

U.S. History: 1865 to the Present

Study Guide – US2.5 – Spanish-American War & WW1

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE STANDARDS OF LEARNING CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK- 2015 STANDARDS

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STANDARD USII.5A—SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the changing role of the United States from the late nineteenth century through World War I by

- a) explaining the reasons for and results of the Spanish American War.

The United States emerged as a world power as a result of victory over Spain in the Spanish American War.

Economic interests and public opinion often influence United States involvement in international affairs.

Reasons for the Spanish American War

- Protection of American **business interests** in Cuba
- American support of Cuban **rebels** to gain **independence** from Spain
- **Rising tensions** between **Spain** and the United States as a result of the sinking of the **USS Maine** in Havana Harbor
- **Exaggerated** news reports of events (**yellow journalism**)



"The Yellow Kid", a newspaper cartoon character, gave its name to the sensational journalism of the time.



Results of the Spanish American War

- The United States emerged as a **world power**.
- **Cuba** gained **independence** from Spain.
- The United States gained **possession** of the **Philippines, Guam, and Puerto Rico**.

STANDARD USII.5B –THEODORE ROOSEVELT FOREIGN POLICY

- b) Theodore Roosevelt's impact on the foreign policy of the United States.

Roosevelt expanded the **Monroe Doctrine** as a way to prevent European involvement in the affairs of Latin American countries.

Use of Big Stick Diplomacy

- Example: Building the **Panama Canal**
- Grew the United States **Navy** as a show of **American power**

Added the Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine

- Europe was warned **not to interfere** in the affairs of the **Western Hemisphere**; the United States would exercise "**international police power**" in the Americas
- The **Roosevelt Corollary** asserted the right of the United States to **interfere** in the **economic matters** of other nations in the Americas.



This 1905 cartoon shows President Roosevelt using his "Big Stick" diplomacy to maintain order in the Americas.

STANDARD USII.5c - WWI

c) The reasons for the United States' involvement in World War I and its international leadership role at the conclusion of the war.

The United States' involvement in World War I set the stage for it to emerge as a global superpower later in the twentieth century



Reasons for United States involvement in World War I

- Inability to remain **neutral**
- United States economic and political **ties to Great Britain**

- German **submarine warfare**: Sinking of the **Lusitania**



- The **Zimmermann Telegram**



Major Allied Powers

- British Empire
- France
- Russia (until 1917)
- Serbia
- Belgium
- United States

Central Powers

- German Empire
- Austro-Hungarian Empire
- Bulgaria
- Ottoman Empire

United States leadership as the war ended

- At the end of World War I, President **Woodrow Wilson** prepared a **peace plan** known as the **Fourteen Points** that called for the formation of the **League of Nations**, a peacekeeping organization.
 - The United States Senate did **not ratify** the **Treaty of Versailles** because of a desire to resume prewar **isolationism**.
- The United States did not become a member of the **League of Nations**.