

*Unit 7: 1890-1945*

**Topic 7.2: Imperialism: Debates**

**Learning Objective 1: Explain the similarities and differences in attitudes about the nation's proper role in the world.**

A. Imperialists cited economic opportunities, racial theories, competition with Europe, and the perception in the 1890s that the frontier was “closed” to argue that Americans were destined to expand around the globe.

B. Anti-imperialists cited principles of self-determination and invoked both racial theories and the U.S. policy tradition of isolationism to argue that the U.S. should not expand.

## **Topic 7.3: The Spanish-American War**

### **Learning Objective 1: Explain the effects of the Spanish-American War.**

A. The American victory in the Spanish-American War led to the U.S. acquisition of island territories in the Caribbean and the Pacific, an increase in involvement in Asia, and the suppression of a nationalist movement in the Philippines.

**Topic 7.4: The Progressive Movement**

**Learning Objective 1: Compare the goals and effects of the Progressive reform movement.**

A. Some Progressive journalists attacked what they saw as political corruption, social injustice, and economic inequality, while reformers worked to effect social changes in cities and among immigrant populations.

B. The Progressives were divided over many issues such as Southern segregation, popular participation in government, government efficiency, and immigration.

C. On the national level, Progressives sought federal legislation that they believed would effectively regulate the economy, expand democracy, and generate moral reform.

**Learning Objective 2: Compare attitudes towards the use of natural resources from 1890-1945.**

A. Preservationists and conservationists both supported the establishment of national parks while advocating different government responses to the overuse of natural resources.

## **Topic 7.5: World War I: Military and Diplomacy**

### **Learning Objective 1: Explain the causes and consequences of U.S. involvement in World War I.**

A. After initial neutrality in WWI, the nation entered the conflict in response to Woodrow Wilson's call for the defense of humanitarian and democratic principles.

B. Although the American Expeditionary Forces played a limited role in combat, U.S. entry helped tip the balance of the conflict in favor of the Allies.

C. Despite Wilson's deep involvement in postwar negotiations, the U.S. Senate refused to ratify the Treaty of Versailles or join the League of Nations.

## **Topic 7.6: World War I: Home Front**

### **Learning Objective 1: Explain the causes and effects of international and internal migration patterns over time.**

A. Official restrictions on freedom of speech grew during World War I, as increased anxiety about radicalism led to a Red Scare and attacks on labor activism and immigrant culture.

B. Immigration from Europe reached its peak in the years before WWI. During WWI, nativist campaigns against some ethnic groups led to the passage of quotas that restricted immigration from southern and eastern Europe, and increased barriers to Asian immigration.

D. In the Great Migration during and after World War I, African Americans moved from the South to the North and West, where they found new opportunities but still encountered discrimination.

## **Topic 7.7: 1920s Innovations in Communication and Technology**

**Learning Objective 1: Explain the causes and effects of the innovations in communication and technology in the United States over time.**

A. New technologies and manufacturing techniques helped focus the U.S. economy on the production of consumer goods, contributing to improved standards of living, greater personal mobility, and better communication systems.

B. New forms of mass media contributed to the spread of national culture as well as greater awareness of regional cultures.

## **Topic 7.8: 1920s Cultural and Political Controversies**

**Learning Objective 1: Explain the causes and effects of developments in popular culture in the United States over time.**

A. Migration gave rise to new forms of art and literature that expressed ethnic and regional identities, such as the Harlem Renaissance.

B. Cultural and political controversies emerged as Americans debated gender roles, modernism, science, religion, and issues related to race and immigration.

## **Topic 7.9: The Great Depression**

### **Learning Objective 1: Explain the causes of the Great Depression and its effects on the economy.**

A. There were multiple causes of the Great Depression, including the Stock Market crash of 1929.

B. During the 1930s, policymakers responded to the mass unemployment and social upheavals of the Great Depression by transforming the U.S. into a limited welfare state, redefining the goals and ideas of modern American liberalism.

## **Topic 7.10: The New Deal**

**Learning Objective 1: Explain how the Great Depression and the New Deal impacted American political, social, and economic life over time.**

A. Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal attempted to end the Great Depression by using government power to provide relief to the poor, stimulate recovery, and reform the American economy.

B. Radical, union, and populist movements pushed Roosevelt toward more extensive efforts to change the American economic system, while conservatives in Congress and the Supreme Court sought to limit the New Deal's scope.

C. Although the New Deal did not end the Depression, it left a legacy of reforms and regulatory agencies and fostered a long-term political realignment in which many groups identified with the Democratic Party.

**Topic 7.11: Interwar Foreign Policy**

**Learning Objective 1: Explain the similarities and differences in attitudes about the nation's proper role in the world.**

A. In the years following World War I, the U.S. pursued a unilateral foreign policy that used international investment, peace treaties, and select military intervention to promote a vision of international order.

B. In the 1930s, while many Americans were concerned about the rise of fascism and totalitarianism, most opposed taking military action against Nazi Germany and Japan until the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

## **Topic 7.12: World War II: Mobilization**

### **Learning Objective 1: Explain how and why U.S. participation in World War II transformed American society.**

A. The mass mobilization of American society helped end the Great Depression, and the country's strong industrial base played a pivotal role in winning the war by equipping and provisioning allies and millions of U.S. troops.

B. Mobilization provided opportunities for women and minorities to improve their socioeconomic positions for the war's duration, while also leading to debates over racial segregation.

C. Wartime experiences generated challenges to civil liberties, such as the internment of Japanese Americans.

D. Migration to the U.S. from Mexico and elsewhere in the Western Hemisphere increased, in spite of contradictory government policies toward Mexican immigration.

## Topic 7.13: World War II: Military

### **Learning Objective 1: Explain the causes and effects of the victory of the U.S. and its allies over the Axis Powers.**

A. Americans viewed the war as a fight for the survival of freedom and democracy against fascist and militarist ideologies. This perspective was later reinforced by revelations about Japanese and German atrocities.

B. Military service provided opportunities for women and minorities to improve their socioeconomic positions for the war's duration.

C. The U.S. and its allies achieved victory through Allied cooperation, technological and scientific advances, and campaigns such as Pacific "island hopping" and the D-Day invasion.

D. The use of the atomic bomb hastened the end of the war and sparked debates about the morality of using these weapons.

## **Topic 7.14: Postwar Diplomacy**

### **Learning Objective 1: Explain the consequences of U.S. involvement in World War II.**

A. The war ravaged condition of Asia and Europe and the dominant U.S. role in the Allied victory and postwar peace settlements allowed the United States to emerge from the war as the most powerful nation on Earth.