



## SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

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### MODERN HISTORY ATAR YEAR 11

Unit 1 – Elective 7: Capitalism – the American experience  
(1901–1941)

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## Sample course outline

### Modern History – ATAR Year 11

#### Unit 1 – Elective 7 – Capitalism – the American experience (1901–1941)

This outline is based on the elective: Capitalism – the American experience (1901–1941)

Week	Syllabus content	Key teaching points
1–2	<p><b>The development of Historical Skills is intrinsic to the teaching of this unit</b></p> <p><b>The impact of the following forces should be considered, where appropriate, throughout the unit:</b> economic; international relations; leadership; political; social/cultural</p> <p><b>1901–10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the political, economic and social situation in the USA at the beginning of the 20th century</li> <li>• the impact on American capitalism of             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ progressivism</li> <li>▪ trust busting</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the role and impact of significant individuals in the period, such as             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Theodore Roosevelt</li> <li>▪ William Taft</li> <li>▪ JD Rockefeller</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the impact of capitalism on different groups within American society</li> <li>• the aims and beliefs of different groups, for example             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Americans</li> <li>▪ urban workers</li> <li>▪ rural workers</li> <li>▪ immigrants</li> <li>▪ industrialists</li> <li>▪ members of Indian Nations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the consequences of divisions into groups</li> <li>• the significance of capitalism as an idea in this period</li> </ul>	<p>Political, economic and social situation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Migration</li> <li>• Mass consumption and production</li> <li>• Trust busting</li> <li>• Progressivism</li> <li>• Laissez-faire</li> <li>• Expansionism</li> </ul> <p>Significant people – who they were, what they did, impact on capitalism and America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theodore Roosevelt – Square Deal, trust busting</li> <li>• William Taft – successor of Roosevelt</li> <li>• JD Rockefeller – oil magnate, the monopoly of Standard Oil, trust busting laws</li> </ul> <p>Impact on different groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Migration</li> <li>• Legislation</li> <li>• Labour laws</li> </ul> <p>Capitalism as an idea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of capitalism</li> <li>• Examples of capitalism within the time period</li> </ul>

Week	Syllabus content	Key teaching points
3–4	<p><b>1910–20</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the impact on American capitalism of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WWI</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the role and impact of significant individuals in the period, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Woodrow Wilson</li> <li>▪ JP Morgan</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the impact of capitalism on different groups within American society</li> <li>• the aims and beliefs of different groups, for example <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Americans</li> <li>▪ urban workers</li> <li>▪ rural workers</li> <li>▪ immigrants</li> <li>▪ industrialists</li> <li>▪ members of Indian Nations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the consequences of divisions into groups</li> <li>• the significance of capitalism as an idea in this period</li> </ul>	<p>Impact of World War I</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woodrow Wilson and America’s involvement in WWI</li> <li>• The Fourteen Points and the return to isolationism</li> <li>• Industrialisation</li> <li>• Constitutional amendments: women’s suffrage</li> <li>• Immigration restriction</li> </ul> <p>Significant people – who they were, what they did, impact on Capitalism and America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Woodrow Wilson – US President, championed US neutrality in WWI</li> <li>• JP Morgan – financier and banker</li> </ul> <p>Impact on different groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women’s suffrage</li> <li>• African Americans</li> </ul> <p>Capitalism as an idea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of capitalism</li> <li>• Examples of capitalism within the time period</li> </ul> <p><b>Task 1: Source analysis</b></p> <p><b>Task 2: Historical inquiry – Part A distribution</b></p>
5–7	<p><b>1920–29</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the nature of American capitalism and the shaping of American values, for example <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ film and fashion</li> <li>▪ prohibition</li> <li>▪ the ‘Jazz Age’</li> <li>▪ the Ku Klux Klan</li> <li>▪ Social Darwinism</li> <li>▪ The American Dream</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The impact of the 1920s and the growth of consumerism on American Capitalism</li> <li>• the role and impact of significant individuals in the period such as: Calvin Coolidge</li> </ul>	<p>The nature of American capitalism and the shaping of American values and how the following shaped these values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• film and fashion</li> <li>• prohibition</li> <li>• the ‘Jazz Age’</li> <li>• the Ku Klux Klan</li> <li>• Social Darwinism</li> <li>• The American Dream</li> </ul> <p>Impact of the 1920s and consumerism on American Capitalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mass production</li> <li>• Advertising</li> </ul>

Week	Syllabus content	Key teaching points
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Herbert Hoover, Henry Ford, Helena Rubenstein, Florence Nightingale Graham aka Elizabeth Arden</li> <li>• the impact of capitalism on different groups within American society and the aims and beliefs of different groups, for example:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Americans</li> <li>▪ urban workers</li> <li>▪ rural workers</li> <li>▪ immigrants</li> <li>▪ industrialists</li> <li>▪ members of Indian Nations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the consequences of divisions into groups</li> <li>• the significance of capitalism as an idea in this period</li> </ul>	<p>Significant groups – who they were, what they did, impact on Capitalism and America</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flappers</li> <li>• The ‘Jazz Age’ and African Americans</li> </ul> <p>Capitalism as an idea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of capitalism</li> <li>• Examples of capitalism within the time period</li> </ul> <p><b>Task 2: Historical inquiry – Part B in-class validation essay</b></p>
8–11	<p><b>1929–41</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Great Depression               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ its causes</li> <li>▪ the consequences for different political, economic and social groups</li> <li>▪ the effectiveness of the political responses, including the New Deal</li> <li>▪ the New Deal’s impact on capitalism</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the role and impact of significant individuals in the period such as:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Herbert Hoover</li> <li>▪ FD Roosevelt</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the impact on American capitalism of               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WW II until 1941</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the impact of capitalism on different groups within American society</li> <li>• the aims and beliefs of different groups, for example               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Americans</li> <li>▪ urban workers</li> <li>▪ rural workers</li> <li>▪ immigrants</li> <li>▪ industrialists</li> <li>▪ members of Indian Nations</li> </ul> </li> <li>• the consequences of divisions into groups</li> <li>• the significance of capitalism as an idea in this period</li> </ul>	<p>The Great Depression</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The impact of the stock market dealings throughout the 1920s</li> <li>• How these led to the Wall Street Crash of 1929</li> <li>• Other factors which contributed to the Great Depression</li> <li>• The spiral into economic depression</li> <li>• The short-term and long-term social, political and economic impacts, including the impact on capitalism and on different groups in society (immigrants, rural and urban workers, wealthy industrialists)</li> <li>• The effectiveness of political responses including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hoover and ‘Rugged Individualism’</li> <li>▪ Roosevelt and the ‘New Deal’</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>World War II</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• America’s involvement in World War II</li> <li>• Selling of war goods</li> <li>• International relations</li> </ul> <p>Capitalism as an idea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examples of capitalism within the time period</li> </ul> <p><b>Task 3: In-class essay</b></p>

Week	Syllabus content	Key teaching points
12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the significance of capitalism as an idea in this period</li></ul>	Capitalism as an idea <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Definition of capitalism</li><li>Examples of capitalism within the time period</li></ul>
13–14	<b>Revision/examinations</b>	

### Historical Skills

The following skills will be developed during this unit.

#### Chronology, terms and concepts

- identify links between events to understand the nature and significance of causation, continuity and change over time
- use historical terms and concepts in appropriate contexts to demonstrate historical knowledge and understanding

#### Historical questions and inquiry

- frame questions to guide inquiry and develop a coherent research plan for inquiry
- identify, locate and organise relevant information from a range of primary and secondary sources
- acknowledge and reference sources as appropriate

#### Analysis and use of historical sources

- identify the origin, purpose and context of historical sources
- analyse and synthesise evidence from different types of historical sources
- evaluate the reliability and usefulness of historical sources

#### Perspectives and interpretations

- analyse and account for the different perspectives of individuals and groups in the past
- evaluate different historical interpretations of the past and how they are shaped by the historian's perspective
- evaluate the significance of ideas, events and people

#### Explanation and communication

- develop texts that integrate appropriate evidence from a range of sources to explain the past and to sustain an argument
- communicate historical understanding, using historical knowledge, concepts and terms