



North Carolina Essential Standards

Social Studies Electives

The Cold War

Our current world—its people and societies—is in many ways a product of the Cold War. Modern global relations involving the United States and other countries, regions, and networks such as Iran, North Korea, Afghanistan, Iraq, Latin America, and Al Qaeda all have connections to the Cold War. Subsequently, the direct and indirect battles associated with this post World War II ideological conflict with the former Soviet Union have had lasting effects on our nation, our relationships with other people, and the world. The relevant lessons of the Cold War would help promote informed judgments by contemporary American citizens.

A generation of Americans understood what it meant to defeat totalitarianism, to “duck and cover,” to see presidencies dismantled, to lose our way in a war, to put a man on the moon, and to see a wall built and then torn down. Part of the Cold War’s intrigue is that we could see it, and that it unfolded globally—in Berlin, in Korea and Vietnam, at the Suez Canal, in the Middle East, on the Caribbean Sea, in Eastern Europe, in Washington, D.C.—and for many Americans in the relative comfort of our living rooms. We also witnessed doctrines and theories, accords and treaties, crises and incidents, espionage and agencies, wars and protests, bombs and satellites, rock and roll—all prevalent as Americans did battle with “the evil empire.” For fifty years, major policy decisions were made, ever cognizant of a real or perceived communist threat, having substantive effects on American lives.

Much historical and contemporary debate exists as to the extent in which major political, economic, and foreign policy issues were made and are currently being decided from a Cold War frame of reference. With time and the collapse of the former Soviet Union, historians have uncovered additional archived information and formed a more diverse set of opinions about the Cold War. How do historians debate the causes, consequences and significance of the Cold War? And why are these debates and questions significant to a post 9/11 world?

Note on Numbering: **H**–History, **C**–Culture

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History			
	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
12.H.1	Apply historical inquiry and methods to understand the Cold War.	12.H.1.1	Evaluate historical interpretations and narratives on the Cold War in terms of perspective, logic, use of evidence, and possible bias.
		12.H.1.2	Analyze multiple perspectives of the Cold War by leaders, participants and spectators of the moment.
		12.H.1.3	Analyze primary sources in terms of the creator's perspective, purpose, the historical context in which each was produced, and their significance to the Cold War.
		12.H.1.4	Use historical inquiry and methods to generate historical questions, theories, debates and narratives from a variety of sources to draw conclusions about the Cold War.
12.H.2	Understand factors that led to the development of the Cold War.	12.H.2.1	Compare competing historical interpretations on the origins of the Cold War.
		12.H.2.2	Analyze the development of competing ideologies prior to World War II in terms of social, economic and intellectual factors.
		12.H.2.3	Analyze events and conferences of World War II in terms of competing priorities, philosophies and perceptions of Allied leaders.

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		12.H.2.4	Evaluate the extent to which the events and conferences of World War II initially created Cold War tensions in terms of competing priorities, philosophies and perceptions of Allied leaders.
12.H.3	Understand the causes, actions, and implications of various Cold War regional conflicts.	12.H.3.1	Explain the causes, actions, and implications of various European conflicts during the Cold War, including but not limited to those conflicts in Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Berlin/Germany, and Hungary.
		12.H.3.2	Explain the causes, actions, and implications of various Asian conflicts during the Cold War, including but not limited to those conflicts in China, Korea, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.
		12.H.3.3	Explain the causes, actions, and implications of various Middle Eastern conflicts during the Cold War, including but not limited to those conflicts in Iran, Turkey, Egypt, and Afghanistan.
		12.H.3.4	Explain the causes, actions, and implications of various Latin American conflicts during the Cold War, including but not limited to those conflicts in Cuba, Guatemala, and Chile.
		12.H.3.5	Explain the causes, actions, and implications of various African conflicts during the Cold War, including but not limited to those conflicts in Angola, Somalia, and Ethiopia.
12.H.4	Analyze Cold War policies, doctrines and diplomacy in terms of their development, implementation and strategic relevance.	12.H.4.1	Analyze various policy plans and doctrines in terms of their development, implementation and strategic relevance during the Cold War.
		12.H.4.2	Analyze various post World War II alliances in terms of their development and strategic relevance during the Cold War.

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		12.H.4.3	Analyze the doctrine of "Mutually Assured Destruction" in terms of its impact on the development of new technologies and strategies during the Cold War.
		12.H.4.4	Explain the impact of competing interpretations of communism/socialism, such as Stalinism and Maoism, on Cold War policies and diplomacy.
		12.H.4.5	Explain the onset and impact of the decline of European colonialism and the subsequent rise of nationalism on Cold War policies and diplomacy.
		12.H.4.6	Exemplify strategic compromises during the Cold War.
		12.H.4.7	Evaluate the effectiveness of Cold War policies adopted by the United States and the Soviet Union in terms of their enduring cultural, economic and diplomatic impacts.
12.H.5	Analyze leadership in terms of its influence on the events and outcome of the Cold War.	12.H.5.1	Analyze the beliefs and decisions of United States Presidents, from Truman to George H.W. Bush, and their administrations in terms of their influence on Cold War events.
		12.H.5.2	Analyze the beliefs and decisions of General Secretaries of the Soviet Union, from Stalin to Gorbachev, and the Communist Party in terms of their influence on Cold War events.
		12.H.5.3	Analyze the beliefs and actions of anti-Communist leaders such as Syngman Rhee, Ngo Dinh Diem, Chiang Kai-Shek, Fulgencio Batista and Mohammad Rezā Shāh Pahlavi, in terms of their influence on the events of the Cold War.

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		12.H.5.4	Analyze the beliefs and actions of anti-Capitalist leaders, such as Kim Il Sung, Ho Chi Minh and Fidel Castro in terms of their influence on the events of the Cold War.
		12.H.5.5	Evaluate the effectiveness of third world leaders, such as Jawaharlal Nehru, Gamal Abdel Nasser and Josip Broz Tito in using the strategy of "non-alignment" during the Cold War.
		12.H.5.6	Evaluate the outcome of the Cold War in terms of the roles played by various leaders such as Ronald Reagan, Lech Walesa, Vaclav Havel, Margaret Thatcher and Mikhail Gorbachev.
12.H.6	Analyze derivatives of the Cold War in terms of their development, implementation and impacts on various people and places.	12.H.6.1	Analyze nuclear technology in terms of its development, proliferation and impacts on various places.
		12.H.6.2	Analyze Cold War perceptions of loyalty in terms of their development and impacts on the decisions and liberties of various people.
		12.H.6.3	Analyze Cold War covert intelligence operations and acts of espionage in terms of their development, implementation and impacts on various places.
		12.H.6.4	Analyze Cold War geopolitical barriers such as the Berlin Wall, the 17th Parallel and the "Iron Curtain", in terms of their development, implementation and impacts on various places.
		12.H.6.5	Analyze the Cold War relationship between governments, industry, and technology in terms of its development and impacts on various places.
		12.H.6.6	Analyze the Cold War race to outer space in terms of its development and impact on various people and places.

		12.H.6.7	Analyze the relationship between civil rights, social movements and the Cold War in terms of its development and impacts.
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Culture			
	Essential Standard	Clarifying Objectives	
12.C.1	Evaluate cultures during the Cold War in terms of their reflection and manipulation of emotions and attitudes.	12.C.1.1	Analyze examples of literature, the arts, and pop culture in terms of their historical context and significance to Cold War events.
		12.C.1.2	Evaluate the extent to which literature, the arts, and pop culture reflected and manipulated patriotism through Cold War propaganda.
		12.C.1.3	Evaluate the extent to which literature, the arts and pop culture reflected and manipulated fear, anxiety and dissent during the Cold War.
		12.C.1.4	Evaluate mediums of communication, such as the newspaper, television, film and radio, in terms of their influences, effectiveness and accuracy in reporting Cold War events.
		12.C.1.5	Evaluate the relationship between conformity, consumerism and Cold War technology.
12.C.2	Evaluate national politics and international relationships of the present as legacies of the Cold War.	12.C.2.1	Evaluate the current geopolitical relationships among and between various nations and regions using a Cold War frame of reference.
		12.C.2.2	Evaluate the relationship between regional conflict and nationalism with the events and outcome of the Cold War.

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		12.C.2.3	Evaluate surges in fundamentalism and terrorism as a legacy of the Cold War.
		12.C.2.4	Evaluate the extent to which the Cold War influenced the present domestic politics and culture of various nations, including the United States.