

Option 33 scheme of work



The USA, 1954–75: conflict at home and abroad
GCSE (9-1) History

Pearson Edexcel Level 1/Level 2 GCSE (9-1) in History (1HI0)

Introduction

This document provides a sample outline scheme of work for **The USA, 1954–75: conflict at home and abroad**. This is intended as an example approach only and is not prescriptive: it should be adapted by schools to fit their timetabling and staffing arrangements.

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The scheme assumes 18 teaching weeks for the Modern depth study.

The separate **Course planner** document provides a range of examples of delivery options that can be used for planning alongside this document.

The separate **Topic booklet** for Option 33 includes illustrative exemplification of content.

In adapting this scheme of work, teachers might find it useful to consider the following:

- What, and how much, background and contextual material needs to be covered as an introduction and overview before starting the main specification content. This is likely to depend on the school's KS3 programme of study.
- The variety of question types in the assessment of the Modern depth study, which targets all four Assessment objectives:
 - Give two things you can infer from Source A (AO3)
 - Explain why... (AO1/2)
 - How useful are Sources B and C for an enquiry into ... (AO3)
 - What is the main difference between [Interpretation 1 and Interpretation 2] (AO4)
 - Suggest one reason why Interpretations 1 and 2 give different views about ... (AO4)
 - How far do you agree with Interpretation 2 about... (AO4)

Suggestions have been made for incorporating making inferences from a source, source utility (which is also assessed in Paper 1) and historical interpretations into the teaching, alongside the specified content. These are suggestions only and students should be prepared to answer these question types on the full range of specified content for this option.

Week	Specification content
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Introduction to and overview of the USA, 1954–75</i> <p>Key topic 1.1 The position of black Americans in the early 1950s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Segregation, discrimination and voting rights in the Southern states. • The work of civil rights organisations, including the NAACP and CORE.
2	<p>Key topic 1.2 Progress in education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The key features of the Brown v. Topeka case (1954). • The immediate and long-term significance of the case. • The significance of the events at Little Rock High School (1957). • <i>Making inferences from a source</i> • <i>Analysis of interpretations on desegregation in education</i>
3	<p>Key topic 1.3 The Montgomery Bus Boycott and its impact, 1955-60</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes and events of the Montgomery Bus Boycott. The significance of Rosa Parks. • Reasons for the success and importance of the boycott. The Supreme Court ruling. The Civil Rights Act (1957). • The significance of the leadership of Martin Luther King. The setting up of the SCLC.
4	<p>Key topic 1.4 Opposition to the civil rights movement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ku Klux Klan and violence, including the murder of Emmet Till in 1955. • Opposition to desegregation in the South. The setting up of White Citizens' Councils. • Congress and the 'Dixiecrats'. • <i>Making inferences from a source</i>

Week	Specification content
5	<p>Key topic 2.1 Progress 1960-62</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The significance of Greensboro and the sit-in movement. • The Freedom Riders. Ku Klux Klan violence and the Anniston bomb (1961). • The James Meredith case (1962).
6	<p>Key topic 2.2 Peaceful protests and their impact, 1963-65</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • King and the peace marches of 1963 in Birmingham, Alabama, and Washington. Freedom Summer and the Mississippi murders. • The roles of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and the passage of the Civil Rights Act (1964). • Selma and the Voting Rights Act (1965). • <i>Analysis of interpretations on the roles of Kennedy and Johnson</i>
7	<p>Key topic 2.3 Malcolm X and Black Power, 1963-70</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Malcolm X, his beliefs, methods and involvement with the Black Muslims. His later change of attitude and assassination. • Reasons for the emergence of Black Power. The significance of Stokely Carmichael and the 1968 Mexico Olympics. • The methods and achievements of the Black Panther movement. • <i>Source utility</i>
8	<p>Key topic 2.4 The civil rights movement, 1965-75</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The riots of 1965–67 and the Kerner Report (1968). • King’s campaign in the North. The assassination of Martin Luther King and its impact. • The extent of progress in civil rights by 1975. • <i>Analysis of interpretations on the significance of Martin Luther King's leadership</i>
9	<p>Key topic 3.1 Reasons for US involvement in the conflict in Vietnam, 1954-63</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The battle of Dien Bien Phu and the end of French rule in Vietnam. • Reasons for greater US involvement under Eisenhower, including the domino theory and weaknesses of the Diem government. • <i>Making inferences from a source</i>

Week	Specification content
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater involvement under Kennedy, including the overthrow of Diem and the Strategic Hamlet Program. • <i>Evaluation of interpretations on the reasons for US involvement in the conflict in Vietnam</i> <p>Key topic 3.2 Escalation of the conflict under Johnson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The increasing threat of the Vietcong. • The Gulf of Tonkin incident (1964) and increased US involvement in Vietnam.
11	<p>Key topic 3.3 The nature of the conflict in Vietnam, 1964-68</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The guerrilla tactics used by the Vietcong. • The methods used by the USA, including Search and Destroy, Operation Rolling Thunder and chemical weapons.
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The key features and significance of the Tet Offensive, 1968. • <i>Making inferences from a source</i> <p>Key topic 3.4 Changes under Nixon, 1969-73</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The key features of Vietnamisation. Reasons for its failure. • The Nixon Doctrine and the withdrawal of US troops.
13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attacks on Cambodia (1970) and Laos (1971) and the bombing of North Vietnam (1972). <p>Key topic 4.1 Opposition to the war</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons for the growth of opposition, including the student movement, TV and media coverage of the war and the draft system. • Public reaction to the My Lai Massacre (1968). The trial of Lt. Calley.

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14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kent State University shootings (1970). • <i>Making inferences from a source</i> <p>Key topic 4.2 Support for the war</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons for support for the war, including the fear of communism. • The 'hard hats' and the 'silent majority'. • <i>Evaluation of interpretations on opposition and support for the war</i>
15	<p>Key topic 4.3 The peace process and the end of the war</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasons for, and features of, the peace negotiations (1972–73). • The significance of the Paris Peace Agreement (1973). • <i>Source utility</i>
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The economic and human costs of the war for the USA. • <i>Analysis of interpretations about the economic and human costs of the war for the USA</i> <p>Key topic 4.4 Reasons for the failure of the USA in Vietnam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strengths of North Vietnam, including the significance of Russian and Chinese support, Vietcong tactics and the Ho Chi Minh Trail.
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The weaknesses of the US armed forces. The failure of US tactics. • The impact of opposition to the war in the USA. • <i>Source utility</i> • <i>Evaluation of interpretations about the failure of the USA in Vietnam</i>
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Review and assessment of the USA, 1954-75: conflict at home and abroad</i>