

# America in the World Set

## **Strategies/Ideas:**

Cards are not in chronological order. Consider organizing them that way!

Organize your study cards by theme or by era. If you want to cut the “cards” out, you can use them to sort into eras. [Some cards span many eras and can be used more broadly to study change/continuity over time.]  
(See landscape era title “cards” to aid you in this technique).

Combine your use of these cards with the content outline. For example, you can sort into eras with other themes, study the cards, and read the relevant portion of the content outline to reinforce your understanding of main historical developments!

Most events in this thread are wars/foreign policy. Before independence, focus on North America’s role in European colonization and European foreign policy.

## America in the World Colonial Era

*European competition for land, power, and resources led to interactions with each other and with Native Americans which impacted the development of North America:*

**Spain:** First to colonize, Encomienda, Caste System, & later the Mission System, St. Augustine, Florida, Santé Fe New Mexico, Pueblo Revolt, royal control of colonies

**England:** heavy colonization beginning with Jamestown, 1607, joint-stock company, mercantilism, trade & navigation acts, and colonies had some autonomy (salutary neglect)

**France and Netherlands (Dutch):** established trading posts, no heavy colonization (Montreal, New Amsterdam), fur trade with Indians, royal control

*England ends up dominating North America due to numbers of colonists, Indian wars such as Metacom's War (King Philip's War), seizing New Amsterdam from the Dutch (renaming it New York), the size of their navy, and victory in French and Indian War.*

**Indian Revolts** – *rebellling against land encroachment and attempts to “civilize” them with Christianity*

**Pueblo Revolt** Spanish missionaries saw Native Americans as heathens to be converted to Christianity; soldiers viewed them as fit only for killing or subjugation/slavery, Encomienda, Castes, Missions, (later changes were made to reduce brutality after Priests clamored for reform.

***-unique, because the Pueblo won... pushing the Spanish out... burning the churches and reclaiming culture and territory for a few years until the Spanish returned***

### **Metacom's War (King Philip's War)**

Originally friendly; early colonists relied on Native Americans for trade and for help with survival. Eventually greed for land led to major conflicts with Indians. (The English won; most natives forced out – although some stayed ... marks English domination of New England)

**French and Indian War**  
**(Seven Years War) 1754-1763**

**The French and Indian war was fought between the French and its American Indian allies against the British colonial forces (British and Colonials) from the year 1756 to 1763 and is considered one of the bloodiest wars in American colonial history. The war was a major turning point in the relationship between Britain and the colonies.**

**CAUSES**

Mercantilism ... France and Britain were fighting over territory and so they can get wealth and power.

... the 4<sup>th</sup> in a series of wars between the French and British.

British wanted to take over the French fur trade.

Westward Expansion- Colonies move past the Appalachian Mountains and conflicts increase with

Natives and French.

**EFFECTS..**

The British to completely capture the whole of North America. The British got the right to keep all of Canada in addition to obtaining some other benefits like trading and sea routes in North America, British forces succeeded and ascertained their military supremacy, Huge losses of man and material for both sides, This 7-years war severely demoralized French forces and diminished its power at a greater scale in Asia, Europe and North America at the same time, (debt) The British go into debt and they feel as though that the Colonists don't support them enough. ... Americans resent taxes that follow (to help manage and repay debt created by war), ...the start of a freedom struggle in America which eventually culminated in the American War of Independence... Americans want their own commanders and governments, (The Treaty of Paris)- Ends the French and Indian War - The French cede Canada to the British, British give land west of Mississippi to Spain, Pontiac's Rebellion erupts in Northwest Territory which leads to the Proclamation Line of 1763 --. Colonists resist and move past the line anyway; line meant to prevent war and preserve Indian Territory in Ohio Valley

## **THE WAR OF 1812 (1812-1814)**

### **CAUSES**

Impressment of American sailors (no freedom of seas), Problems with Indians in the Ohio River Valley, England continued to maintain forts on frontier, Agricultural depression, War Hawks (Calhoun and Clay) wanted to expand to Canada and were anti-British

### **EFFECTS**

The status quo was maintained in the Treaty of Ghent (1815)  
Increased nationalism, Increased manufacturing  
Freedom of the seas restored, Andrew Jackson became a war hero  
(The Monroe Doctrine, 1823), Treaties with Britain to define northern border, Indian Wars (Seminole Wars in Florida, for example) and treaty with Spain, Adams-Onis Treaty

*Following this war, the First Two Party ended, and boundary disputes were worked out diplomatically with Britain. Historians rarely call this a “win,” because the treaty stated “status quo antebellum.” However, impressments ended, the economy recovered and Market Revolution began, and tensions over the Ohio Valley decreased.*

**THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR ...**  
**The War for Independence, 1775-1783**

**CAUSES**

**Economic** - Because England was in debt from the French and Indian War, she imposed and was determined to collect various taxes--Sugar Act, Stamp, "No taxation without representation."

Declaratory Act: England repealed the Stamp Act, but claimed Parliamentary right to make laws for the colonies --Tea Act and Intolerable Acts (after Boston Tea Party)

**Political** - England did not have effective leadership under King George III. Strong leadership in America: Washington, Sam Adams, Jefferson, and Franklin. - Colonial institutions, having operated democratically and with limited interference since early 17th century, felt that England was acting regressively. - Taxation without direct representation in Parliament angered colonists. - Original charters were being revoked. Violation of cherished legal rights as Englishmen - Writs of Assistance -- general search warrants violated cherished rights. Criminal trials judged in vice-admiralty courts rather than by jury of one's peers in district where crime was allegedly committed. - Quartering Act -- broke tradition of not quartering troops in peacetime.

**Philosophical** -- Age of Enlightenment: John Locke (Right of revolution), Thomas Paine - "Common Sense"

**Emotional** -- Boston Massacre , Boston Tea Party

*Major Battles --Lexington and Concord, April 1775 – Shot heard ‘round the world – war began, Saratoga (1777) America victory. Turning point in war as France agreed to ally with America. Gave military aid and troops, Yorktown (1781) Cornwallis surrendered to Washington – war ends*

**EFFECTS**

Independence of thirteen states (Treaty of Paris 1783), radically different gov't under AOC, Territory from Atlantic to Mississippi, but not Florida (Britain recognizes boundaries and agrees to leave Ohio Valley... but they don't), U.S. agrees to restore confiscated property to Loyalists (not all is returned), Nationalistic spirit , Social reform: no entail or primogeniture, gradual emancipation of slaves in the North, elimination of religious requirements to vote, women began to receive more education. Influenced French Revolution in 1789 and colonial independence movements in the 19th and 20th centuries.

## **THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN WAR (1846-1848)**

### **CAUSES**

Mexico was newly independent from Spain and weak; U.S. nationalist and expansionist; Texas border dispute; The belief in **manifest destiny**/continental power; The failure of the Slidell mission; American troops sent to disputed territory (Rio Grande v. the Nueces River) ;

**Polk's expansionist platform & desire for California and better connection to Asian markets**

### **EFFECTS**

Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, 1848 – **Mexican Cession**, U.S. became a continental power (NOT world power), \$15 million for **California** and New Mexico , Rio Grande became the boundary of U.S. and Texas, **Increased tensions between North and South over slavery issue , INDIAN WARS** and forced removal of Indians in Mexican Cession territories onto reservations

*Territorial expansion was supported by the Democratic Party (James K. Polk was president during this war). The Whigs opposed it and tried to stop it with the spot resolutions then a proviso to ban slavery in the new lands (which failed to pass). The impact of this land was to increase sectionalism. Remember the expansion of slavery and the compromises over it... were major causes of the Civil War. The **Compromise of 1850** dealt with this land (California in as free state and the rest of the Cession to popular sovereignty... along with stronger fugitive slave law... but South not happy and they plot unsuccessfully to take Cuba (Ostend Manifesto) and to take Nicaragua (Walker Mission) in hopes of gaining more slave territory.*

## **CIVIL WAR (1861-1865)**

**CAUSES** -- **Slavery**: (Constitutional Convention, Missouri Compromise, Abolitionist Crusade, Fugitive Slave Law, Underground Railroad, Kansas Nebraska Act, John Brown's raids, Dred Scott Decision, Uncle Tom's Cabin, Republican party platform (against extension of slavery in the territories). **Economic**: Different economy of North and South. North had manufacturing interests to protect. The South was agricultural, depended on slave labor, and had basically no manufactures. North desired a protective tariff. **Political**: North's strong central government under the Constitution and South's states' rights and right of nullification/secession.

**Emotional**: John Brown's raids, Southern fear of a Northern abolition conspiracy, Northern fear of a Southern conspiracy to spread slavery everywhere, violence in Kansas and Congress.

***Battles- Fort Sumter (April, 1861); Antietam (Sept., 1862), a Northern victory that allowed Lincoln to issue the Emancipation Proclamation which also helped prevent European/Confederate alliance; Gettysburg (July 1-3, 1863), Northern victory and turning point in the war; Gettysburg Address redefined war, Vicksburg, (July 4, 1863) divided South at the Mississippi River and furthered winning strategy of Anaconda Plan; Sherman's march (1864); Appomattox (April, 1865).***

**EFFECTS**--Enormous loss of life (600,000) and property damage (mostly in South) , Secession no longer viable (**states' rights vs central... central won**), Southern bitterness toward the North , Military occupation of the South , Destruction of slavery and the plantation economy... although sharecropping, crop lien, and Black Codes preserve much of it... takes 50 years for Southern economy to recover, Industrial Revolution in the North , Union restored, Civil War Amendments , , Reconstruction Amendments (13-14-15), failure of reconstruction = Jim Crow Era

*Remember the significance of the **election of 1860**, the legislation of the Republicans including **Pacific Railway Act and Homestead Act** are also very important. Lincoln represents a major turning point for the role of the federal government... **central wins over state** (Civil War) and role in expansion and treasury and infrastructure also change.*

**WORLD WAR I (1914-1918); 1917-1918 for the United States)**

(**Central Powers** – Germany, Austro Hungarian Empire, Ottoman Empire  
vs

**Allies** – England, France, Russia (temporarily), U.S., and others)

**CAUSES of U.S. entry into the war**

Violation of the **freedom of the seas** (U-Boat activity) – Breaking the Sussex Pledge and the sinking of the *Lusitania*, Close ties with England and France (**economic** and cultural) , The

**Zimmerman note**

"to make the world safe for democracy" –**Wilson's Fourteen Points**

*(initial spark in 1914 was the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand which led to entangling alliances falling into war, initially Wilson proclaimed neutrality... changed mind in 1917 and laid out the "Points")*

**EFFECTS**

U.S. emerged as a **creditor nation (NOT a superpower)**,

The **Versailles Treaty** (reparations, war guilt clause, **League of Nations**, new European boundaries),

Russian Revolution (Russia pulls out, USSR forms in early 1920s), **U.S. Senate rejected League, World Court, and Versailles Treaty**, Disillusionment and return to isolationism and neutrality, **The Red Scare, Political and economic instability in Europe, Disarmament conference and fear of another war** (Washington Naval Conference), Colonization of **Middle East** (Britain in Persia)

*This war marked a turning point from overseas expansionism and temporary intervention to an era of isolationism in the 1920s-1930s.*



**WORLD WAR II (1939-1945); 1941-1945 for the United States)**

**Axis Powers** (Japan, Germany, Italy)

vs

**Allies** (England, France, Italy, Soviet Union, China, U.S., and others)

**CAUSES**

**Political and economic instability** in Europe and Asia, Reparations and War Guilt clause -- **Versailles Treaty** , Woodrow Wilson's rejection of **Racial Equality clause** (Japan), **Fascist aggression** (Germany and Italy), Japanese attack on **Pearl Harbor** , U.S. desire to help Great Britain in her "finest hour"

*(initial spark in 1939 was Hitler's invasion of Poland but we don't join until after Pearl Harbor in 1941)*

**EFFECTS**

**United States and USSR emerge as superpowers**, Economic and political instability in Europe and Asia, Millions of Jews killed in **Holocaust** (Zionism – **Israel** created in 1948), **Atomic age** with U.S. bombs (Hiroshima and Nagasaki – forces Japanese surrender, Creation of the **United Nations**,

**Iron Curtain**/Russian domination of Eastern Europe – *Cold War Begins* **Marshall Plan** (economic investment in rebuilding Western Europe), **Occupation of Japan and Germany** (Japan and West Germany become allies), Division of Korea, **NATO**, Emergence of **Third World/Colonial independence movements (decolonization)**

*The **Cold War starts as WWII ends**, because the Soviet Union doesn't follow through with WWII conference agreements and instead seized Eastern Europe including East Germany. This war marks a major turning point as the **U.S. becomes a superpower**, a member of an alliance and peace keeping body, and interventionist for the first time... **a major break with the tradition of neutrality set by Washington.***

## **SPANISH AMERICAN WAR (1898)**

### **CAUSES**

Cubans wanted independence from Spain / Teller Amendment, Yellow press / Yellow journalism, Business interests in Cuba , *De Lome Letter*, The sinking of the *USS Maine* , Imperialism (overseas expansion), Belief in *white man's burden* (Social Darwinism, white superiority, American exceptionalism), Need for markets

### **EFFECTS**

Cuban independence from Spain, U.S. acquired Philippines, Puerto Rico, Guam and protectorate status of Cuba under the Platt Amendment, U.S. established an empire without realization of risks,

Debate over the annexation of the Philippines intensified political debate/conflict between Imperialists and Anti-Imperialists, Treaty ratified by the Senate, the Philippines annexed Following Filipino Insurrection but not given citizenship (Guam and Puerto Ricans given citizenship soon after)

*This war marked a turning point from continental expansion (Manifest Destiny; enclosure of the West happened in 1890) to overseas expansion/imperialism which began with this war and ended when we entered the First World War. The U.S. was the greatest producer of goods by this point and markets were needed... this is not an era of free trade & Europe and Japan were carving up the world for their own empires... we were trying to get a "piece of the pie" for our economy. The lack of free trade and self-determination of nations are two causes for war and two things Wilson will address in his Fourteen Points in 1917, the world will not move in that direction until the Second World War through modern times.*

## THE COLD WAR (1945-1989/1991)

### CAUSES

Wartime & **ideological differences** between Allied Powers/Yalta and Potsdam,

U.S. use of **atomic bombs** in **Japan** and USSR fear of American power,

**Soviet aggression & U.S. fears of communist ideology,**

**Civil War in China** and Communist Revolution in 1949,

Russian success in testing **atomic bomb**,

**Emerging Third World nations and U.S. competition with Soviet Union for allies,**

**McCarthyism – Second Red Scare, fear of communism**

### EFFECTS

**Containment policy** and **arms race** from 1945-1989 and **space race** from 1957-1989 (NASA),  
U.S. and USSR debt,

**Korean War** AND War in **Vietnam** (Proxy Wars),

Events from Truman's administration to Bush's administration that relate to **Cold War**,

**U.S. economic and political involvement in various countries,**

Creation of **CIA** and **National Security Council**,

**Growth of Imperial Presidency**

**Nixon – détente and Vietnamization**

**Reagan – escalated intervention in hopes of ending it once and for all... which did occur  
in 1989 (fall of the Berlin Wall) and 1991 (breakup of the Soviet Union)**

## **THE KOREAN WAR (1950-1953)**

### **CAUSES**

Invasion of North Korean forces into South Korea

**U.S. belief that Soviet Union was behind North Korean invasion**

A civil war between North and South Korea

U.S. belief in policy of **containment**

U.N. Security Council vote

### **EFFECTS**

1. **Armistice** and divided country at the 38th parallel

North Korea remained communist

**South Korea now democratic** & an important ally

**As a result of armistice U.S. believed it could contain communism anywhere; this led to Vietnam**

Continued tension between North and South Korea

*This is a "proxy war," in which we avoided direct war with the Soviets or the Chinese and instead fight indirectly. The fear of World War III and a nuclear war with "mutually assured destruction" kept us from direct war with the Soviets.*

**WAR IN VIETNAM (1950-1975)**  
(Americans fighting, 1964-1973)

Eisenhower and Kennedy sent money and advisors in 1950s and early 1960s, LBJ escalates to fighting in 1964, Nixon ends it following Vietnamization and 1973 armistice... then the North takes over the South in 1975 and we don't go back.

**CAUSES**

The **containment policy**, Support of French in Indochina in fear of communists taking over, Support of South Vietnam after **Geneva Accords**, Confidence of power, The belief that U.S. had successfully contained communism in Korea, Belief in **domino theory**, **Gulf of Tonkin Resolution** (1964),

**Battles/Key Dates-** *Gulf of Tonkin (1964), Tet Offensive (1968); Armistice (1973); Loss of Vietnam (1975)*

**EFFECTS**

**Domestic unrest -anti-war movement**, 58,000 U.S. dead, one million Asians and Cost of over \$150 billion, Destruction of Vietnam (rainforests destroyed by napalm), **Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos become communist**, **U.S. loss of a war** for first time/symbol of **U.S. decline** – disillusionment, one cause of **conservative Resurgence** (“make America great again”), **disillusionment with government** (Pentagon Papers/JFK&LBJ, secret bombings/Nixon), **Boat people** (wave of Vietnamese **international migration**), **End of Great Society** (LBJ... cannot fund both war abroad and war on poverty at home, doesn't run for re-election in 1968), Tension between U.S. and allies, **War Powers Resolution (1972)** (reducing power of president to declare and wage war)

*This war was also a proxy war. The loss of South Vietnam to communism combined with Watergate, the Pentagon Papers, civil rights issues regarding those fighting in the war, and failure of the Great Society to solve problems led to a stagnant and disillusioned decade which led many to the Republican Party (enter Reagan in 1980). Also in the 1970s, the OPEC oil embargo and shortages wrecked the economy (U.S. trying to do good by helping the Jews... and it costs them dearly... similar view on the cost of helping South Vietnam)... Americans second guessing their “exceptionalism.”*

## Modern Era Wars

Modern Era Wars	President / Duration	Causes	Allies	Opponents	Turning Points	Effects
<b>Persian Gulf War</b>	George H.W. Bush 1990-1991	Iraq's invasion of Kuwait Saddam declared invasion response to overproduction oil	United States & Coalition Forces seeking to liberate Kuwait	Iraq-Saddam Hussein & his army	Operation Desert Storm	Cease fire Feb 28 Iraq recognized Kuwait's sovereignty (set fire to oil on their way out) agree to get rid of WMD and UN inspections (don't follow through)
<b>Intervention in Balkans (Bosnia and Herzegovina)</b>	Bill Clinton 1996	<b>End of Cold War, Breakup of Yugoslavia (Balkans) and use of terror and genocide against Muslims</b>	United States & NATO, protecting Muslims	Slobodan Milosevic & his forces	n/a turning point, but this was deemed a "Humanitarian War"	Milosevic executed, withdrawal of Yugoslav army, continued tension among ethnic/religious groups
<b>Invasion of Afghanistan</b>	George W. Bush & Barack Obama 2001-2013	<b>September 11 attacks in Washington DC and NYC</b>	United States and Coalition Forces, seeking terrorists and their supporters	Taliban regime in Afghanistan, Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida organization	Taliban overthrown, new government elected, Bin Laden on the run & in 2011 US Navy Seals killed Osama bin Laden	UN-backed peace talks began between the Afghan government & the Taliban, peacekeeping forces still present, <b>Taliban currently on the rise again</b>
<b>Invasion of Iraq</b>	George W. Bush & Barack Obama 2003-2012	<b>Harboring &amp; supporting potential terrorist Saddam Hussein, possessed or was in the process of building weapons of mass destruction (intelligence was misleading)</b>	United States and Coalition Forces, seeking WMD's and supporters of terror	Iraq Army under Saddam Hussein	(2003) Capturing and execution of Saddam Hussein (2006)	2010 Iraq approves new government, balance of power in Middle East disturbed, Iran becomes more aggressive  2012 - Obama begins troop withdrawal, creates power vacuum, Present-gov't remains unstable and terror groups asserting power in the region, <b>ISIS</b> controlling portions of the country and refugee crisis impacting Turkey, Europe, and other areas