

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Vietnam Era



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Vietnam Era Course Overview

What comes to mind when you think about the Vietnam Era? For many, that period represents a difficult time in U.S. history. It is defined by an unpopular war that claimed the lives of 58,000 Americans and some 3 million Vietnamese. In this course, you'll look at the history of the Vietnam War. The roots of the conflict stretch further back than you might know. You'll examine why the United States got involved in the conflict and why the United States failed to achieve its objectives.

- **Unit 1:** Students will learn about the history of Vietnam before the war and explain why the United States got involved in Vietnam.
- **Unit 2:** Students will study the growth of U.S. involvement in Vietnam following the 1954 Geneva Accords to the first American combat troops in 1965 after the Gulf of Tonkin incident.
- **Unit 3:** Students will describe fighting techniques and efforts by both the Vietnamese and Americans as well as the U.S. public opinion about the war.
- **Unit 4:** Students will explore the Tet Offensive, Vietnamization, and the end of the war.
- **Unit 5:** Students will identify the outcome of the Vietnam War, examine the 1973 Paris Peace Accords, and explain the impact of the Vietnam War on American foreign policy.

Unit 1: The Origins of U.S. Involvement in Vietnam		
Vietnam Era	Assignments	
	1. Course Overview	11. Dien Bien Phu
	2. Vietnam	12. The Geneva Accords
	3. Early History	13. Essay: The U.S. Policy for Vietnam
	4. French Indochina	14. Quiz 3: Vietnam and the Cold War
	5. Quiz 1: Toward French Colonization	15. Special Project*
	6. Nationalist Movement	16. Review
	7. World War II	17. Test
	8. The French Indochina War	18. Alternate Test*
	9. Quiz 2: Vietnamese Nationalism	19. Glossary and Credits
	10. Falling Dominoes	

Unit 2: From Military Advisors to Combat Troops		
Vietnam Era	Assignments	
	1. Ngo Dinh Diem: The Miracle Man of Asia	11. Introduction to Combat: Chu Lai and Ia Drang
	2. The National Liberation Front	12. Project: The Eisenhower, Kennedy, and Johnson Administrations
	3. The Diem Coup	13. Quiz 3: The U.S. Military Strategy
	4. Quiz 1: Nation-Building in South Vietnam	14. Special Project*
	5. Lyndon B. Johnson	15. Review
	6. The Gulf of Tonkin Incident	16. Test
	7. The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution	17. Alternate Test*
	8. Quiz 2: Aggression on the High Seas	18. Glossary and Credits
	9. The Air War	
	10. The Ground War	

Unit 3: A Nation Divided By War		
Vietnam Era	Assignments	
	1. Vietnamese Soldiers	10. The Governmental Debate
	2. The Ho Chi Minh Trail	11. The Living Room War
	3. Vietcong Tunnels	12. Project: Vietnam Era Songs
	4. Quiz 1: The Vietnamese Effort	13. Quiz 3: American Public Opinion
	5. Tour of Duty	14. Special Project*
	6. Fighting the War	15. Review
	7. Women and the Vietnam War	16. Test
	8. Quiz 2: The American Effort	17. Alternate Test*
	9. The Antiwar Movement	18. Glossary and Credits
Unit 4: Achieving Peace with Honor		
Vietnam Era	Assignments	
	1. The Tet Offensive	10. Secret Diplomacy
	2. LBJ Shocks the Nation	11. The Paris Peace Accords
	3. The 1968 Election	12. Essay: Vietnamization
	4. Quiz 1: A Turning Point in the War	13. Quiz 3: The End of the War
	5. Richard Nixon	14. Special Project*
	6. Vietnamization	15. Review
	7. The Invasion of Cambodia	16. Test
	8. Quiz 2: Nixon and the Vietnam War	17. Alternate Test*
	9. Crisis in Morale and Discipline	18. Glossary and Credits
Unit 5: The Legacy of Vietnam		
Vietnam Era	Assignments	
	1. Nixon and Watergate	10. U.S.-Vietnamese Relations
	2. Prisoner of War	11. Vietnam Today
	3. The Fall of Saigon	12. Essay: The Vietnam Era
	4. Quiz 1: Aftermath in Asia	13. Quiz 3: Toward Normalization
	5. Vietnam Veterans	14. Special Project*
	6. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial	15. Review
	7. Vietnam Syndrome	16. Test
	8. Quiz 2: Searching for Lessons	17. Alternate Test*
	9. Vietnamese in America	18. Glossary and Credits
Unit 6: Course Review and Exam		
	Assignments	
	1. Review	3. Alternate Exam*
	2. Exam	

(*) Indicates alternative assignment