Deutsche Schule Washington, D.C.
Curriculum U.S. History
Jahrgangsstufen 11 – 12

(Stand: August 2014)

Anzahl der zu unterrichtenden Wochenstunden: 2
Unterrichtssprache: Englisch

Themenfelder der Jahrgangsstufe 11

- Native Americans, European Exploration, and Settlement to 1763
- Road to Revolution and Creating the American Political System
- Geographic and Economic Changes Shape the Nation
- A Nation Divided and Rebuilt

Themenfelder der Jahrgangsstufe 12

- Political Principles: Change vs. Continuity as Result of Civil War and Reconstruction
- Technological Change Transforms American Society
- Foreign Policy – Imperialism and World War I
- Culture, Prosperity, Adversity
- The Common Good: Causes, Course, and Consequences of U.S. Involvement in World War II
- Political Principles: The Struggle for Power in Postwar America
- U.S. Foreign Policy since World War II
- Patterns of Contemporary America

Kompetenzen und Methoden

The students will be able to

- construct various graphs, charts, databases, and timelines of key events, people, and periods
- explain how major events are related to each other
- find, evaluate, and organize information by reading, asking questions, investigating, and observing
- find, interpret, evaluate, and organize primary and secondary sources of information including pictures, graphics, maps, atlases, artifacts, timelines, political cartoons, videotapes, journals, and government documents
- use formal writing, such as essays, historical investigations, research reports, letters, summaries to inform

- analyze, interpret, and evaluate primary and secondary sources including graphs, charts, maps, political cartoons, journals, documents, videos
- demonstrate understanding of the meaning, implication, and impact of historical events and hypothesize how events could have taken another direction
- analyze how change happens at different rates at different times; that some aspects can change while others remain the same; that change is complicated and affects not only technology, economics, and politics, but values and beliefs
- assess the credibility of primary and secondary sources, assessing the accuracy and adequacy of the author's details to support claims and noting instances of bias, propaganda and stereotyping, and draw sound conclusions
- analyze the connections, causal and otherwise, between particular political events and larger social, economic, and political trends and developments
- analyze decisions made in the area of public policy, evaluate alternatives and consequences
- explain different viewpoints in historical accounts of controversial events and determine the context in which the statements were made, including but not limited to, the questions asked, the sources used, and the author's perspective
- analyze problems, establish criteria for solution, evaluate information related to the problem, and propose and justify solutions
- analyze the impact of the media on public opinion and the behavior of the electorate
- find, evaluate, and organize information of primary and secondary sources for research reports and projects