th Amendment grants citizens the right to vote regardless of gender. This unit will explore the electorate following the 19th Amendment.

**0.0.11 The New Deal and World War II (Chapters 26 & 27)**

**0.0.12 The Cold War and Civil Rights (Chapters 28, 29 & 30)**

- Selma to Montgomery March
- Civil Rights Act of 1960 requires states to maintain voter records and allows the US Justice Department access.
- The Voting Rights Act of 1965 challenged the discriminatory voting restrictions and holds states accountable.

**0.0.13 The United States in an era of Globalization (Chapters 31 & 32)**

- Alaska and Hawaii admitted to the Union
- *Vieth v. Jubelirer* (2004)
- *Arizona State Legislature v. Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission* (2015)
- Supreme Court Cases *“Lamone v. Benisek”* and *“Rucho v. Common Cause”*