

Check all that apply

Era 8: The Great Depression and World War II (1929-1945)

Participants of this era are still alive, and their common memories of cataclysmic events--from the Crash of 1929 through World War II--are still common points of reference today. Our closeness to this era should help students see how today's problems and choices are connected to the past. Knowledge of history is the precondition of political intelligence, setting the stage for current questions about government's role and rule, foreign policy, the continuing search for core values, and the ongoing imperative to extend the founding principles to all Americans.

The Great Depression and the New Deal deserve careful attention for four reasons. First, Americans in the 1930s endured--and conquered--the greatest economic crisis in American history. Second, the Depression wrought deep changes in people's attitudes toward government's responsibilities. Third, organized labor acquired new rights. Fourth, the New Deal set in place legislation that reshaped modern American capitalism.

	Standard 1: The causes of the Great Depression and how it affected American society.
	Standard 1A: The student understands the causes of the crash of 1929 and the Great Depression.
	Standard 1B: The student understands how American life changed during the 1930s.
	Standard 2: How the New Deal addressed the Great Depression, transformed American federalism, and initiated the welfare state.
	Standard 2A: The student understands the New Deal and the presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt.
	Standard 2B: The student understands the impact of the New Deal on workers and the labor movement.
	Standard 2C: The student understands opposition to the New Deal, the alternative programs of its detractors, and the legacy of the New Deal.
	Standard 3: The causes and course of World War II, the character of the war at home and abroad, and its reshaping of the U.S. role in world affairs.
	Standard 3A: The student understands the international background of World War II.
	Standard 3B: The student understands World War II and how the Allies prevailed.
	Standard 3C: The student understands the effects of World War II at home.

Adapted from:
The National Center for History in the Schools National Standards