

## **AMERICAN HISTORY 8B**

This course teaches the student the history of the United States from early stages of development in the government through the westward expansion.

### Unit VI - The New Government Begins

1. Formation and role of the President's Cabinet
2. Financial crisis and the formation of political parties in the new nation
3. International relations leading up to the War of 1812 and its impact
4. The westward movement and its affect on the Native Americans

### Unit VII - The Jacksonian Period

1. Sectionalism and its negative impact
2. Changes in the election process that develop popular democracy
3. The reform movement and its significance and impact
4. Development of cultural arts and new inventions in America

### Unit VIII - Westward Expansion Through 1860

1. Westward expansion and how "manifest destiny" impacted it
2. Settlement of Texas and its struggle for freedom from Mexico
3. Causes and effects of the Mexican War
4. Main routes taken by "49-ers" and the effect of the gold rush on California
5. The Missouri Compromise, Compromise of 1850, and Kansas-Nebraska Act
6. Some of the influences that intensified the conflict between North and South

### Unit IX - Civil War to Reconstruction

1. Basic goals and strategies of the Civil War
2. The Emancipation Proclamation and its effect on the Northern war effort
3. Major battles and their significance in the Civil War
4. Lincoln-Johnson Plan and Radical Republican Plan for Reconstruction

### Unit X - Reconstruction to the Gilded Age

1. Failures and successes of the Reconstruction Program, "carpetbaggers" and "scalawags "
2. Role and importance of Freedmen's Bureau
3. Politics, black progress, women's rights, and development of the arts during the Gilded Age