

Cultural and Regional Studies: The United States of America

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1. ORIGIN OF AMERICA

Large-scale European colonization of the Americas began shortly after the voyages of Christopher Columbus in 1492. The spread of new diseases brought by Europeans and Africans killed most of the inhabitants of North America and South America.

Native peoples and European colonizers came into widespread conflict, resulting in what David Stannard has called a genocide of the indigenous populations.¹ Early European immigrants were often part of state-sponsored attempts to found colonies in the Americas. Migration continued as people moved to the Americas fleeing religious persecution or seeking economic opportunities. Many individuals were forcibly transported to the Americas as slaves, prisoners or indentured servants.

The earliest known use of the name **America** for this particular landmass dates from 1507. It appears first on a small globe map with twelve time zones, and then a large wall map created by the **German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller**² in Saint-Dié-des-Vosges in France.



An accompanying book, *Cosmographiae Introductio*, explains that the name was derived from the Latinized version of the explorer **Amerigo Vespucci**³'s name, Americus Vesputius, in its feminine form, America, as the other continents all have Latin feminine names. Vespucci's role in the naming issue, like his exploratory activity, is unclear. Some sources say that he was unaware of the widespread use of his name to refer to the new landmass. Waldseemüller may have been misled by the Soderini Letter, now thought to be a forgery, which reports that the New World is populated by giants, cannibals, and sexually insatiable females and implies it was discovered first by Vespucci. Christopher Columbus, who had first brought the region's existence to the attention of Renaissance era voyagers, had died in 1506 (believing, to the end, that he had discovered and colonized part of India and could not protest Waldseemüller's decision).

US of A = NOT America!

2. MAP OF USA

Map of States → test 50 states, but also regions/ divisions:

- North-east (6 New England States + NY, New Jersey, Pens.)
- South (Cal. New Mex., Arizona → going back to the Confederate States + Boarder States: Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky)
- Midwest – “the Breadbasket”, Prairie-States (called Mid-West, because it was settled from the East)
- West: Rocky Mountains

¹ ~ 1600, the US was not an empty territory → millions of people living there, different tribes

² Waldseemüller was a prof. of geography, drew first map of the world which included America.

³ 1st stepped onto American soil → Little sVenice = Venezuela! America referred to S-America only → gaia (greek for “land” + meros (divided) + a = (America, the) undivided land)

- Farwest → Pacific Northwest + State of California (= the most populous state → if California split from the states it would be the 4th richest country in the world!)

Most Chicanos live along the boarder, Cuban Am. → Florida, Puerto Ricans in NYC, N.Jersey.

For the Test: put in some states (e.g. Texas), know some of the major cities!
“The lower 48” = the (contiguous) states without Alaska and Hawaii.



3. CITY UPON A HILL

phrase from **John Winthrop** to describe the America he imagined

- President Regan, 1989:

- Proud city built on rocks, God-blessed, people of all kinds living in harmony and peace, doors open to anyone with the will and heart to get here, pilgrims from lost places hurtling toward home
- We did it! God bless America
- William Jefferson Clinton, 1997:
 - America = world's mightiest industrial power, saved the world from two world wars and a cold war = world's indispensable nation = schools will have highest standards in the world + open to all = a blessed land of new promises!
- George W. Bush, 2001:
 - America was targeted for attack, because it's the brightest beacon for freedom in the world!

ad: PURITANISM

Puritans had to leave **England** (Elizabeth I) because they were radical believers in the word of the Bible.

- they believed that everybody was equal, only conversation with God, they refused to pay taxes for church (establishment of the Anglican Church under Elizabeth I)
- they were middle class and educated, believed in two sacraments: Baptism + Communion
- their possessions were burnt down in England; they had to leave the country and moved to the Netherlands, where they stayed until 1620.
1620. They didn't want to leave the Netherlands, but the Spanish were known to attack the Netherlands and if they'd be caught, they would be executed. They could not go back to England because they left without permission, so they flew across the Atlantic and founded the first settlement.

1600

Jamestown: named after James I (united Scotland and England); white Puritans

- 1607: first real settlement
- they survived the first winter because Indians fed them; the story was romanticized and transformed into a love-story (Pocahontas and John Smith – Pocahontas became famous because she saved John Smith from death)
- John Smith gave the name **NEW ENGLAND** to the north of Jamestown

- 1681 Pennsylvania (there were the Quakers) – Royal settlement

- "separatists"; against hierarchy, monarchy
- "The New England Way" = "The American way of life"
- Mayflower Compact, 1620
The Mayflower Compact was the first governing document of Plymouth Colony. It was drafted by the Pilgrims who crossed the Atlantic aboard the *Mayflower*, seeking the freedom to practice Christianity according to their own determination. It was signed on November 11, 1620 (OS)^[1] by 41 of the ship's more than one hundred passengers^[2], in what is now Provincetown Harbor near Cape Cod.
- Rhode Island + Connecticut were little republics within the British Empire; electing all their officers, making their own laws = probably the freest community

4. Quakers, a society of friends

were also politically radical, famous pacifist: **George Fox** (Founder of the Quakers)

- meeting houses (no churches), female preachers, belief in equality, informality (dress and language), toleration (all men are essentially good), "Inner light" (no bible necessary)
- played a significant part of movement to abolish slavery, end warfare and insure equal rights
- **William Penn**, Pacifists, was founder and "Absolute Proprietor" of the Province of Pennsylvania, the English North American colony and the future U.S. state of Pennsylvania. He was known as an early champion of democracy and religious freedom and famous for his good relations and his treaties with the Lenape Indians. Under his direction, Philadelphia was planned and developed.
- William Penn, an English Quaker, receives Pennsylvania, a Quaker Commonwealth and most liberal colony; founds his capital "City of Brotherly Love", Philadelphia – with gardens surrounding each house – life be always wholesome!
- Today Quakers in England: Boots, W.H. Smith
- Quakers: 1st to have asylums (for the insane) + 1st to have public libraries

5. IMAGES

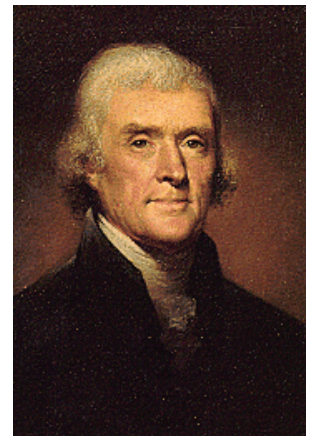


Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin was one of the **Founding Fathers** of the United States of America. on the 100\$ bill. invented the idea of an American nation. discoveries and theories regarding electricity. He was an early proponent of colonial unity and as a political writer and activist he invented the idea of an American nation and as a diplomat during the American Revolution, he secured the French alliance that helped to make independence possible.

Thomas J. Jefferson

3rd President of the United States; the principal author of the Declaration of Independence (1776), and one of the most influential Founding Fathers for his promotion of the ideals of republicanism in the United States. Major event during his presidency includes the Louisiana Purchase (1803).





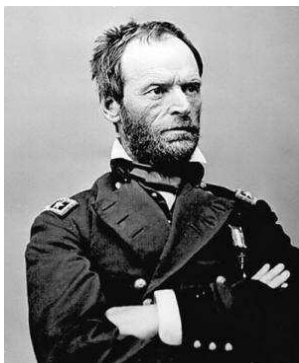
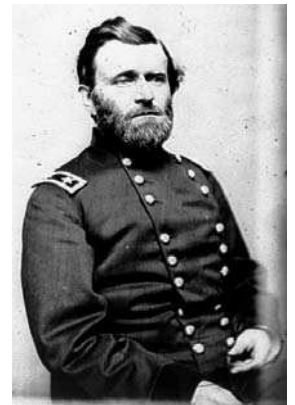
George Washington

1st President of the United States of America

Made his name as a general of the army, led the Continental Army to victory over the Kingdom of Great Britain in the American Revolutionary War (1775–1783).

Ulysses S. Grant

He was an American General and **18th President** of the United States, he achieved international fame as the leading Union General in the American Civil War. Lieutenant Grant served in the Mexican–American War. He took a hard line that reduced violence by groups like the Ku Klux Klan.



General Sherman

William Tecumseh Sherman was an American soldier. He served as a General in the Union Army during the American Civil War for which he received recognition for his outstanding command of military strategy as well as criticism for the harshness of the "scorched earth" policies (allowed troops to destroy everything, even rape women – only to destroy the Spirit of the South) that he implemented in conducting **total war** against the Confederate States.

6. SYMBOLISM OF FLAGS



ad: **USA** 13 stripes, 50 small stars; 50

Unites States + original 13 colonies

ad: **The Southern Cross** Confederate Navy Jack: used at sea from 1863 onward, a recognized symbol of the South; the 11 states plus Kentucky and Missouri

ad: **CSA** Confederate State of America: the 7 stars represent the original Confederate States: South Carolina, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas.

ad: **UK** Union Jack

7. DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

The **United States Declaration of Independence** is a statement adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, announcing that the thirteen American colonies then at war with Great Britain were **no longer a part of the British Empire**. = also called **“the American Revolution”**⁴ Written primarily by Thomas Jefferson, the Declaration is a formal explanation of why Congress had voted on July 2 to declare independence from Great Britain, more than a year after the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War. The birthday of the United States of America - Independence Day - is celebrated on July 4th, the day the wording of the Declaration was approved by Congress.

→ US America starts with the Declaration of Independence

8. THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?⁵

The Star-Spangled Banner is the **national anthem** of the United States of America. The lyrics come from a poem written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key.

After seeing the bombardment in Baltimore, Maryland by British during the War of 1812. The poem was set to the tune of a popular British drinking song, written by John Stafford Smith for the Anacreontic Society, a London social club.

- although the song has four stanzas, only the first is commonly sung today

9. NOAH WEBSTER (1758 – 1843) eponym for Webster's Dictionary

- developed cultural independence → he changed E. to Am.E
- chief part: **distinctive American language** (idiom, pronunciation, style)
- *The American Spelling Book* → famed “Blue Backed Speller”
- contained 5,000 more words than Samuel Johnson's 1755 dictionary

10. U.S. POLITICAL SYSTEM

The Constitution

The Constitution of the United States of America is the **supreme law of the United States**. It provides the framework for the organization of the United States Government.

The House of Representative + the Senate

- 2 senators for each state
- Each state has the same weight in the senate
- Franklin discovered this system at the 6 Nations

⁴ = The War of Independence. There were lots of American Revolutions (Simon Bolivar, etc.), this is the “US-American revolution”

⁵ The text is connected by definition to the armed forces → “bombs bursting in air” still up-to-date?

The American system is based on Locke's philosophy- people come together and choose a ruler

The government of America is parted into 3 (so Bush is only a third of the US government)

→ there are no ministers, they are all secretaries to their boss (Bush)

The Constitution of the US is 22 pages long (Austrian has a thousand pages)

If Blacks (slaves) were not allowed to vote, the southern states had hardly any representatives → that led to the Civil War

→ so one white man was allowed to vote and the states were allowed to vote 'for' the slaves

“Bill of Rights”

In the United States, the Bill of Rights is the name by which the first **Ten Amendments** to the United States Constitution are known.

The Bill of Rights protects freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the right to keep and bear arms, the freedom of assembly, and the freedom to petition.

Amendments

- **First Amendment** – Establishment Clause, Free Exercise Clause; freedom of speech, of the press, and of assembly; right to petition

Article 1: what about pornography? → many people argue about that

Some speech is illegal → if you call a person nigger, if you shout “Fire!” and people freak out, that will be a problem, Article 1 also protects the Nazis and the KuKluxKlan

- **Second Amendment** – Right to keep and bear arms.

Article 2: is everybody allowed to own guns? → 21 – it cannot be disallowed

If you delete Article 2, some say that the others can go too, one can only do one thing: to limit the age and to limit the places etc.

- **Third Amendment** – Protection from quartering of troops.
- **Fourth Amendment** – Protection from unreasonable search and seizure.
- **Fifth Amendment** – due process, double jeopardy, self-incrimination, eminent domain.

Article 5: Habeas Corpus → result of a British revolution due process, If somebody is accused of a crime, he must have the body in court, there must be somebody representing you → must be judged by a jury of some people + you cannot be judged without being there.

- **Sixth Amendment** – Trial by jury and rights of the accused; Confrontation Clause, speedy trial, public trial, right to counsel
- **Seventh Amendment** – Civil trial by jury.
- **Eighth Amendment** – Prohibition of excessive bail and cruel and unusual punishment.

Article 8: is the death-penalty cruel or not? 38 states have the death penalty, 12 haven't

- **Ninth Amendment** – Protection of rights not specifically enumerated in the Bill of Rights.
- **Tenth Amendment** – Powers of states and people.

Article 10: to allow unions etc. "Right to work states" (marriage, same sex marriages)

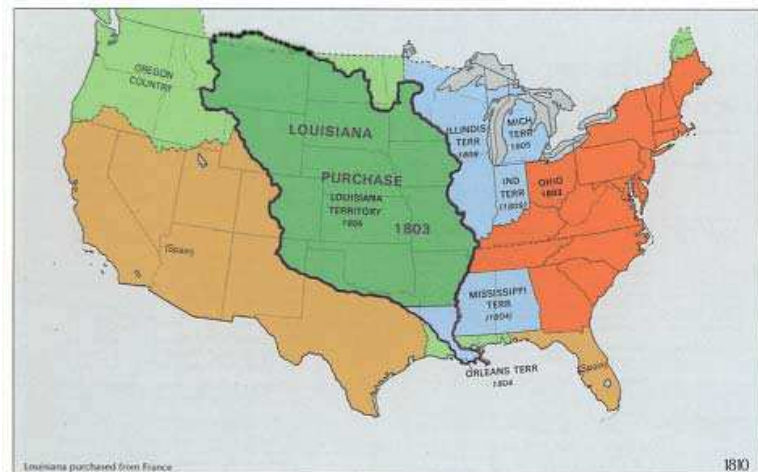
11. LOUISIANA PURCHASE

- 1803, transaction of the gigantic western Louisiana Territory from France to the US is often considered the first major event in America expansion, under Thomas Jefferson.

- The Louisiana Purchase encompassed portions of **15 current U.S. states** and 2

Canadian Provinces: **Missouri, Iowa, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska**, parts of **Minnesota**, most of North **Dakota**, nearly all of South Dakota, northeastern **New Mexico**, northern **Texas**, the portions of **Montana, Wyoming**, and **Colorado** and **Louisiana** west of the Mississippi River, including the city of **New Orleans**.

- The land included in the purchase comprises around **23%** of the territory of the United States today



12. WAR OF 1812 (-1815)

- war **between US and UK** on land of North America and at sea
- **Manifest Destiny** – the belief that US was destined to control all of North American continent
- ended as a stalemate and is often only dimly remembered in Britain
- war created a greater sense of nationalism in both: Canada and US
 - American forces attacked and burnt York (now Toronto)
 - British troops burnt down Washington including the President Mansion (later rebuilt and repainted as the "White House")

13. MONROE DOCTRINE

- by President James Monroe
- In the Monroe Doctrine, the United States were informing the powers of the Old World that **the two Americas were no longer open to European colonization** and that any effort to extend European political influence into the New World would be considered by the US as dangerous to our peace and safety

- President Theodore Roosevelt added the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine

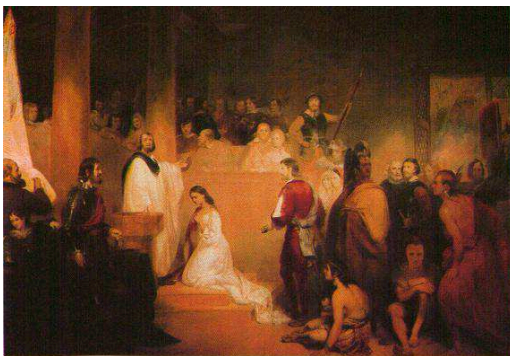
14. MANIFEST DESTINY

John Gast's allegorical painting "American Progress", 1872. Columbia (female 5pointed star on forehead) representing the spirit of the USA; her course is westward. In her right hand she carries a book – testimonial of the national enlightenment, while in her left she trails the telegraph wires that will bind the nations.

Feeling her approach, Indians, buffalo, wild horses, bears run out of the picture



The concept of Manifest Destiny is the belief that the U.S. had a divinely inspired mission to expand; spreading its form of democracy and freedom.



"The Baptism of Pocahontas" by Chapman. John Gadsby Chapman depicted Pocahontas, wearing an unrealistically long white dress, being baptized >Rebecca< by an Anglican minister in Jamestown, Virginia. Pocahontas kneels, surrounded by family members and colonists. Her brother turns away from the ceremony. John Rolfe stands behind her. Their union is said to be the 1st recorded marriage between a European and a Native American. The scene symbolizes the belief of Americans that Native Americans should accept Christianity and other European ways.

John L.O'Sullivan on Manifest Destiny, 1839

The concept of Manifest Destiny has acquired a variety of meanings over the years, and its inherent ambiguity has been part of its power. In the generic political sense, however, it was usually used to refer to the idea that the American government was "destined" to establish uninterrupted political authority across the entire North American continent, from one ocean to the other.

"Manifest Destiny" → still rhetoric today!
America seen as..

- ..special and destined to be the great nation of futurity
- ..friend of human liberty, civilization, refinement
- ..is destined for better deeds
- ..era of American greatness = 20 century
- ..nation of human progress, individual freedom, universal enfranchisement

15. MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR (1846 – 1848)

...grew out of unresolved conflicts between **Mexico and Texas** + from the U.S. expansionism.

- 1846 President Polk sent soldiers to the disputed zone between Mexico and the Republic of Texas (→ provocation of war). American forces quickly defeated those of Mexico.
- Mexico lost half of its territory in the war
- **The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo** ended the war and gave the U.S. undisputed control of Texas, California, Nevada, Utah + parts of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Wyoming.
- Many Northern abolitionists viewed the war as an attempt by the slave-owners to expand slavery and ensure influence in the government (Texas recognized the institution of slavery – Mexico did not!)

TEXAS' HISTORY

- The declaration of independence for modern Texas created the Republic of Texas in 1836
- General Santa Anna's entire force (Mexican) of 1,600 men was killed or captured by Texas General Sam Houston's army of 800 Texans → decisive battle resulted in Texas' independence from Mexico
- 1845 the Republic of Texas was annexed by the U.S.A. making it a U.S. state immediately
- Sam Houston: President of the Republic of Texas
- Stephen F. Austin: "Father of Texas" and Secretary of State for new Republic (state's capital named after him)

CALIFORNIA'S HISTORY

...early mission of California as the Spanish empire was also to convert Indians to Roman Catholicism.

- Founder of California's mission: Junipero Serra, a Spanish Franciscan priest serving as a missionary in New Spain. Serra founded nine missions, e.g. San Diego or San Francisco.
- sad fact: the Indians at the missions suffered a high death rate, caused primarily by diseases for which they lacked immunity. The number of native population from San Diego to San Francisco had a decline of more than 75%!
- 1st city: San José (1777)
2nd city: El Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de los Angeles del Rio de Porciuncula (later known as L.A./Los Angeles)
- Spaniards were not the only Europeans in California: 1812 the Russian-American Fur Company established colonial outposts in California

- The California Republic, also called **The Bear Flag Republic**, was the result of **The Bear Flag Revolt** by Americans in 1846, in the town of Sonoma against the authorities of the Mexican province of California; (a war for the independence of California). The rebels hoisted a flag emblazoned with a drawing of a California grizzly bear, a lone star and the words: "California Republic". The republic eventually became the present-day state of California.



- The original bear flag was made by William Todd, nephew of Abraham Lincoln.
- Shortly after the arrival of U.S. naval forces along the California coast, the Stars and Stripes replaced the Bear Flag over Sonoma. "California Republic" ended less than a month after it had begun.

California in the Gold Rush (1848–1855),

- The California Gold Rush began when gold was discovered by **James Marshall** at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, California.
- As the world rushed in to California, the gold seekers found themselves in a land beyond the reach of any established law. The miners took matters into their own hands and also banded together to administer justice, banishing or lynching those whom they suspected of wrongdoing.
- Many of the most successful Californians during the gold rush were not the miners BUT enterprising merchants who sold supplies to them. (one of these was Bavarian-born **Levi Strauss**)
- The Native population of California declined massively during the Gold Rush. Thousands of Indians died in **genocidal campaigns** carried out by white Californian gold seekers. More
Indians died in California than in any other U.S. state!

16. THOREAU, "On Civil Disobedience", 1849.

..when the United States invaded Mexico, Thoreau refused to pay tax to the state of Massachusetts not to finance an illegal war and was thus put to prison where he wrote.. *Civil Disobedience* is an essay by **Henry David Thoreau** that was first published in 1849. It argues that people should not permit governments to overrule their consciences, and that people have a duty to avoid allowing such submission to enable the government to make them the agents of injustice. Thoreau was motivated in part by **his disgust with slavery and the Mexican-American War**.

American civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. was also influenced by this essay. In his autobiography, he wrote: During my student days I read Henry David Thoreau's essay *On Civil Disobedience* for the first time. Here, in this courageous New Englander's refusal

to pay his taxes and his choice of jail rather than support a war that would spread slavery's territory into Mexico, I made my first contact with the theory of nonviolent resistance. Fascinated by the idea of refusing to cooperate with an evil system, I was so deeply moved that I reread the work several times.

17. THE CIVIL WAR (1861 – 1865)

Eleven Southern slave states declared their secession from the U.S. and formed the Confederate States of America (the Confederacy). They fought against the U.S. federal government (the Union), which was supported by all the free states and the five border slave states. The war, the **deadliest in American history**, caused 620,000 soldier deaths and an undetermined number of civilian casualties, **ended slavery** in the United States, **restored the Union** by settling the issue of secession and strengthened the role of the federal government. The social, political, economic and racial issues of the war continue to shape contemporary American policies.

- The war **between the States**
- More people died than in both World Wars
- Biggest killers: sickness, disease (diarrhea, smallpox)
- South devastated; railroads, industry, fields
- 11 ex-Confederate States not part of Union
- 4mill. Black freedmen in South face challenges of survival along with thousands of hungry white southern soldiers = crisis at end of war

18. SLAVERY

Slavery in the United States began soon after English colonists first settled Virginia⁶ in 1607 and lasted until the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution in 1865.

From 1654 until 1865, slavery for life was legal within the boundaries of the present United States. Most slaves were black and were held by whites, although some Native Americans and free blacks also held slaves. The majority of slaveholding was in the southern United States where most slaves were engaged in an efficient machine-like gang system of agriculture.

According to the 1860 U.S. census, nearly **four million slaves** were held in a total population of just over 12 million in the 15 states in which slavery was legal. But with the **Union victory in the American Civil War**, the slave-labor system was abolished in the South.

12 million black Africans were shipped to the Americas from the 16th to the 19th centuries. Of these, an estimated 645,000 (5.4% of the total) were brought to what is now the United States. The overwhelming majority were shipped to Brazil.

⁶ Virginia, after Virgin queen Elisabeth 1st, named by Sir Walter Ralleigh. Today a small state, back then, Virginia meant everything!

19. ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Was the **16th President of the United States**, successfully led his country through its greatest internal crisis, the American Civil War, only to be assassinated as the war was coming to an end.

- declared to free all slaves (actually freed only a few)
- a believer in white supremacy; viewed war only in terms of preserving the Union!

Emancipation Proclamation 1862/63

- The **document that freed the slaves**; persons held as slaves are forever free; military insured to maintain freedom of such slaves
- celebrated as document that freed slaves – but actually didn't. Slaves in the South (Texas, Alabama, Florida, Virginia,..) were still considered property

Letter to Greeley

“If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I'd do it. What I do about slavery and colored race, I do because I believe it helps save the Union.” → doesn't care much about freeing the Blacks, but about holding the Union together

20. RECONSTRUCTION ERA (1865-1877) plus Civil War Amendments

The history of the United States, Reconstruction refers to the policies between 1863 and 1877 when the U.S. focused on abolishing slavery, destroying the Confederacy, and reconstructing the nation and the Constitution. *Reconstruction* is also the common name for the general history of the **post-Civil War era** in the U.S. between 1865 and 1877.

13th Amendment approved and ratified. **Abolished Slavery in the United States**. The Congress established Freedmen's Bureau which was initiated by President Abraham Lincoln to provide assistance to the emancipated slaves. Help by the Congress to aid former slaves through education, health care and employment, it became later a key agency in the first years of Reconstruction, aiming primarily at assisting freedmen (freed ex-slaves) in the South.

14th Amendment ratified. Entitles all persons born or naturalized in the U.S. to citizenship and equal protection under the laws of the United States.

15th Amendment ratified. Gives the vote to all male citizens regardless of color or previous condition of servitude.

Civil Rights Act enacted by Congress. It provides blacks with the right to equal treatment in public spaces and transportation. All persons within the jurisdiction of the United States shall be entitled to the full and equal enjoyment of accommodation, advantages, public conveyances on land or water, theatres, ...

1865 Assassination of President Lincoln; Vice President Andrew Johnson becomes president (racist from the South)

1869 former Union General Ulysses S. Grant becomes president.

21. U.S. AMERICAN COINS AND BANKNOTES

Dollar hegemony is a term coined by Henry C.K. Liu to describe the US dollar in the global economy. The term describes a geopolitical phenomenon of the 1990s in which the U.S. dollar became the primary reserve currency internationally.

The Founding Fathers are on the dollar notes aka “greenbag” (Dollar → Taler → Maria Theresia “Joachims tal”).⁷

- **George Washington** on **1 dollar note** (1st president → portrait = back to front → same look on his face= “wooden teeth” / on its back: free masons’ pyramid, Am. Eagle → 13 original stars of the founding states)
- **Thomas Jefferson** on the old **2 dollar note** (they are almost out of circulation)
- **Abraham Lincoln** on the **5\$ bill** → Civil war president./ On the back: Lincoln Memorial
- **Alexander Hamilton** on the **10\$ bill** (= founder of US treasury= US bank system, he is also a founding father) / back: US treasury in Washington DC
- **US Grant** on the **50\$ bill**/ US Capitol
- **Benjamin Franklin** on the **100\$ bill** „Big Ben“, the largest \$-bill carries the Hall of Independence (from UK) in Philadelphia on its back.

22. Ku Klux Klan (KKK)

Ku Klux Klan (KKK) is the name of several past and present secret domestic terrorists organizations in the United States, generally in the southern states, that are best known for advocating white supremacy and acting as vigilantes while hidden behind conical masks and white robes. The KKK has been known to utilize terrorism, violence, and lynching to intimidate and oppress African Americans, Jews, and Roman Catholics during periods of turmoil.

The first Klan was founded in 1865 by veterans of the Confederate Army. Its purpose was to restore white supremacy in the aftermath of the American Civil War. The Klan resisted Reconstruction by intimidating carpetbaggers⁸, scalawags⁹ and freedmen. The KKK quickly adopted violent methods.

- KKK was destroyed by President Ulysses S. Grant's prosecution and enforcement under the Civil Rights Act of 1871

The Second Klan, 1915

- William J. Simmons organized a new Klan in Georgia in Stone Mountain (reference to MLK-speech)
- Directed its activity against not just blacks but any group it considered as un-American (Jews, Roman Catholics, homosexuals)
- More than 2mill. Members
- During WW2 Klan faded again

⁷ The symbol \$ comes from the Spanish Peso

⁸ Northerners who went to the South during Reconstruction to make money

⁹ Native white Southerners who joined the Republican party and aided in carrying out congressional Reconstruction program

KKKK – Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, 1960s

- New wave of violence by the Klan
- Today: estimated members: low thousands

stop all non-white immigration
quarantine for all AIDS carriers
workfare, not welfare
return prayer to school
reassert America's white Christian heritage

23. SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR (1898)

- war was provoked and declared by the States
- US was an unproven power, while the Spanish navy had a glorious history
- **Resulted in the USA gaining control over the former colonies of Spain** in the Caribbean (Cuba, Puerto Rico) and the Pacific (Guam, Philippines)
 - Guam – bloodless
 - The Philippines "Battle of Manila" – Spanish surrendered city to US army
 - Cuba "Battle of San Juan Hill" in which Teddy Roosevelt became a war hero; Americans defeated Spanish fleet and gained control of the waterways around Cuba

Period of **reconciliation between former Yankees and Confederates** marked by "Blue-Gray" reunions and increased political harmony between Northern and Southern politicians

24. Segregation, Jim Crow laws

Reader (®) p45

Segregation: 1865 to 1954

after Southern states were defeated in Civil War + slavery abolished, "**Black codes**" were enacted in the South that restricted the rights of the newly freed slaves. (They were officially abolished during Reconstruction, but persisted under white dominance + terrorism of Ku Klux Klan + social custom):

Blacks were

- prevented from voting (through poll tax, unfair literacy tests, intimidation)
- denied any equal share in community life.

Towards the end of 19C (1880s) legalized →

"**Jim Crow laws**" were officially enacted to codify white dominance.

Jim Crow laws:

Jim Crow = figure in a minstrel song, hate term for a black person → crows are black.

- separate schools and colleges
- special sections in railway cars and busses
- separate public facilities (hospitals, barber shops etc. inferior quality for blacks)
- forbidden to sit with whites in most places of public amusement



1896: Plessy v. Ferguson: “**equal but separate**” court decision for sep. education

1900 – 1920: Full extension of segregation to all public transportation + education facilities, even hospitals, churches, libraries, beaches, jails & places of employment.

Opposition across the nation began to rise just before WWII → enforced by civil-rights organisations (paradox of war for democracy overseas, while discrimination at home).

- 1948, President (P) Harry Truman issued directive calling for an end to segregation in the armed forces.
- 1950 Supreme Court: Black Herman Sweatt must be admitted to law school at Univ. of Texas → no equal education
- 1954: landmark Supreme Court decision: Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas: separate facilities by race = unconstitutional.
- Legal suits, mass sit-ins and boycotts of blacks hasten **desegregation** → 200,000 march on Washington in 1963 → movement to end Jim Crow
- Although southern whites respond with violence, federal troops needed to preserve order and protect blacks - end to legal sanctions to Jim Crow

25. Desegregation, Affirmative Action

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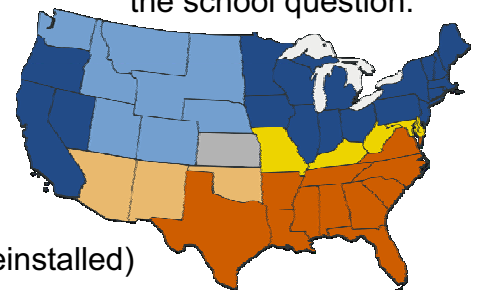
School Desegregation: 1954 to 1963

Linda Brown denied admission to local elementary school → suit overruled the “separate but equal” doctrine which violated the principle of equal protection under the law = 14th Amendment (U.S. Constitution) → declaration in 1955 that schools must be desegregated “with all deliberate speed.” The “**Brown rule**” applied to many southern states.

→ struggle over desegregation now centred upon the school question.

1954: 11 southern and 5 *border states*¹⁰ (Delaware DE, Maryland MD, West Virginia WV, Kentucky KY, Missouri MO) + District of Columbia: elementary school segregation → by 1957: 9 states desegregated + DoC but **forced integration** → violence

- WV rather close schools than deseparate (were reinstalled)
- Whites boycott public schools in New Orleans
- Attempts to suspend students for non legitimate reasons
- MS: federal troupes occupy Oxford to restore order, 2 dead
- SC: Gov. stands in doorway in symbolic block – fails



Blue =Union do not allow slavery,
light blue=Union territories,
yellow=**border states** allow slavery,
dark orange=Confederate states,
cream=Confederate claimed territories.

Affirmative Action: beginning in the 1960s

= result of the NAACP, states that if equally qualified, the socially weaker (minorities or women) gets the job, = to overcome effects of past societal discrimination.

Policy implemented by federal agencies enforcing the Civil Rights Act of 1964 = the most comprehensive civil-rights act to date (barred use of federal funds for segregated programs and schools)

¹⁰ "Border States" remained in the Union, though they gave varying degrees of support to the South. In the context of the [American Civil War](#), the term **border states** refers to the five [slave states](#) of [Delaware](#), [Kentucky](#), [Maryland](#), [Missouri](#), and [West Virginia](#) which bordered a [free state](#) and were aligned with the [Union](#). In addition, two territories not yet states - the [Indian Territory](#) (now the state of [Oklahoma](#)) and the [New Mexico Territory](#) (now the states of [Arizona](#) and [New Mexico](#)) - also permitted slavery. With geographic, social, political, and economic connections to both the North and the South, the border states were critical to the outcome of the war and still delineate the cultural border that separates the N from the S.

Beginning of the “ethnic scholarship”: racial/ethnic profiling, esp. for black, poorly educated¹¹

The Civil Rights Act (1964),

Voting Rights Act (1965), yet still rising militancy among blacks – riots in slums, etc.

Fair Housing Act (1968)

Blacks begin shifting to an independent course expressed in the concept of “**Black Power**” (coined by Carmichael, leader of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee – dropped whites from membership). Although setback in 1970 under Nixon (de-emphasized desegregation), greater rate of black students on white colleges. Still segregated schools today, but number of students is very low.

However, the establishment of racial quotas in the name of affirmative action → “**reverse discrimination**” (women suddenly preferable). → some cases in 1989: reverse discrimination plead won over affirmative action. - Bush tried to get rid of it, unsuccessful.

- *Edward Brooke* 1st African American to be elected to the U.S. Senate
- 1967 *Carl Stokes*, 1st ~ mayor of Cleveland, OH
- 1984/1988 *Jesse Jackson* seriously campaigned for Dem.nomination for president
- *General Colin Powell*, 1st to head the Joint Chiefs of Staff (popular choice of many Republicans for 1996 presidential election, declined to run, however)
- *Condoleezza Rice*, U.S. Secretary of State (2nd in the administration of Bush)

Although a number of blacks have achieved prominence – race remains on of the most intractable problems in the U.S. – in large part because of personal biases and racial stereotyping → **interracial tension**, other social problems. → Race riots.

26. Civil Rights Movement: M.L. King, Malcolm X, Rosa Parks



Rosa Parks “a pioneer and the mother of Civil Rights Movement”, member of the NAACP, refused to give up her seat to a white man and move to the segregated section of a bus in 1955. → In 1955-56 *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* led blacks to **Montgomery bus boycott** against the municipal bus system → successful when in 1965, the Supreme Court nullified the laws of Alabama on segregation on buses. In 1999, awarded the Congressional Gold Medal (= Congress’s highest honour)

→ “**Freedom Riders**” mixed group of B&W campaign on Buses → riots federal marshals and National Guards were called → some of the riders were arrested → long series of battles began.

Martin Luther King Jr. American clergyman and civil-rights leader gained major victory with the boycott → prestige as civil-rights leader → organised Southern Christian Leadership Conference – basis for further civil-rights activities, first in the South, then nationwide. Philosophy of **non-violent resistance** led to several arrests.

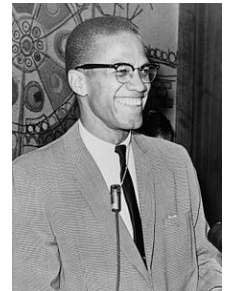


¹¹ + athletic scholarship (money for universities → big advertisement). Bill Clinton introduced 3rd kind of scholarship: leadership scholarship for class-presidents, organizers, quarter-backs, etc.

August 1963 **March on Washington**, more than 200.000 people (B&W) → “I have a Dream”-speech. 1964: Nobel Peace Prize, in 1968 was shot and killed as he stood on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel (although James Earl Ray, career criminal pleaded guilty, family and friends believe in a conspiracy). King’s birthday is a national holiday, 3rd Summer of 1968 (his assassination) riots in 125 U.S. cities.

Although King was warned that he would be killed, he held speeches, such as “I have a Dream” where Negroes and Whites were marching together (Malcolm X, Muslim, only blacks). Speech delivered at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. at the great March on Washington, August 28, 1963. “[some] have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny. And they have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom. We cannot walk alone.” [...] “This is our hope. [...] With this faith we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day. This will be the day when all of God’s children will be able to sing with new meaning: [...] Let freedom ring.” [...] “Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia [cf. Klu Klux Klan]. Let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee” [= where Sherman started his walk to the sea].

Malcolm X, born Malcolm Little – no good fighter name → joins nation of Islam → different type of person, militant Muslim, is suspended from Nation of Islam after the Kennedy assassination. His audience is an almost all-black one. His famous speech is on the **Grass Roots Conference** (an audience of basis activists): Message to the Grass Roots.



Organised at the same time as more conservative gathering, the Northern Negro Leadership Conference, of which Black Nationalists were excluded. Malcolm X’s speech is very militant: “you were brought here by the so-called Pilgrims, or Founding Fathers” [mistake!!] “that enemy – the white man. He’s an enemy to all of us. I know some of you all think that some of ‘em aren’t enemies. Time will tell”, → If you’re not ready for a bloodshed you are not a real black. “When you want a nation, that’s called nationalism. If you’re afraid of black nationalism, you’re afraid of revolution.” Distinction of the house Negro and the field Negro “we’ve still got some house niggers running around here.”

M.X was assassinated in 59 (39 y old) by members of Nation of Islam whose leader at that time fought with him.

27. NAACP, Nation of Islam, ACLU

NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)

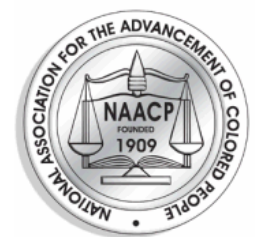
*1909 in NYC by white and black citizens;

= US strongest and largest civil rights organization. *Objective*: ensure political, educational, social and economic equality of minority group citizens of the U.S. and eliminate race prejudice by means of democratic processes:

- seeking the enactment and enforcement of federal, state and local laws securing civil rights (they produced the Civil Rights Acts of 1960/64)
- informing public of adverse effects of racial discrimination

Today: over 2,200 affiliates, covering all 50 states, District of Columbia, Japan and Germany. Total Membership = over 500,000, integration for all colours, races, etc.

“Today [...] we affirm our commitment to **the true American Dream** – an integrated society rich in diversity and open equally to all.”



Nation of Islam: (NoI) founded in July 1930 with the self-proclaimed goal of resurrecting the spiritual, mental, social, and economic condition of the black men and women of America. NOI also promotes the belief that God will bring about a universal government of peace.

Their program:

- *We want freedom, justice, equality of opportunity*
- *A separate state or territory of their own (utopian → no one will ever do that)*
- *Equal education in separate schools, trained by own teachers, free books etc. (as payment for slavery)*
- *Intermarriage or race mixing should be prohibited!*



American Civil Rights Union (ACLU): very important in US. The ACLU's stated mission is "to defend and preserve the individual rights and liberties guaranteed to every person in this country by the Constitution and laws of the United States." It works through litigation (*Rechtsstreit*), legislation, and community education.

- against death penalty, pro free speech, pro affirmative action
- helps all people to get complaints heard
- principle: "**Defending the Bill of Rights**" (= first 10 articles of the US constitution)
- projects: Voting Rights/Prison/Drug Policy/Immigrants' Rights



28. American concept of "race" (self-definition)

Race = most contested political term → biologically not valid. Definition of the official **Census Bureau** (Census each 10 years): **self-identification data items in which residents choose the race or races with which they most closely identify, and indicate whether or not they are of Hispanic or Latino origin (ethnicity).** → The concept of race is separate from the concept of Hispanic origin!

Categories are socio-political constructs and should not be interpreted as being scientific → race categories include both racial and national-origin groups! Groups:

- White (aka Caucasian also Arabs, Near Easterners!),
- Black or African American (also includes Negro),
- American Indian and Alaska Native (logically Native Am. Is not possible → most people are born in the US!),
- Asian (only East of India → Turkish, Lebanese are European),
- Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander
- Some other race (includes all other responses not included in the above → also entries such as multiracial, mixed, interracial, or a Hispanic/Latino group
- Two or more races

Outcome US Census 2000:

- since 1990 census less than 2 children/ family with Whites (self-identified) , more children with African American 14,4 % (courage to self-identify as black!) , most with Asian American (+45%) – largest minority in the States = Hispanic or Latino of any race ~ 4 children/family
- Religion: every 6th US American = catholic, 2nd most = Baptist, then 7 million Muslims (a lot of them in NY + surrounding areas), 5 million Jews (NY, Florida),

Hindus, Buddhists (California). Largest growing number of religion = the non-believers, also most Native belong to no religion.

- City regions + immigrant stock: LA 62% (!), NY 54,3%, Miami 71,5% of total population + another 2.8 million citizens who were born in Puerto Rico and other US territories and reside in U.S. mainland.
- States growing rapidly: Arizona, Florida → old population → many people retire there - Amendment 16: Fed. Income tax is obligatory, however Florida has no state income tax (all other states have two)

29. Population: African Am., Hispanics, Native Am., “hyphenated” Americans

Census of 2000: Total population of 281,421,906 (+13,2% since 1990 which is the largest decennial growth in US history!)

- Whites (all self-identified!): 75,1% = 211,5 million (less than 2 children/family)
- African American: 12,3% = 34,7 million (more children than whites → courage to self-identify as black)
- Asian American: 3,6% = 10,2 million (+45,9% since 90)
- Pacific Islander: 0,1% = 399,000
- American Indian and Alaska Native: 0.9% =
- Some other race 5,5%
- 2 or more races 2,4%

Most people live in the South, then the Midwest, the West and the fewest live in the Northeast.

50 States + DC

- 4 states with Non-White majority: Hawaii, California, New Mexico, Texas (in 2008) and D.C. (not a state)
- States with high White, non-Hispanic dominance: Maine, Vermont, Idaho, Wyoming, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,...

More immigrants from Mexico than from any other country

Black population:

Black population is nowadays very diverse – not definable anymore by skin colour only, but by various origins → culture and nationality are becoming more important than skin-colour.

Big dividing line of African Americans:

- common history of slavery → **slavery-descendants**, call themselves brothas or sistas: History united them in their suffering, no matter how light or dark their colour and origin. → fighting together for freedom and against white oppression, a notion that was lost on many of the black foreigners who started arriving in droves after the 1965 Immigration Act¹²

¹² 1965 **Immigration Act** repealed the national origins quota system → most far-reaching revision of immigration policy in the US. Adopted an annual ceiling on Eastern Hemisphere immigration of 170,000 and of Western Hemisphere 120,000. Preference system placed priority on:

- family reunification – needed skills – refugees → **Refugee Act** of 1980: eliminated them as category of the preference system and set the worldwide ceiling at 270,000 exclusive of refugees

Since 65 immigration shifted from Europe to Latin America and Asia, reversing the trend since founding of the nation “The Browning of America”

- other blacks from Ghana, etc. → hard for them to be accepted – the **foreign-born** African Americans (who will outnumber the native-born at some near point in history)

Academic subject “Ebonics” = black language → a study of speech: sista, gangsta, niggah, home-boys, motha f***a – they can only call this themselves, however.

Hyphenated Americans:

Is an epitaph → Americans who are of foreign birth or origin:

Irish-Americans, Japanese-Americans, Jewish-American, European-American: they all have a high performance compared to the average of all American students at university. The only two non-hyphenated Americans are African Americans and Native Americans, both of whom are very low achievers. Hispanic-Americans, however, have the highest drop out rate.

30. The Hispanic Population: 3 major groups (Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans)

Census 2000: **12.5 %** of total population
Hispanic: (increased by 57.9% from the 1990 census from 22.4 million to 35.3 million people although varied in each group)

- Mexicans 7.3% (LA, Chicago, Houston, San Antonio and Phoenix.)
- Puerto Ricans 1.2% (N/E 400,000 in NYC, they have their own university there also in Chicago, Philadelphia)
- Cubans 0.4% (go to Florida, anti-Castro minority there, Miami, NY, Tampa, LA)
- Other Hispanics 3.6% (E.G: Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans → their home countries would not survive without the immigrants, living in the US and sending home money. They make more than local tourism).



Half of all Hispanics lived in just two states: California (East LA (96.8% of pop), San Diego, San Jose) and Texas (Houston, San Antonio, El Paso).

- Latinos: is a cultural term, does not concern language background: Brazil = Portuguese; in California Latino is meaningless on the census form, whereas in Texas Latino makes sense as it is a field of study at university.
- Hispanic population is relatively young (under 18 and median age)

Mexicans:

During Spanish colonial period, Spanish males mixed with Indian females → mestizo race = the racial origins of Mexicans. Moved northwards to region of Texas, lived there on the frontier, which is a hard place to live, only about 5,000 in the end. Texan Revolution → number of Hispanics increased, first federal census in 1850 more than 14,000 residents. Civil War: Mexicans moved west, by 1900, Tejanos formed a minority in Central Texas, a majority in South Texas, but outnumbered by Anglos.

With the Mexican Revolution (1910-20), lots of people move across the Rio Grande → Mass relocation as agricultural expansion in the south-western US.

19C: Tejanos work as day labourers, maids, restaurant helpers, and laundry workers, but the great majority range duties due to orientation of economy and their skills as ranch hands and shepherds. Early 20C, agricultural revolution → picking cotton, vegetables, fruit → still poor wealth, health, substandard housing.

Since the early 18C: sense of community → particular identity. Living in barrios (urban neighbourhoods) → Tejano community, familiar folklore, Catholic holy days and Mexican national holidays, Spanish language opposed to lynching, discrimination, segregation, political disfranchisement and other injustices, such as segregation in school system etc.

Repatriation of Mexican citizens during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Nowadays issues: immigration, right to speak Spanish in schools, use of public money to support the Tejano poor.

31. Puerto Rico

Official name: **Commonwealth** of Puerto Rico (Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico)



- 2,478 km², the smallest and most eastern island of the Greater Antilles.
- Pop. ~4 million pop. Density of 1,100 people per square mile = among the highest of the world.
- Diverse national and racial origins, mostly European and African. (from families established by colonizers – southern Spain and the Canary Islands)

Puerto Rico is a territory of USA →

- common citizenship,
- Currency and defence.
- pay no federal income tax,
- no voting right in presidential election
- do not require a working visa (green card) to live and work in US → over 2 million PR live in the US, primarily northeast (money reasons)



Early period of colonization: mixture between Spaniards and native “Tainos” (were wiped out later by diseases → potato = Taino language) – African slaves imported to the island.

History:

- discovered in **1493** Columbus 2nd voyage, natives Taino or Arawak Indians (named island Boriken = “the great land of the valiant and noble Lord”) soon to become Spain’s most important military outpost in the Caribbean
- **Spanish-American War** (August 8 1898) ends the rule of Spanish colonizers → US acquisition of territories Western Pacific and Latin America → PR ceded to US
- March 2nd 1917 **Jones Act** → PR became territory of US, “organized but unincorporated”, bill of rights, locally elected Senate and house of Representatives established
- December 13, 1998: **non-binding referendum** to become free association, a own state, declaring independence or remaining a commonwealth → none of the above was voted with 50,3%

32. Chicanismo/ Xicanism@

Chicano During late 1950s “Chicano” was negative → Mexican immigrant. Today positive, no insult anymore but a **positive self-identifier** of “U.S. natives of Mexican descent → La Raza cosmica: cosmic race bronze – brown – the browning of America. Festival: Dia de la Raza = celebration day, 11th of October aka “Columbus Day” to Whites)

Themes of **Chicanismo** (= intellectual movement) changed over time a little. In 1960s referring to driving consciousness of shared struggles for human and civil rights. → these struggles = the Chicano movement emphasising the mixed race and working class bases of the US Mexican population.: 4 motives:

- the power of the creative earth and Mexican labour forces together
- *political transformation through powerful leadership*
- family links extending back to prehistoric times in Mesoamerica
- transculturated imagination of a complex indigenous identification, imagination and inspiration, spirituality and sagacity.

Today people identify with the **ideological orientation** → commitment to “Chicanismo”

Xicanism@: = extension of 20th Century Chicanismo that is ideologically rooted in Chicana feminist “Mexic Amerindian” consciousness → rejecting:

- machismo,
- exclusionary ethnocentrism and
- nationalism
- while emphasizing tendencies toward interdependence and
- cooperation that transcends gender/class/race/geographic boundaries.

Y2K → orthographically distinctive identifier and definer of U.S. Mexican consciousness → feminist, cultural guerrilla and more Amerindio (American-Indian background) than ever.

33. The “American Century” / 1898 ff. U.S. Imperialism: Big stick diplomacy

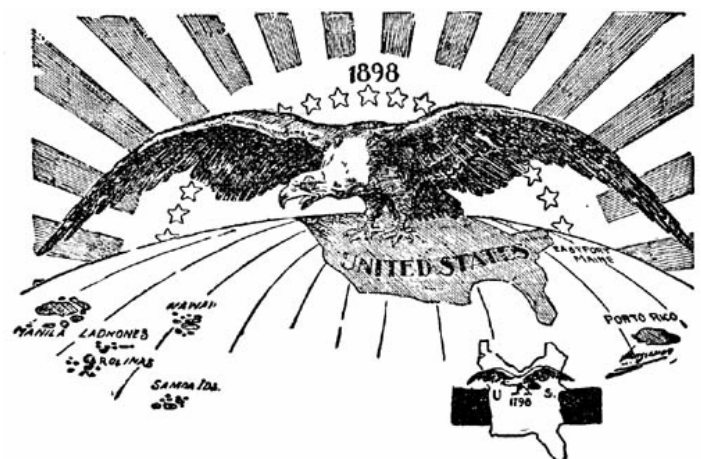
21st century - Chinese century?

US imperialism starts after the Civil War → aggressive expansion of influence in the West (Native American tribes) and overseas.

- Acquisition of Alaska from Russia,
- annexation of Hawaii, Spanish-American War both 1898

The US have 12 incorporated territories (= possessions) and 2 common-wealth. All residents are full US citizens, except of American Samoa (= US nationals) Possessions have a non-voting representative in US Congress. major Possessions:

- American Samoa



Ten thousand miles from tip to tip.—Philadelphia Press.

- Guam
- U:S Virgin Islands (St. Croix, St. John and St. Thomas)

Common-Wealth have their own constitution and greater autonomy than possessions:

- Puerto Rico (has own Olympic team and Miss Universe → independent nation)
- Northern Marianas

“Big Stick” – diplomacy = international negotiations backed by the threat of force (cf. Bush politics) → Theodore Roosevelt “*Speak softly and carry a big stick*”

The American Century:

Term coined by *Time* publisher Henry Luce in 1938 (used by many diplomats). He called upon US to enter WWII and defend democratic values → US, the “Good Samaritan” spreading democracy.

Today, represents US dominance of much of the 20C:

- Spanish-American war
- US role in WWII
- Cold War status of US as one of the two superpowers
- Ending the role as sole superpower in the 1990s.

Refers not only to political influence of USA, but also economic one:

the **Dollar Diplomacy** = term, used to describe effort of US to further its foreign policy aims in Latin America and East Asia through use of its economic power. Term has been used by Latin Americans to display disapproval for US role: support for US corporations – using economic, diplomatic and military power to invade their economies (Ecuador, Venezuela, Argentina want to get rid of Dollar, still very powerful), also called the “**dollar hegemony**”.

However, not always peaceful: e.g. Nicaragua, 1909: revolt broke out, US troops to country to seize customs houses, then invitation to US bankers to move into the country and offer substantial loans to new regime, thus increasing US financial control of the country. (Same in Honduras and Haiti) US would not permit foreign nations to intervene and felt obligated to prevent economic and political instability, thus preparing the stage for further interventions in the future.

34. Hawaii, the Philippines, Panama, Nicaragua

Hawaii:

Kingdom of Hawaii (divine Right) long time an independent monarchy in the mid-pacific Ocean. During 19C, first American missionaries, then American businessman to play major roles. A **coup d’Etat** financed and directed by American interests (fruit and sugarcane) overthrew monarchy’s last native Hawaiian leaser (Queen Lili’uokalani) → island becomes a republic in 1894.

In 1898, American president of the Republic of Hawaii (Sanford Dole of Dole = largest fruit producer of the world) agreed to Republic’s annexation by US → Territory of Hawaii became 50th state (last state so far because after WWII states tightened) = **forced annexation!**



The Philippines:

In 1898 US government made plans to make Philippines an American colony, Filipinos (fighting for independence from Spain) had already declared independence (did not like to become US) → On August, 14th 11,000 troops sent to Philippines, 1st president Aguinaldo was declared, but Filipinos found US gave them not more autonomy than Spain → very bloody 6 year long fights in the jungle against the Filipino resistance (200,000 F died from war/famine/in US concentration camps!) Also widespread war crimes by US soldiers (torture, killing prisoners of war).

- military force: US 126,000 soldiers to occupy the country
- When president shifted to guerrilla warfare, US took prisoners, scorching whole villages
- Routinely shooting surrendering Filipinos (“nigger killing business”)
- Concentration camps called “protected zones”, civilians were forced into, after being suspected of being guerrilla sympathisers → 1000s died, Red Cross not allowed in these camps
- The Catholic Church was disestablished (actually against Art 1 of the US Constitution! → Freedom of religion!), land was purchased and redistributed.
- English declared official language, although already Tagalog, Spanish and Ilocano languages in the Philippines.



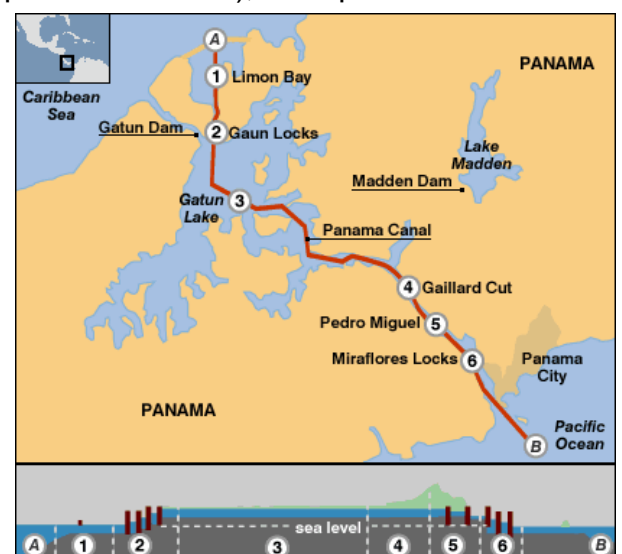
Aguinaldo was declared an “outlaw bandit” → no formal declaration of war was ever issued, for US (until 1999) only known as **Philippine Insurrection**¹³ (Aufstand) → almost forgotten war.

In 1916 US granted self-government, promised eventual independence. Although foreign troops are banned from the country today (Philippine constitution), US Special Forces have a Subic Bay Naval Base there – pay some compensation.

Nicaragua:

Panama Canal opened in 1914 → important for US (enormous impact on shipping, removed need for ships to travel a long and risky route, since its opening very successful, key factor in world shipping), however the Canal Zone was returned to Panama in 1999, as well as all US military bases.

→ US wants a new canal, they are trying to build a larger part through Nicaragua:



¹³ Calling a war a rebellion or insurrection → enables to avoid liability to claims by veterans of the action!

Colonized by Spain in 1524, Nicaragua (largest country in Central America) achieved independence in 1821 first as part of United Provinces of Central America then as sovereign republic in 1938. However, nation's history always marked by the desire of US commercial interests to make use of Nicaraguan territory. US Marines occupied country from 1912 to 33. When they left, they set up the **Guardia Nacional** (military and police force trained + equipped by US and designed to be loyal to US interests.). Also supported



under the **Reagan Doctrine** → US military support to movements opposing Soviet supported, communist-led governments.

The U.S. in World War I

Not in exam!!

35. The U.S. in World War II: Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Imperial Japanese Navy attack on **Pearl Harbor**, Oahu, Hawaii, morning of the **December 7, 1941**. → destroyed 12 US warships, 188 aircraft, killed 2,403 US servicemen and 68 civilians. (some say the president knew about this all along, but did nothing). This drew the US into WWII which was a help to Brits etc. → immediately galvanized a divided nation into action as little else could have done. Overnight, it united US against Japan. Fear of espionage or sabotage in US → **arrest and internment** (Haft) of Japanese Americans

Nazi Germany declared war on US on December, 11 (4 days after J attack → German and Italian aliens also to internment.), this allowed US to enter European theatre of war, greatly support UK BUT setback in response in the Pacific.

Japanese invaded Philippines, and conquered southeast Asia, the southwest Pacific and far into the Indian Ocean (Malaya, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Thailand), US unable to play a significant role in the **Pacific War** for the next six months.

This battle, like Battle of Lexington and Concord, had **history-altering consequences**:

- drew US and its massive industrial and service economy into WWII → defeat of the Axis powers worldwide
- Allied victory in this war and subsequent US emergence as a dominant world power has shaped international politics ever since

May 8th, 1945 **V-E Day**, unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany

August 6, 1945 US dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima, Japan, a major supply and logistics base: weapon Little Boy killed ~ 80,000 civilians and heavily damaged the city. Many would die later as result of nuclear fallout and cancer, pregnant mothers lost their children, or they were born with deformities.

August, 9th, 1945 atomic bomb on Nagasaki: North of the city was destroys 70,000 people killed, another 70,000 died of bomb-related causes in the decades that followed. The bomb "Fat Man" was more powerful than "Little Boy" → Japanese signed official surrender papers on September 2, 1945 (V-J day)

Originally there were other cities targeted (Tokyo, Kyoto), but US wanted to learn from bombing (How many people die, etc.) → easier to count dead bodies in a city not surrounded by mountains → accurately measure.

After the nuclear attack, Hiroshima was rebuilt as a “peace memorial city” and the city government continues to advocate abolition of nuclear weapons. → each time a nuclear weapon has been detonated anywhere in the world since 1968, they write a letter of protest.

The Marshall Plan

Not in exam!!

36. The United Nations

Term coined by Franklin D. Roosevelt during WWII (most prominent president, followed by Lincoln and JFK) to refer to Allies. Idea was elaborated, declarations signed at the wartime, head is NYC. = an international organization whose stated aims are to

- facilitate cooperation in international law,
- international security,
- economic development,
- social progress,
- human rights, and
- achieving world peace.



The UN was founded in 1945 after World War II to replace the League of Nations, to stop wars between countries and to provide a platform for dialogue. 192 member states (except Vatican City + Republic of China/Taiwan), including nearly every recognized independent state in the world. Headquarters in New York City, but major agencies in Geneva, The Hague, Vienna, Montreal, Bonn, et al.

Regular meetings held throughout the year, administrative bodies are primarily:

- The General Assembly (the main deliberative assembly);
- The Security Council (decides certain resolutions for peace and security);
- The Economic and Social Council (assists in promoting international economic and social cooperation and development);
- The Secretariat (provides studies, information, and facilities needed by the UN);
- The International Court of Justice (the primary judicial organ).

Additional bodies deal with the governance of all other UN System agencies, such as the **World Health Organization (WHO)** and **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**.

Secretary-General, currently Ban Ki-moon of South Korea, who attained the post in 2007. The organization is financed from assessed and voluntary contributions from its member states, and has *six official languages*: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

37. The Cold War: the Truman Doctrine

The Cold War: End of WWII = end of UK's position as global superpower + emergence of US and Soviet Union as dominant powers in the world. Friction between the two before end of war (and Nazi relation).

In areas occupied by Western Allied troops: pre-war governments were re-established/new democratic ones created whilst in Soviet areas, communist states. D/A separated and divided in 4 zones, Korea divided along 38th parallel. Those divisions initially informal, but relationship between victors changed → military lines became country boundaries: Beginning of Cold War → 2 blocs: **NATO** and **Warsaw Pact**
The Truman Doctrine (1947): (Truman gave command to drop atomic bombs)
Part of US political response to perceived aggression by Soviet Union (Europe) and Middle East (communist movements in Iran, Turkey and Greece) → US foreign policy towards USSR → “**containment**” (In Schach halten)

- send money, equipment or military force to countries threatened by communism
- “*policy of US to support free peoples who are resisting attempted subjugation by armed minorities or by outside pressures*”

Contributed to US 1st involvements in Vietnam War. (Truman wanted to aid France to hold onto its Vietnamese colonies → US supplied French with equipment and military advisors to “**combat communist revolutionaries**”)

38. The Korean War

1st war to be fought by the UN, also the 1st **proxy war** (Stellvertreterkrieg) → instead of US vs. USSR: June 25, 1950 to cease-fire on July 27, 1953 (technically war has not yet ended) = conflict between North Korea (supported by People’s Volunteer Army of Communist China and later Soviet combat advisors, pilots, weapons) and South Korea (US, UK and Philippines although also other 15 nations under UN).

- August, 10th 1945: with Japanese surrender imminent, US and USSR agree to divide Korea along the 38th parallel → 2 zones of control.
- Spring 1950: North Korean president visited Stalin, gained approval for invasion of south, USA surprised: Truman thought of beginning of WWII

Intervention was important for implementation of Truman Doctrine (opposition to communism anywhere it tried to expand). Also 1st armed confrontation of Cold War and extension (before mostly Europe “battlefield”)

War also..

- Beginning of **racial integration** efforts in **US military** service (equality in military)
- More than 1 million South Koreans killed (85% civilians) , also more than one million North Koreans died = ~ 2,500,000 people, more than 80% of industrial and public facilities and transportation works, ¾ of government offices and ½ of houses destroyed, 54,246 US soldiers dead.
- War left North Korea with pro-Soviet, totalitarian state, pro-American, semi-free republic in South. US troops still in Korea as part of UN command. The **DMZ** (demilitarized Zone) remains the most heavily-defended border in the world.

39. The Vietnam “Conflict”

Americans took over when France was loosing.

Vietnam War or **Second Indochina War** = Conflict between

- Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam.) against the
- Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam.) and its allies (US military in support of South from 65 until 73 official withdrawal plus other forces, the “**coalition of the willing**” = South Korea, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines).

South plus allies said it’s a war against communism and Soviet based expansion

North viewed the war as struggle to reunite the country and to repel a foreign aggressor (continuation of earlier war for independence against French).

15 years of protracted (andauernd) fighting, massive civilian and military casualties (Gefallene):

- SV: 1,250,000 + US: 58,226
- NV: 1,100,000 NVA and NLF (national liberation front or “Viet Cong” (“Charlie”) plus 2-4 million civilians

in 1982, construction began on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. = “The Wall” in 1995 US and Vietnam established diplomatic and trade relations

Opposition to the war within US starting in 64 “**The summer of Love**” on college campuses (time of unprecedented leftist student activism, plus arrival of baby boomers generation) – WWII ended in 1945, Korean conflict in 1953 → most baby boomers had never seen war. Plus Vietnam War was the first **TV war**. → Two iconic images helped sway the public in the US against the war:

- SV police Chief General Nguyen executes NLF Captain
- Children, Kim Phuc Phan Thi, runs down a road naked after a napalm attack on villages suspected of harbouring NLF fighters in June 1972 (Napalm invented in Harvard!)

→ Divide pro- and anti-war Americans lead to “**culture wars**” (censorship of media)

Today’s “coalition of the willing” in Iraq often compared to later phases of Vietnam War, lacking clear objectives/exit strategy.

40. The Reagan Doctrine

Reacted to public opinions disagreeing with such wars as the Vietnam war.
= Cold War strategy to oppose Soviet Union influence by backing anti-communist guerrillas against the communist governments of Soviet-backed client states. “We must not break faith with those who are risking their lives on every continent ... to defy Soviet aggressions. - Support for **freedom fighters** (catch phrase) is self-defence” Advantages:

- cheap to support guerrillas, while Soviets (“evil empire”) invested much more in propping up client states
- no direct involvement of American troops

Reagan promised to restore the nation’s military strength → 1980s massive increases in military spending, about \$1.6 trillion over five years → the “**arms race**” = the beginning of the end of the Soviet Union → racing for weapons

Help undercover for

- Afghanistan, Nicaragua,
- Operation “Urgent Fury” invasion of Grenada which would later serve as model for “low intensity conflicts”



- El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala
- In Africa: with help of apartheid South Africa: Mozambique and Angola
- Afghanistan: massively stepped up military and humanitarian aid for mujahedeen against Soviet proxy government there.

41. American exceptionalism

Coined by Alexis de Tocqueville in 1831 – perception that the US differs qualitatively from other developed nations, because of

- unique origins,
- national credo
- historical evolution
- distinctive political and religious institutions

→ Thus US and American people hold a special place in the world, by offering opportunity and hope for humanity, derived from a unique balance of public and private interest governed by constitutional ideals that are focused on personal and economic freedom.

→ one nation meant by God to save the world. America, the “**city upon a hill** (bible: *For we must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill, the eyes of all people upon us*)” cf. Bush: “*America was targeted [...] because we’re the brightest beacon for freedom and opportunity in the world ... And no one will keep that light from shining!*”
City upon a hill frequently used in speeches (Reagan, Clinton, Bush)

42. The Bush Doctrine

A Unilateral doctrine (einseitig) refers to set of revised foreign policies adopted by Bush in the wake of September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. He declared that US would “*make no distinction between terrorists who committed these attacks and those who harbour them*”.

→ resulted in invasion of Afghanistan in October 2001. “*Every nation, in every region, now has a decision to make. Either you are with us, or you are with the terrorists.*” = stupid, because there are more than 2 sides.

Marks a shift in US foreign policy (before controlling through fear of punishment):

- **pre-emptive** war (Präventivschlag)
- right of **self-defence** extended (you can attack before them)
- duty of US to pursue **unilateral** military action
- “*US has, and intends to keep military strengths beyond challenge*”

Changed everything: US can attack anybody without asking for permission.

US is the richest country in the world, yet 22% of budget goes to military while 22 million American depend on food stamps.

43. The U.S.A. Patriot Act

“**Homeland Security**” (October 26, 2001) – the USA Patriot Act = “*Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act*” → legislative changes which significantly increased the surveillance and investigative powers of law enforcement agencies (e.g. FBI’s electronic surveillance authority). Introduced with great haste, little debate.

Government has investigative authority, but does not safeguard civil liberties as foreseen by the system of checks and balances¹⁴

→ ACLU response: “There are **significant flaws** in the Patriot Act that threaten fundamental freedoms by giving the government the power to access your medical records, tax records, information about the books you buy or borrow [...] and the power to break into your home and conduct secret searches without telling you for weeks, months, or indefinitely”.

- expands terrorism laws to include “domestic terrorism”
- expands ability of law enforcement to conduct secret searches, surveillance, etc.
- allows to investigate American citizens for criminal matters without probable cause of crime (they can say it is for “intelligence purposes”)
- permits non-citizens to be jailed on mere suspicion!

44. Native Americans today

In 2008, Canada’s Prime Minister Stephen Harper apologized officially to native people of Canada (Inuit), also AUS apologized to Lost Generations where people were taken away to Boarding Schools etc. But not in US”

“to kill the Indian, to save the man (human)” was US school slogan for assimilation of Natives in their residential schools. → **Cultural Rape!**

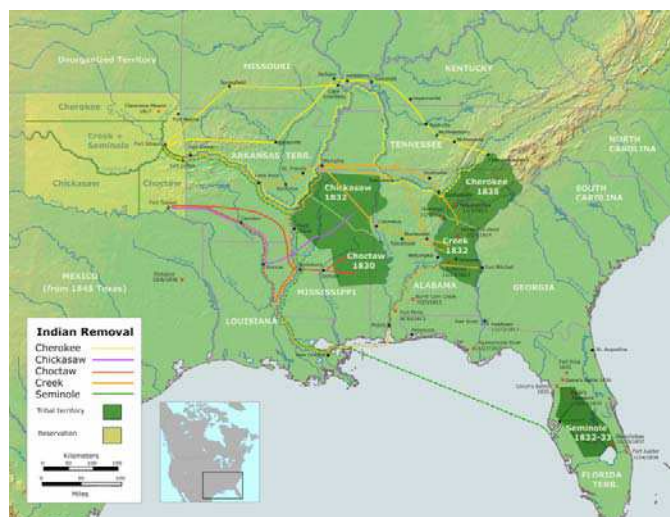
[Cree girl, had to cut her hair for school (which you only do when your husband dies), when she spoke Cree, had to brush the floor, if she tried to escape school, people told her, God would kill her parents. She was raped, tried to kill herself 2x]

Native Americans in the US were always on the loser side (e.g. When they fought with UK against US, US won) in 18/19C. They were used for hunters, guides → free market in Europe for Beaver hats. As more hunting → big disease → arsenic for hats, made hat-makers become sick.

Indian tribes were pushed west. 1st tribes in the East were provided with guns (and gunpowder, bullets, alcohol), whilst the west only had bows and arrows → Clash of tribes as well as fights with settlers.

Trail of Tears: forced relocation of Native Americans from their homelands to Indian Territory (Present day Oklahoma) in the Western US → Many Natives suffered from exposure, disease and starvation while en route to their destinations.

Andrew Jackson was the first US President to implement removal with the passage of the **Indian Removal Act** of 1830.



¹⁴ To prevent one branch from becoming supreme, and to induce the branches to cooperate, governance systems that employ a separation of powers need a way to balance each of the branches. Typically this was accomplished through a system of “**checks and balances**” Checks and balances in the government of the United States include various procedural rules that allow one branch to limit another, such as the authority of the president to veto legislation passed by Congress, or the power of Congress to alter the composition and jurisdiction of the federal courts.

- There are 314 reservations (although in the east, the best country, there are almost no reservations → whites took the best land, left what was minor) Indian and Alaska Natives
- 561 federally recognized tribal governments → right to form their own government, enforce laws (civil and criminal), to tax, license, US Federal government claims to recognize their sovereignty, but still wishes to govern them and treat them as subject to US law. → They fail to treat them like other sovereign states.
- In 2000, largest tribes were Navajo, Cherokee, Choctaw, Sioux, Chippewa, Apache, Blackfeet, Iroquois and Pueblo (but 8 out of 10 natives have mixed blood)
- 1/3 of them have less than 100 people
- More than half the languages will die out within the next 3 generations (Navajo, Cree will probably survive, as they are strong enough.)
- Indians have a high suicide rate (10:1) and one of the highest rate of diabetes (→ super-size me fast food is the cheapest way to get your stomach full) only people that suffer more from this are Hawaiians), lots of alcoholism and heart disease → due to outlawing of native languages and culture, military defeat, cultural pressure, forced assimilation and termination policies of the 1950s and 60s.
- In order to get benefits, tribes must prove their continuous existence since 1900!

The Army Scout: Buffalo Bill used Indians to spice up his Wild West show, showing off Indian shooting skills

Indian names are mostly not their own: Kiowa's called their neighbours: Apache= enemy (they named themselves Dené), whites asked how to call Denés → Apache
Pawnee tribes (named themselves Dakota/Lakota) called their neighbours Nadinni Sioux [su:] = liars, people who speak with a forged tongue. Whites took over these names

Indians made a lot of money with Casino's → are not allowed on US territory, → build on Reservations → Many in Las Vegas belong to Indian tribes!