Unit #9: Period 9: 1980-Present
Making Modern America (1945 - Present)

DURATION: 2 weeks

READINGS:

OBJECTIVES: By the end of this unit, each student will be able to:
- Understand that as the United States transitioned to a new century filled with challenges and possibilities, it experienced renewed ideologies, and cultural debates, sought to redefine its foreign policy, and adapted to economic globalization and revolutionary changes in science and technology.

ASSESSMENTS:
1. QUIZ – April 22 & 23 (Chapter 39) (Chapter 39 Key Terms and Questions due)
2. QUIZ – April 24 & 27 (Chapter 40) (Chapter 40 Key Terms and Questions due)
3. EXAM – April 28 & 29 (Chapters 39-41) (Chapter 41 Key Terms and Questions due)

Chapter 39 Key Terms: Briefly identify, define, and/or explain. (14 points)
14. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Chapter 39 Questions: (15 points)
Daniel Bell, ed., The Radical Right (1963).
“Anti-elitism oriented toward groups that cannot be regarded as oppressed minorities or victims of bigotry, or anti-Communism directed against the agents or dupes of an evil foreign power, can serve as palatable outlets for those who require a scapegoat. . . . Intolerant movements, while often powerful, have never been able seriously to endanger the normal processes of American democracy. . . . But if such movements cannot come to power, they can damage the democratic process for short periods of time, and they can and have injured innocent people.”

Kevin Phillips, Post-Conservative America (1982)
“I submit that the New Right combines three powerful trend patterns that recur in American history and politics. First, to some measure it is an extension of the Wallace movement, and as such represents a current expression of the ongoing populism of the white lower middle classes, principally in the South and West. . . . Second, the New Right is closely allied with the sometimes potent right-to-life or antiabortion movement, the current version, perhaps, of the great one-issue moral crusades of the American past. . . . And this one-issue element, in turn, folds into the third phenomenon—the possible fourth occurrence of the religious revivals or ‘Great Awakenings’ that have swept across the land since the middle of the eighteenth century. If so, the religious wing of the New Right may be the political wing of a major national awakening.”

Spend 13 minutes answering each of the following prompts (39 min. total). Answer parts a, b, and c.
  a) Briefly describe the main point of Bell’s argument.
  b) Briefly describe the main point of Phillips’s argument.
c) Briefly explain how ONE development from the period 1945 to 1980 not directly mentioned in
the excerpts supports either Bell or Phillips’s argument.

Chapter 40 Key Terms: Briefly identify, define, and/or explain. (9 points)
1. Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) 2. “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” 3. Oklahoma City bombing

Chapter 40 Questions: (15 points)
Spend 13 minutes answering each of the following prompts (39 min. total). Answer parts a, b, and c.
a) Briefly explain ONE example of how the spread of computer technology impacted daily life in
the late twentieth and early twenty-first century.
b) Briefly explain ONE example of how the Internet increased access to information in the late
twentieth and early twenty-first century.
c) Briefly explain ONE example of how the spread of computer technology and the Internet led
to new social behaviors and networks in the early twenty-first century.

Chapter 41 Key Terms: Briefly identify, define, and/or explain. (16 points)
1. weapons of mass destruction (WMD) 2. Kyoto Treaty 3. 9/11 4. Al Qaeda 5. USA Patriot Act
Reinvestment Act 13. Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act 14. Wall Street Reform and

Chapter 41 Questions: (15 points)
Spend 13 minutes answering each of the following prompts (39 min. total). Answer parts a, b, and c.
a) Choose ONE of the events listed below and briefly explain why your choice best represents
the beginning of the twenty-first century.
• The end of the Cold War
• The spread of computer technology and the Internet
• The terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon on September 11, 2001
b) Provide at least ONE piece of evidence to support your choice.
c) Contrast your choice against ONE of the other options, demonstrating why that option is not as
good as your choice.