



I. Course Proficiency Purpose:

The purpose of this study guide is to aid the students who wish to take the proficiency assessment for the credit flex option. Items that the student will be required to know for proficiency will be administered in a three hour written exam

II. Description of the Assessment Format:

- a. 150 Multiple Choice Questions—1 point each
- b. 10 Written Free Response/Essay—2 points each
- c. Total test is 170 points

III. Proficiency Content:

A. History

1. Explain the effects of industrialization in the United States in the 19th Century including:

- a. changes in work and the workplace
- b. immigration and child labor and their impact on the labor force
- c. modernization of agriculture
- d. urbanization
- e. the emergence of a middle class and its impact on leisure, art, music, literature and other aspects of culture

2. Analyze the impact of industrialization and the modern corporation in the United States on economic and political practices with emphasis on

- a. laissez-faire policies
- b. monopolies
- c. standard of living

3. Analyze the reasons for the rise and growth of labor organizations in the United States (i.e., Knights of Labor, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations) including:

- a. unregulated working conditions
- b. laissez-faire policies toward big business
- c. violence toward supporters of organized labor

4. Explain the goals and outcomes of the late 19th and early 20th century reform movements of Populism and Progressivism with emphasis on

- a. urban reforms
- b. conservation
- c. business regulation and antitrust legislation
- d. the movement for public schooling
- e. the regulation of child labor

- 5.** Trace the development of the United States as a world power with emphasis on
 - a. the Spanish-American War
 - b. United States imperialism in the Far East, South Pacific, Caribbean and Central America

- 6.** Trace the development of the United States as a world power with emphasis on
 - a. the decision to enter into World War I
 - b. President Wilson's Fourteen Points
 - c. the Treaty of Versailles
 - d. the decision of the United States not to participate in the League of Nations

- 7.** Analyze the major political, economic and social developments of the 1920s including:
 - a. the Red Scare
 - b. women's right to vote
 - c. African-American migrations from the South to the North
 - d. immigration restrictions, nativism, race riots and the reemergence of the Ku Klux Klan
 - e. the Roaring Twenties and the Harlem Renaissance
 - f. stock market speculation and the stock market crash of 1929

- 8.** Analyze the causes and consequences of major political, economic and social developments of the 1930s with emphasis on
 - a. the Great Depression
 - b. the Dust Bowl

B. People in Societies

- 1.** Describe how the perspectives of cultural groups helped to create political action groups such as
 - a. the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

- 2.** Analyze the perspectives that are evident in African-American, American Indian and Latino art, music, literature and media and how these contributions reflect and shape culture in the United States.

- 3.** Explain how Jim Crow laws legalized discrimination based on race.

- 4.** Analyze the struggle for racial and gender equality and its impact on the changing status of minorities since the late 19th century.

- 5.** Explain the effects of immigration on society in the United States
 - a. housing patterns
 - b. political affiliation
 - c. education system
 - d. language
 - e. labor practices
 - f. religion

C. Geography

1. Explain how perceptions and characteristics of geographic regions in the United States have changed over time including:
 - a. urban areas
 - b. wilderness
 - c. farmland
 - d. centers of industry and technology
2. Describe how changes in technology, transportation and communication affect the location and patterns of economic activities and use of productive resources.
3. Analyze the geographic processes that contributed to changes in American society including:
 - a. industrialization and post-industrialization
 - b. urbanization and suburbanization
 - c. immigration

D. Economics

1. Evaluate the effects of specialization, trade and interdependence on the economic system of the United States.
2. Analyze the development and impacts of labor unions, farm organizations and business organizations on the United States economy.
3. Demonstrate how United States governmental policies, including taxes and antitrust legislation, affect individuals and businesses.
4. Explain the reasons for the creation of the Federal Reserve System and its importance to the economy.
5. Analyze the impact of the Great Depression on the economy of the United States and the resulting expansion of the role of the federal government.

E. Government

1. Examine the United States Constitution as a living document by analyzing its evolution through amendments and Supreme Court decisions including:
 - a. *Plessy v. Ferguson*
2. Explain why the 19th was enacted and how it affected individuals and groups.

F. Citizenship Rights and Responsibilities

1. Describe the ways in which government policy has been shaped and set by the influence of political parties, interest groups, lobbyists, the media and public opinion with emphasis on
 - a. extension of suffrage
 - b. labor legislation
 - c. military policy
 - d. business regulation
 - e. educational policy

2. Explain how civil disobedience differs from other forms of dissent and evaluate it's application and consequences including:
 - a. women's suffrage movement of the late 1800s and early 1900's

3. Explain the considerations and criteria commonly used in determining what limits should be placed on specific rights including:
 - a. clear and present danger
 - b. compelling government interest
 - c. national security
 - d. libel or slander
 - e. public safety

4. Analyze instances in which the rights of individuals were restricted including:
 - a. conscientious objectors in World War I
 - b. immigrants during the Red Scare

IV. Suggested Resources:

- a. Text: America: Pathways to the Present, Prentice Hall (2003 Edition)