

**U.S. History**  
**Study Guide for Semester 2 Final Exam**

Your final exam will test your knowledge of U.S. History from the 1930s through the 1980s.

**Presidents** – be familiar with the years these presidents served in office and the major events and programs over which they presided.

Herbert Hoover

Franklin D. Roosevelt

Harry S. Truman

Dwight D. Eisenhower

John F. Kennedy

Lyndon Johnson

Richard Nixon

Gerald Ford

Jimmy Carter

Ronald Reagan

**Wars** – be familiar with the years during which the United States was involved in the following wars, the causes of the wars and U.S. involvement, the alliances during these wars, and the effects that the wars had on the U.S. and the world.

World War II

Cold War

Vietnam “Conflict”

**Political Movements** – be familiar with the following social and political movements in the U.S., the conditions that lead to them and the outcomes.

McCarthyism –

Civil Rights –

Women’s movement -

Anti-war (Vietnam) movement –

Counterculture –

**Economic Changes** – Be familiar with the timeframes, causes, and effects of the following economic changes in the U.S. and the world.

The Great Depression –

GI Bill of Rights –

Consumerism –

Planned obsolescence –

Great Society –

Supply-side economics

**Social Changes** – Be familiar with important timeframes, causes, and effects of the following social changes in the U.S.

End of de jure segregation –

Beat Movement –

Counterculture –

**Technology** – Be familiar with the effects of the following advances in technology

Radio –

satellite –

television –

Atomic/Nuclear Weapons –

Nuclear power (Three Mile Island)

**Important People** – The following people played an important role in the social, political, and/or economic lives of the people of the U.S. and beyond. Be familiar with their contributions and the timeframe in which those contributions were made.

Joseph Stalin –

Benito Mussolini –

Adolph Hitler –

Neville Chamberlain –

Winston Churchill –

Eleanor Roosevelt –

Mary McLeod Bethune –

Frances Perkins –

A. Phillip Randolph –

George Patton –

Douglas MacArthur –

Joseph McCarthy –

Ethel and Julius Rosenberg –

Nikita Khrushchev –

Fidel Castro –

Martin Luther King, Jr. –

Malcolm X –

Ho Chi Minh –

Robert McNamara –

Cesar Chavez –

Dennis Banks –

Betty Friedan –

Gloria Steinem –

Phyllis Schlafly –

Sandra Day O'Connor –

Geraldine Ferraro –

Mikhail Gorbachev –

Ayatollah Khomeini –

**Laws, Policies, Treaties, Supreme Court Decisions** – Be familiar with the timeframes and issues involved in each of the following

Plessy v. Ferguson –

Korematsu v. United States –

Treaty of Versailles –

N.A.T.O –

Warsaw Pact –

Civil Rights Act –

Voting Rights Act –

Hawley-Smoot Tariff –

Wagner Act –

Social Security Act –  
Neutrality Acts –

Nonaggression pact –

Lend-lease Act -

Tonkin Gulf Resolution –

SALT I Treaty –

SALT II Treaty –

EPA –

Realpolitick –

Détente –

Camp David Accords –

Glasnost –

**Timeline:** Be prepared to select the correct decade in the 20<sup>th</sup> century for all of the following:

Start of each president's term in office (1928 to 1984)

Presidential policies introduced (New Deal, New Federalism, Great Society, Supply-side economics)

Amendments to the Constitution (22<sup>nd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>)

Start and end of wars (1939 to 1990)

Social Movements

**Short Answer:** “From Herbert Hoover to Ronald Reagan, who was the most important president of the 20<sup>th</sup> century?” **Be sure to include:** the timeframe and conditions in which the president served, reasons WHY you believe he had the most significant impact, and any effects of his policies we still see today. **Be sure NOT to include:** any statements in the first person and generalizations with no supporting evidence.

### **Final Exam Review Schedule:**

You should have your study guide completed and prepared to use in class by Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. We will review on Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Suggested Study methods:**

While recognizing that many students have developed effective study techniques, for those who feel they could improve their test/exam scores the following recommendations are provided:

**Step one:** Look through the information you will review and jot down what you know about any of the items. Remember to use **keywords** instead of sentences or phrases. There may be many items you don't remember, but don't let this discourage you. This is normal.

**Step two:** Look up (in your notes, homework, classwork, and textbook) any of the items you could not remember anything about. Again, use **keywords** to record key information.

**Step three:** Test yourself on the items reviewed that day or better yet, have someone else test you. **DO THREE AT A TIME UNTIL YOU KNOW ALL THREE.** Then move on to the next three, etc.

### **Step four: During review**

Check your review notes: Add anything discussed during the review that you did not know or record on your own.

Ask Questions: If your understanding of an item is different than what is discussed during the review **ask about it!!!** This is what the review is for.

**Before exam:** Review all of the items you are responsible for knowing. Mark those that you are having trouble remembering. Make a new list that includes only those items. Focus on this list, then take another pass through the complete study guide. Have a parent, sibling, or friend quiz you verbally.

To prepare for your essay, make a list of and review the major events and policies of your chosen president's term. Be sure you can write about the causes and effects of those events and policies, and the long-term effects of decision that were made. Construct an outline of your essay and study that outline.

**Relax, good luck, and be proud of all you've learned this year!**