

# WorldStrides Discovering U.S. History 1.0 HS CR – Course Preview

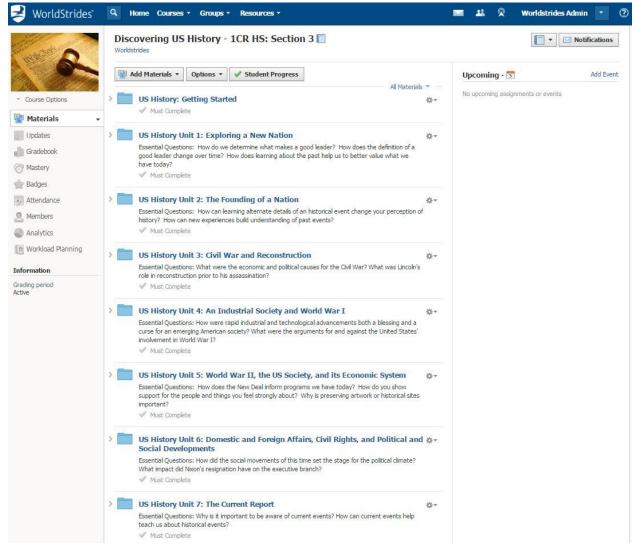
This resource has been prepared as a 'sneak preview' of the online course.

Please contact the Curriculum and Academics Team at <a href="mailto:discovery@worldstrides.org">discovery@worldstrides.org</a> with any questions!

#### **Course Introduction/Overview**

All courses open with student support about taking online courses, using internet resources responsibly, how to ask questions, and how assignments are graded. Students can message instructors directly within the learning management system, and they receive personalized feedback on their work. Students can monitor their progress and access their own gradebook at any time.

#### Course Welcome Screen







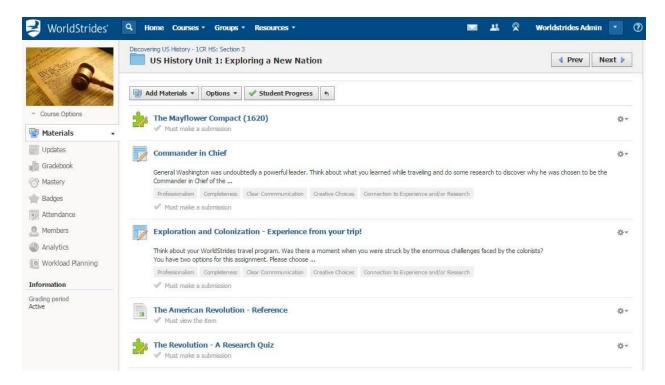
### **Course Description:**

It is often said that we cannot know where we are going until we know where we have been. This course invites students to question the validity of this statement through the study of United States History from colonization to the present. Students will examine U.S. History through the lens of historical places and documents. By assessing the importance and the reliability of these documents to modern Americans, students will learn to interpret symbolism and document texts to solve interpretive issues. During this course, students will develop skills necessary to arrive at informed conclusions on the basis of knowledgeable judgment in order to practice forming opinions about historical issues by making connections across the span of time between the past and the present.

Throughout the course, students explore universal ideas, values, and perspectives in United States History with a focus on the social, political, and economic factors shaping the U.S. from the colonial period to the present. This course utilizes critical thinking activities and historical analysis to form a rich, interdisciplinary understanding of how people - across time and cultures - influence the structure of U.S. society.

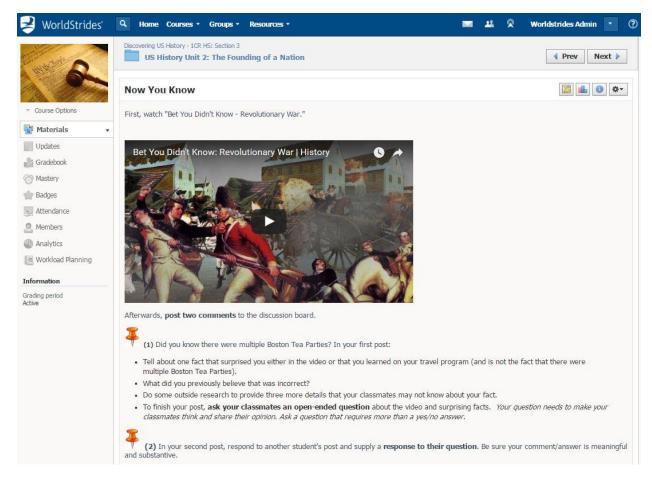
## **Course Sequence**

Each unit is made up of a series of assignments that are thematically related.









# Sample Online Discussion Board: Unit 2 – The Founding of a Nation "Now You Know"

First, watch "Bet You Didn't Know - Revolutionary War."

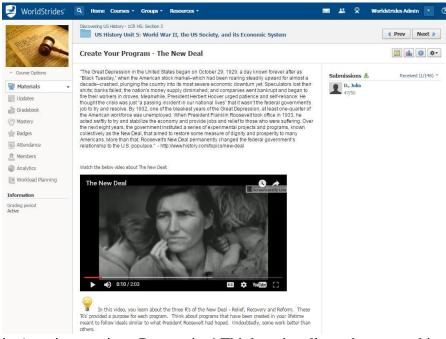
Afterwards, **post two comments** to the discussion board.

- (1) Did you know there were multiple Boston Tea Parties? In your first post:
  - Tell about one fact that surprised you either in the video or that you learned on your travel program (and is not the fact that there were multiple Boston Tea Parties).
  - What did you previously believe that was incorrect?
  - Do some outside research to provide three more details that your classmates may not know about your fact.
  - To finish your post, **ask your classmates an open-ended question** about the video and surprising facts. *Your question needs to make your classmates think and share their opinion.* Ask a question that requires more than a yes/no answer.
- (2) In your second post, respond to another student's post and supply a **response to their question**. Be sure your comment/answer is meaningful and substantive.





# Sample Assignment: Unit 5 – World War II, the US Society, and its Economic System "Create Your Program – The New Deal"



In this video, you learn about the three R's of the New Deal - Relief, Recovery, and Reform. These 'R's' provided a purpose for each program. Think about programs that have been created in your lifetime meant to follow ideals similar to what President Roosevelt had hoped. Undoubtedly, some work better than others.

Now it's your turn to develop your own program to help one area

in American society. Be creative! Think nationally to the overarching areas that have need: education, energy, health services, veterans, and transportation are a few. Do some research in those areas and find something you are passionate about. Think locally by connecting something in your current life with your area of need. Remember to reference the 'R' within your program. Create one program to help better your local community and the nation. Your finished product will include two parts.

<u>Part 1</u> - Create a graphic to present your program idea. Imagine this graphic being used on commercials or on social media campaigns that will be seen by millions! This can be a poster, social media post, or a logo. Make sure your graphic contains meaningful symbolism regarding your program and why it will be beneficial. This graphic should be original, so get out your sketchbook!

<u>Part 2</u> - Provide an analysis of your new program in two paragraphs. Your analysis should include:

- A description of your program and why this is an area of need. Remember to reference the 'R' within your program.
- How will your program benefit the local community?
- How will your program benefit the nation?
- What steps will you take to get your program approved by local and national governments?
- Describe your graphic! Pay specific attention to the symbolism in your design elements.

To review - Your final product should contain one graphic and two paragraphs responding to the above questions! (50 pts)



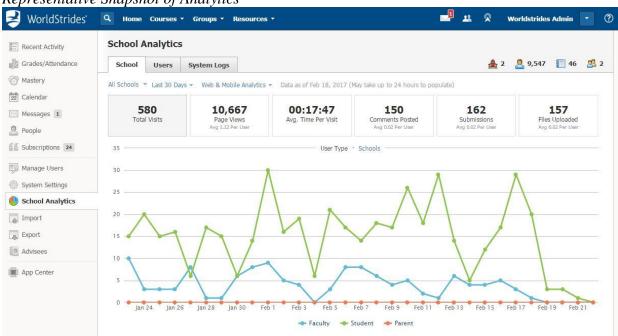


#### **Further Information**

Course Analytics

Our program's curriculum development is anchored in data-driven continuous improvement. Our learning management system features data analytics to inform our course development process.

Representative Snapshot of Analytics



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

## 1. Is this course pass/fail or graded?

All WorldStrides courses follow a traditional 10-point grading scale. WorldStrides Curriculum and Academics does not send transcripts to students who earn a grade below a C.

A = 90-100%

B = 80-89%

C = 70-79%

D = 60-69%

Grades 59 or below will result in failure.

#### 2. How long does it take to complete the work?

Students are free to work at a pace that is most comfortable to them. Courses expire six months from the return date of travel.

#### 3. Is there a penalty if I don't finish the course?

No worries! If a student is unable to complete the work, no grade will be assigned and no transcript will be generated.

#### 4. How do I ask the instructors questions?

Students can click on the envelope at the top right corner of the learning management system to send a message to WorldStrides\_Admin. We'll respond as quickly as possible!





#### **Instructor Bios**



Wendy W. Amato is the VP of Curriculum and Academics at WorldStrides. She holds a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction and has research interests in culturally congruent pedagogy. Dr. Amato is an International Baccalaureate certified instructor and also serves as adjunct faculty at the University of Virginia where she teaches Education Across Cultures. Her work experience includes school administration and teaching in the United States and France.



Kiersten Teitelbaum serves as an Associate Director of Curriculum and Academics for WorldStrides. She holds an M. Ed. in the Social Foundations of Education and has research interests in increasing healthy eating and physical activity for at-risk students in the United States. Her background includes coaching and serving as a course facilitator in an environmental education challenge course. Ms. Teitelbaum has provided professional development to teachers in Canada, Spain, and across the United States.



Carrie Weber serves as a Curriculum and Academics Specialist for WorldStrides. She holds an M. Ed. in Secondary Science Education and has taught middle school and high school students. Her research interests are focused on field experiences to facilitate better understanding of science. Ms. Weber is certified and licensed in multiple states and holds College Board AP Environmental Science certification.



Randi Kessler Chapman serves as a Curriculum and Academics Specialist for WorldStrides. She holds an M.T. in Secondary English Education and BS in journalism, with an emphasis on public relations. In addition to her entrepreneurial experience launching an independent business, Ms. Chapman brings eight years of classroom teaching expertise and works tirelessly to increase the accessibility of meaningful professional development to educators around the world.

