* France founded its first permanent settlement in North America at Quebec in 1608, less than a year after the English started their first at Jamestown
* The French traders formed partnerships with the Indians. They often lived among the natives and married Indian women. The fur trade helped open the way for French agricultural estates
* The Dutch, too, established a presence in North America. Holland in the early seventeenth century was one of the leading nations of the world, and its commerce moved to America in the seventeenth century. In 1609, Henry Hudson, an English explorer in the employ of the Dutch, sailed up the river that was to be named for him in what was then New Netherland. His explorations led to a Dutch claim on the territory. The Dutch built a town on Manhattan Island named New Amsterdam. From it, Dutch trappers moved into the interior toward the Appalachian Mountains and built a profitable trade in furs

# MCQS

* First us election 1788 leap year
* Blue states democrats (donkey)
* Red states republicans (elephants)
* Judge ketanji brown jackson
* Madeleine Korbel Albright sec of state 1997\*2001 under William Jefferson (bill Clinton)
* Affordable Care Act Apr 5

# Causes of Colonization

* Lack of arable land
* Mercantilism
* Freedom from religion prosecution
* Route towards Asia
* Desire for wealth
* Imperialism
* Renaissance
* Improvement in tech (shipping compass)
* Printing press
* High population

## Why Uk was late?

* Colonial mission closer to home: Ireland
* Religios conflict
* Navy not superior (only after defeating Spanish armada gained confidence)
* Privateers (Sir Francis Drake)
* Economic depression: wool market

# First settlements

* pioneers of English colonization were Sir Humphrey Gilbert and his half brother Sir Walter Raleigh
* Raleigh named the region they had explored Virginia
* Roanoke 1587
* In 1606, James I issued a new charter, which divided North America between the two groups.
* The London group got the exclusive right to colonize the south, and the Plymouth merchants received the same right in the north.
* 1607 jamestown virginia
  + 1612 john rolfe tobacco seeds3
  + captain john smith;
  + Headright system 50 acres each
  + 1619 House of Burgesses virginia First elected self govt in US
  + 1619 first slave shipment 20 negroes acc to John Rolfe
  + Indentured servants
  + War of extinction
    - Coastal Virginia had numerous tribes: the Algonquians, the Sioux, and the Iroquois. Powhatan confederacy v Lord De La Warr (colony first gov)
  + Bacon rebellion
    - William berkley’s long tenure; the vote for delegates to the house of burgesses limited to landowners, once for all whites; west of blue ridge mountains Indians area; newly settled lands of the west called backcountry; Nathaniel bacon lived there; seat on the governor’s council; resented gov attempt to hold the territorial line; wanted a piece of fur trade; indentured servants; Result: more slaves
* 1620 pilgrims founded Plymouth Rock
  + Mayflower pact
* 1630 Puritans merchants acquired charter from king established Massachusetts Bay
* Colonial Massachusetts was a theocracy, a society in which the church was almost indistinguishable from the state. Residents had no more freedom of worship than the Puritans themselves had had in England. Governor: John Winthrop
* 1636 Roger Williams found Rhode Island
* 1637 Anne Hutchinson expelled from Massachusetts Bay; Pequot War
* 1675-76 king Philip war (Great Narragansett War) The Wampanoag tribe under Metacomet king Philip; English allied with Mohawk tribe who ambushed metacomet and killed him
* 1676 Bacon rebellion William Berkely Nathanial Bacon
* 1682 Pennsylvania- Heaven for Quakers: everyone could be Christian William Penn; no war
* 1686 dominion of new England by James II combined the govts of Massachusetts, New England colonies and later New york and New jersey; single gov: sir Edmund Andros
* 1688 glorious revolution; James II removed in UK; Bostonions arrested and imprisoned Andros
* 1732 georgia was founded to create a military barrier against Spanish lands on the southern border of English America.

# Road to independence

* Enlightenment John Locke
  + Thomas Penn common sense
  + Franklin and jefferson
* Mercantilism
* **Navigation Acts**
  + Navigation act 1651
    - required all trade between England and the colonies to be carried in English or colonial vessels; aimed primarily at Dutch
  + Enumerated Commodities Act 1660
    - enumerated certain articles-sugar, tobacco, cotton, wool, indigo, and ginger-that were to be shipped only to England or an English province.
  + Staple act 1663
    - any goods picked up in foreign ports had to be taken back to England, unloaded, inspected, paid for in duties, and repacked for shipment to the colonies. increased the prices paid by colonial consumers.
  + Plantation Duty act 1673
    - eliminate the smuggling of articles enumerated in the Navigation Act of 1660; enforcement through custom collectors
  + Molasses act 1733
    - imposed a tax on molasses, sugar, and rum imported from non-British foreign colonies
* **Seven-year war/ French and Indian war 1754-1763**
  + French and british imperial race and commercial rivalry
  + antagonism between Prussia (allied to Britain) and Austria (allied to France).
  + an attempt by the Austrian Habsburgs to win back the province of Silesia, which had been taken from them by Frederick the Great of Prussia.
  + North America: over land in the colonies, control of the fur trade in the colonies
  + specific issue of whether the upper Ohio River valley was a part of the British Empire, and therefore open for trade and settlement by Virginians and Pennsylvanians, or part of the French Empire.
  + all the lands to the south of French Canada and to the north of Spanish Florida, stretching from sea to sea, were claimed by England. In conflict with this was France’s claim to the whole of the Mississippi valley, including the Ohio Valley
  + in 1749 the governor-general of new France ordered Pierre-Joseph Céloron de Blainville to compel the trading houses in that region to lower the British flags that flew above them.
  + Early French success and then William Pitt
  + Effect: TOP 1763
  + Role in American independence
    - no longer living in fear of powerful enemy neighbours on their borders
    - understandably sought to narrow, as much as possible, the range of authority exercised over them by king and Parliament
    - taxation to the defence of the new North American acquisitions—friction developed.
* **Treaty of paris 1763**
  + France was to cede Canada to Great Britain and to relinquish all claims to the lands lying east of the Mississippi River, outside the environs of New Orleans. Spain, which had joined the conflict in its waning days and failed spectacularly in an attempt to check British ambitions in the Caribbean, was obliged to give up Florida as a condition for the return of Havana, which had been occupied by the British since August 1762. France ceded Louisiana, including New Orleans, to Spain as compensation. Thus, France, which at the beginning of the war and during its first four years held a dominating position over most of North America, had disappeared from that continent as a political and military power. In contrast, all along the Atlantic seaboard from the northern reaches of Hudson Bay to the Florida Keys, the British had no colonial rival.
* Proclamation of Crown 1764 Greenville prohibited westward expansion
* Sugar Act 1764
  + Raised duties on sugar and other items and lessen molasses but made duty must
  + certain wines, coffee, pimiento, cambric and printed calico, and further, regulated the export of lumber and iron.
  + The enforced tax on molasses caused the almost immediate decline in the rum industry in the colonies
  + disrupted the colonial economy by reducing the markets to which the colonies could sell
  + aimed at ending the smuggling trade in sugar and molasses from the French and Dutch West Indies and at providing increased revenues
* Currency act 1764
* Mutiny/Quartering act 1765
  + Ordered colonial govts to provide British troops any needed accommodations, housing, food and supplies
  + To keep colonists in strict conformity of increasingly exploitative taxes
  + NY refused
* Stamp act 1765
  + Direct tax on any printed material; legal docs, newspapers, magazines, licenses, bonds, leases, deeds
  + Colonists resented, not taxation without representation
  + Nine states sent delegates to NY to protest;
  + Congress published a Declaration of Rights and Grievances and sent to king and parliament
  + Undoubted right of Englishmen that no tax be imposed without their consent
* Repeal of stamp 1766
  + Greenvile
* Townshend duties 1767
  + Charles Townshend Chancellor of Exchequer got four acts passed from parliament
  + To establish legal precedent that the british govt had a legal right to tax colonies
  + Duties on tea, rum, sugar, lead, paper
  + Establish a board of custom commission in boston compliance with trade regulations
  + Dissolved NY assembly; united all colonies
* Boston Massacre 1770
  + Protest by Boston people turned violent against custom commissioners; five died; exaggerated
* Tea act 1773
  + British EIC financially struggling; duty exempt; undersell
* Boston tea party 1773
  + Sons of liberty; 3 ships boston port
* Coercive/intolerable acts 1774
  + Closed boston port
  + massachusetts govt act replaced the elective local government with an appointive one and increased the powers of the military governor
  + the Administration of Justice Act was aimed at protecting British officials charged with capital offenses during law enforcement by allowing them to go to England or another colony for trial.
  + Quartering act 1774 included new arrangements for housing British troops in occupied American dwellings,
* First continental congress 1774 except Georgia in Philadelphia
  + Most gracious sovereign repeal oppressive legislation till 1763
  + Rejected colonial union under British authority
  + Get ready for defence; military preparation
  + Boycott British goods
  + Delegates will met next spring
* Lexington-Concord battle: shot heard round the world 1775
* 2nd continental congress 1775 decided for war
  + Two groups Adams cousins John and Samuel Adams; John Dickinson (loyalists)
  + Olive branch petition reconcile with empire
  + The King had already issued the Proclamation of Rebellion on August 23 in response to news of the Battle of Bunker Hill, declaring the American colonies to be in a state of rebellion
* Thomas Panne Common Sense jan 1776
  + Political system that could inflict such brutality on its own people
* Declaration of Independence 1776 philadelphia
  + July 4th adopted congress; Thomas jefferson
  + All men are born equal
* 1777 articles of confederation ratification 1781
  + Based on the draft of John Dickinson
  + Under these articles, the states remained sovereign and independent, with Congress serving as the last resort on appeal of disputes. Significantly, The Articles of Confederation named the new nation “The United States of America.” Congress was given the authority to make treaties and alliances, maintain armed forces and coin money.
* 1778 france recognized after battle of saratoga
* 1783 treaty of paris British recognized
  + Franklin, John Adams and John Jay went to paris; Britain ceded all its territories
  + From the southern boundary iof the canda to the northern boundary of florida; from Atlantic to the Mississippi
  + Vergennes wait till Spain sorted Gibraltar issue with Britain
  + Franklin pacified Vergennes avoided rift in French-ameircan alliance
* Funded through foreign loans majorly France
* Aftereffects of war
  + What happened to loyalists native americans

# Constitution Making

* Form of govt republicanism why?
* Articles of confederation
  + No power of taxation
    - Its revenue would come from the states, each contributing according to the value of privately owned land within its borders
  + Lack of central leadership
  + Independent judiciary
  + Difficulty passing laws
    - Nine states
  + Impractical amendment process
    - Congress and all states
  + Unicameral legislation each state shall have one vote
  + Shay’s rebellion
* 1786 Philadelphia convention all states except Rhode islands
* James Madison plan/virginia plan vs William Patterson/new jersey plan
  + Branches of govt (both 3)
  + Legislature (Virginia: Two houses both on basis of population; New jersey: Single, represented equally)
* Great Compromise/ Connecticut Compromise/ Sherman compromise 1787
  + Issue of legislature representation solved
    - HOR population; senate: equal; amendment: 2/3rd bith houses
  + Slavery issue solved: three fifth compromise
* Bill of rights James Madison 1791
  + States’ constitutions were based on Virginia model explicit protection of individual rights
  + It guarantees civil rights and liberties to the individual—like freedom of speech, press, and religion, assembly

# Constitution Salient features

* + Check on popular will
  + Limited democracy (white land owners)
  + Rigid constitution
  + Written const
  + Separation of powers
  + Popular sovereignity
  + Bicameral legislature
  + Federalism
    - Federal govt has jurisdiction over 18 matters and residuary powers are rested in states Article 1
  + Presidential system
  + Fundamental rights and liberty
  + Dual citizenship

## Checks and Balances

* Based on Montesquieu argument
* Judiciary
  + Interpretation of laws
  + Judicial review
  + CJ president of senate during impeachment trial
  + For life
* Executive
  + Implementation of laws
  + Veto
  + Commander in chief of the military
  + Recess appointments
  + Emergency calling session
  + May force adjournment when congress cannot agree
  + Power to appoint judges
  + Pardon power
* Legislative
  + Making of laws
  + Impeachment power house; trial senate
  + Selection of president and vice president HOR and Senate no majority electoral votes
  + Senate approves departmental appointments
  + Senate approves treaties and ambassadors
  + Power to devlare wae
  + Power to enact taxes and allocate funds
  + Power to initate constitutional amendments(judiciary)
  + Power to set courts inferior to SC and their jurisdiction
  + Power to alter size of SC

## Imp amendments

* First ten Bill of rights created 1789 ratified 1791
* 1865 13th abolished slavery
* 1868 14th citizenship to blacks and equal protection of the laws
* 1870 15th voting rights
* 1903 17th direct election of senators
* 1919 18th prohibition of alcohol
* 1920 19th women suffrage
* 1933 21st repeal 18th
* 1951 22nd President limited to two terms

## Amendment process

* A two-thirds vote in both houses of the U.S. Congress; Ratified by three-fourths of the state legislatures
* A two-thirds vote in both houses of U.S. Congress; Ratified by ratification conventions in three-fourths of the states
* A national constitutional convention called by two-thirds of the state legislatures; Ratified by three-fourths of the state legislatures
* A national convention called by two-thirds of the state legislatures; Ratified by ratification conventions in three-fourths of the states

# Federalist v Republicans

* Republican Leaders: Jefferson, Patrick henry and George Masons
* Federalist leaders: Washington, Hamilton, Franklin
* Form of govt
* Banking system
* Power aristocratic not common men
* Powers of the president
* Federalist papers Hamilton, madison, john jay
* Economic ideology (republicans: laissez fairz)
* Republicans: strict constructionists national gov should be confined to the powers enumerated in the (constitution); to protect from tyranny
* Hamilton” to do anything not expressely forbidden by the Const
* Unpaid war debts: concession 55 sadaf
* French revolution

## Federalist era

* 1789-1801
* Adoption of const
* Strong nationalist govt
* Main figure: Hamilton
* Financial policies of Hamilton
  + Assumption of the state’s revolutionary war debts; South opposed to pacife capital shifted to DC
  + Creation os a sys of taxes and tariffs to pay for the debt
* National bank
  + Issue currency federal loans regulate activities of small banks
  + Jefferson against; const doesn’t give power to charter
* Created courts judiciary act 1789; federal district court in each state; number of supreme court judges 6; final jurisdiction in all legal matters
* 1794 Whiskey rebellion against hamilton’s 1791’s excise tax on domestically produced whiskey
  + Washington with 13k troops marched into pennsylvania
  + Anti-fed condemned Washington response; favoured commercial interest over small scale farmers
* Cabinet
  + Sec of state, war Henry Knox, treasury
* Bill of rights 1791
* Westward expansion: three new states Vermont, Kentucky and Tenessess
* Foreign relation: neutrality French revolution war (Jefferson and republicans supported revolutionaries, Hamilton and others opposed;
* Napoleonic wars Washington issued Proclamation of American neutrality
* Jay’s treaty: 1795 removal of British troops from american lands; did not address impressment issue
* Treaty of San Lorenzo with Spain: Thomas Pickney; granted US access to Mississippi River and removed Spanish troops from American land
* Washington farewell address
  + Avoid embroilment in the affais of other nations
  + Creation of efficient govt at home
  + Development of parties would destroy the govt
* First party system: federalist and Democratic Republican
* Defeat of adams in 1800 and death of hamilton led to decline

## Adams

* Jefferson vicepresident
* Federalist divided among conservatives as Hamilton and moderates like adams
* Foreign policy: French enraged at Jay’s treaty anglo american allies; suspended relations; xyz affairs
* Quasi war 1798 to 1800
* Alien and Sedition acts
  + Limiting the influence of foreign born people; against the govt

## Republican

* Traced back to 1793 when Jefferson resigned from washington’s cabinet
* Revolution of 1800: second american revolution
* Contradictory of slavery: all men are created equal?
* Political philosp=ophy: influenced by Locke
* Foreign policy: favoued France over Britain:
* Louisiana purchase: 1803
  + Treaty of san Lorenzo 1795
  + Significance of new orleans
  + Constitutional issues
  + Agreement details
    - James Monroe and Robert Livingston to purchase new orleans and west floridaa
* Westward exploration
  + Lewis and Clark expedition 1804
* Marbury V Madison 1801
  + Marbury sought solution via issue of mandamus (remedy from court) 1789 act
  + John adams midnight appointments; Chief justice: John Marshal
  + James madison: Sec of state during Jefferson era
  + Established principal of judicial review
  + SC has authority to review acts of Congress and determine whether they are constitutional
* Agrarian democracy
* Banks: distrust for banks and bankers; believed borrowing created long term debt. Monopolies. Invited dangerous speculation
* Bur’s conspiracy
* Small govt
  + Reduced the size of army,navy
  + Paid govt half debt
  + Ended internal tax
* War of 1812 (james madison)

# War of 1812-1814

* Causes
  + Chesapeake-Leopard affair 1807
    - Naval engagement off the coast of virginia btw British leopard
    - Crew of leopard pursued attacked and boarded american frigate
    - James barron surrendered his vessel
  + Impressment of American seaman (those in the navy) into their military
    - to keep their troop numbers up during their war with France
  + British restrictions on us trade
    - Britain was engaged in Napoleonic wars
    - Orders in council law by British
    - Required U.S. ships to obtain a special permission to trade with certain countries.
  + War hawks
    - Henry clay and Jackson; add florida and canada
  + British encouraging Native American hostility
    - In Northwest Territory (which formed the states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois after the Revolutionary War).
* Events
  + Invasion of Canada (Detroit, Niagara and Lake Champlain) raid toronto
  + Burning of white house 1814
  + New England secession ()
    - opposed war as a reaction against embargo act and other trade related
    - economy dependent upon trade by sea
* Legacy
  + Treaty of Ghent (Belgium)
    - Halt to fight
    - Return of all conquered territories to prewar claimants
    - Recognition of prewar boundary btw canda and us
  + US accepted Canada as a neighbour
  + Natives forced to surrender large areas of land
  + European goods, British naval blockade; Push to industrialization
  + Talk of secession in New Eng set precedent for Civil war colonies

# Monroe Doctrine 1823

* Factors
  + Florida question: Adams-Onis treaty 1819: spain ceded Florida and ORegan; US relinquesed title to Texas
  + Russian claim 1821 czar claimed area north of the 51st parallel and extending one hundred miles into the pacific would be off limits to non russians; john quincy adams refused
  + Movements for independence in South America
    - Chile revolution against spain
  + UK wanted trade relation with South American countries; US wanted peace at its border
  + Britain proposal
    - British foreign sec George canning approached John Q adams -Sec of state
    - Joint proclamation btw US and UK to stop the powers of Europe from inteferring in Americas
    - Hurdles: war of 1812 and nationalism
* Main theme
  + Non colonization
  + Non extension of European political system
  + Non-interference in European war and their politics
* Significance
  + Self defence
  + Economic interests
* One step ahead of Washington
  + Non-interference in our matters
* Use of Monroe Doctrine
  + US objection to British alliance in Texas 1836
  + Rise of American supremacy in Americas
  + Spanish-American war US supported ongoing struggle of cuba Puerto rico and phillipines
  + Became a justification for manifest destiny ( James Polk)
  + Wilson basis of neutrality in WW1
* Criticism
  + When announced US didn’t had a strong navy to enforce it
  + European countries didn’t think of it seriously ex: 1861 french intervention in Mexico
  + Monroe wanted Americas free of Europeans and relied on UK
  + To protect US only

# Presidential Election

* Eligibilty
  + Natural born-; last 14 years resident; age min 35
* Traditionally, candidates make their intention to run for President public in the year before the election takes place
* Choosing of candidates
  + Primaries and caucuses
  + Caucuses are run by political parties and primaries by the state
  + Majority primaries
  + Two types: open (anyone without party affiliation) and closed (only registerd party members can vote)
  + Caucuses
    - Divided into groups of candidates; if a group doesn’t receive 15 percent they are non-viable
    - Supporters of that candidate must join another group or convince others to join theirs
* Delegates
  + delegates represent their state in the national party convention and vote to decide each party's presidential candidate.
  + pledged delegates - who have to support the candidate to whom they were assigned in a primary or caucus
  + unpledged or superdelegates - who can choose freely which candidate they would like to support
* National convention
  + held in the summer of an election year.
  + A majority of delegates’ votes is needed to receive the nomination of the party
* General Election campaigning
  + the presidential candidates go head-to-head campaigning throughout the country.
* Electoral college
  + The voters elect their President and Vice President indirectly. Both are chosen by electors through the Electoral College process.
  + 538: 435 HOR-100 Senate; 3 DC
  + created by the framers of the U.S. Constitution as an alternative to electing the president by popular vote or by Congress
  + winner takes all vs proportional method (maine and Nebraska)
  + at least 270 electors in order to become President.
* Inauguration
  + Inauguration Day takes place on January 20 at the U.S. Capitol building
  + Jan 21 if 20th fall on Sunday
  + President and VP elect are sworn in to take offive
* The case of no absolute majority
  + Happened only once in 1824 JQ Adams was elected president
  + President: top 3 candidates HOR
  + Vice President: remaining top 2 senate
* Criticism
  + Bandwagon effect primaries
  + Limited democracy (popular vote)
  + Impact of tech and media
* Growth of presidential powers
  + Washington 2 veto
  + Andrew Jackson 12 vetos
  + Lincoln suspended Habeas Corpus ordering blockades of southern ports without the consent of Congress
  + Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson
  + FDR 635

# Andrew Jackson 1829-1837

* Age of the common man/ Era of the Jacksonian democracy
  + Himself was a son of saddle maker and groomed in extreme poor ciondition
* Election of 1824: corrupt bargain
  + JQ Adams, Jack and Clay were contesting
  + Jack won popular but adams won electoral
  + Henry clay speaker of HOR favoured nationalist John Quincy Adams
  + Adams made Clay his sec of state
* Birth of modern American political culture
  + Aristocratic couple of families dominated like adams
  + Btw Washington and jack every single president had college degree
  + Many were virginians
  + Crucial to be wealthy; no stake (property, wealth)no wise decision
* Rise of democratic society
  + Rich and poor used to dress in same manner
  + Travel in same buses, dine on same tables
  + Principle of equality among white men
* Election of 1828
  + Rematch btw Adams and Jack
  + Campaign filled with mudslinging
  + Adams supporters accused jack wife as a bigamist and her mother prostitute
  + Battle of New Orleans; Jack defeated Britain
* Rechartering of Second Bank of US
  + Abusing its power; serving the interest of wealthy lot
  + Clay supported Bank and persuaded majority in congress to support
  + Jack vetoed it.
* Universal male suffrage
  + All white men
* Maximum use of veto
  + King Andrew the first
* Rise of political parties
  + Major Democrats and Whigs
  + Anti-Masonic and workingmen party emerged
* Spoils system
  + Rewareded his supporters with positions in govt
  + Kept people loyal to the party
  + Helped in winning next elevtion
  + Promoted govt corruption
* Foreign policy
  + focused on expanding trade; he reached an agreement with Britain to open Canadian and Caribbean ports to U.S. trade.
* Nullification crisis: South Carolina leg led by Sen Calhoun adopted resolution federal tariffs imposed in 1828 and 32 null and void
* Birth of Democratic Republican party:
  + Martin Van Buren (jack successor) more than Jack helped create democratic party
  + Declared itself party of ordinary farmers and workers
  + Opposed special prviliges of econ elites
  + To offer affordable western lands to ordinary white; forcing Indians further westwards
* Indian removal act of 1830
  + Forced east Indian to move west of Mississippi
  + Supported Georgia in robbing Cherokee lands
  + Worcester V Georgia: Marshal ruled against Georgia
  + Marshall has made his decision. Now let him enforce it.
  + Trail of tears: 1837-1838- us army gathered about 1500 cherokee and move them
* Effects
  + William Henry Harrison campaign
    - Election of 1840 whigs portrayed their presidential candidate as a common man
    - Portrayed him being born in log cabin, a war hero, man of the people
    - In fact was from virginia, wealth family, college grad
    - This approach Won him election

# Jefferson V Jacksonian

* Executive: Weak national govt vs promoted strength of executive branch; vetoed more bills than all previous combined
* Voting rights: property vs all white
* Interpretation of const: strong vs weak John Marshal enforce it
* States’ right: both supported
  + Our country is too large to have all its affairs directed by a single govt Jeff
  + Opposed Sedition and alien act-Jeff
  + Passed Kentucky resolution: federal powers limited to that mentioned in const
  + Excluding nullificaltion crisis: Jack supported
  + Georgia
* Education: bill of gen edu free edu for all; parental responsibility preferred church schools
* Foreign policy: Jacksonian favoured expansionism
* Minorities: Jackson trail of tears Indian removal act 1830; Georgia vs chereokee land; state affair
* Women: marriage and subordination
* Freedom of religion: virginia state constitution jefferson
* Common man
  + Educated and independent farmer; not eligible for ruing themselves
  + Farmers, mechanics,

# Slavery

* Advent
* Tobacco sugar cane
* Bacon rebellion
* Imp of Cotton gin eli whitney
* Three fifth rule
* Legacy
  + Civil rights movement

# Westward expansion/Manifest destiny

* Indigenous groups depended on buffalo in the Great Plains, on sheepherding in the Southwest, and on salmon fisheries in the Northwest. By seizing lands and expanding railroads, white settlers threatened all three livelihoods.
* In 1820, there were some 25 million buffalo on American soil; by the 1880s, there were just a few hundred. Washington made treaties with tribes but routinely violated
* Fed govt’s “reform” policy of separating Native American children from their families and educating them in Christian schools, hoping to break their identification with their tribes and prepare them to become property-owning farmers.
* Supreme Court decisions in 1884 and 1886 defined Native Americans as wards of the state, denying them the right to become U.S. citizens and therefore all the protections of the 14thand 15th Amendments.
* Dawes Act 1887
* Chinese exclusion act 1882

# Civil war

Sout Carolina first to secede within next two eeks six other southern had left the union

* Causes
  + Slavery
  + Economic diff
  + Great compromise
  + Cultural difference
  + Morrill Tariff law 1861
    - which taxed imports to the US
    - new law favored industries based in the northeast and would penalize the southern states, which were more dependent on goods imported from Europe.
  + State vs federal rights
  + Federalist v anti federalist regime
  + Uncle tom’s cabin 1852
  + Westward expansion
    - Lousiana purchase; manifest destiny
  + Second Great Awakening
    - Advocate for emanciptation on religious grounds
  + Abolitionist movement
    - Immediate emancipation of all slaves
    - Led by free blacks such as Frederick Douglas and white supporters such as William Lloyd garrison founder of radical newspaper The Liberator
    - Harriet Beecher’s Uncle Tom’s cabin
    - Slave holding a sin; nonreligous: free-labour argument
    - Underground railroad: help fugitive slaves escape from south via loose network of safe houses; 40k to 100k
  + Wilmot proviso
    - Eliminate slavery land acquired as a result of Mexican war 1846\*48
    - Envisioned California free white pennsylvianians could work without competing slave labour
    - House passed several times, senate rejected
  + compromise of 1850
    - henry clay senator from Kentucky found sol
    - issues: California petitioned to enter union as a free state; without any other slace state to maintained balance as in Missouri agreed
    - Texas claimed its territory extended all the way to Santa Fe
    - DC allowed slavery and home to largest slave market in north America
    - Compromise:
      * Texas would relinquish its claims in exchange 10 mil
      * The territories of new Mexico, Nevada, Arizona and Utah would be organized without mention of slavery( decide when they apply for statehood)
      * Slavetrade prohibited and slaveholding permitted in DC
      * Fugitive Slave Law act
      * California admitted as free state
  + Missouri statehood bill
    - Slaveholding territory
    - 1819 nation contained 11 free and 11 slave states, creating balance
    - Missouri entrance favoured south
  + Tallmadge amendment
    - Prohibit any further importation of slaves in Missouri
    - Gradual emancipation of existing
    - Accepted in HOR and rejected in Senate
  + Missouri compromise
    - Debates raged for a year until dist of maine, part of Massachusetts sought statehood
    - Henry clay speaker mentioned If maine is to be admitted Missouri should be too
    - From this came the notion of admitting states in pair until California 1850
    - Sen Thomas of Illinois proposed an amendment allowing slavery below the parallel 36 degrees, 30 minutes in the vast louisiana purchase territory
  + Kansan Nebraska act 1854
    - Architect Stephen Douglas of Illinois
    - To build transcontitnel railroad to go through chicago
    - Nebraska lied above 36 degree, south declined another free state
    - To win southern support , propes inclined slave state Kansas
    - Act allowed each territory to decide slavery issue on popular sovereignty
    - Passage of bill split whig party; north supported south opposed
    - Northern whigs reorginaed themselves with other to become repupblican party
    - Southern whighs swept into democrats
    - North started violation of fugitive slave law; citing 1820 compromise was ignored
  + Dredscott vs Sandford case 1857
    - African-american had not been the part of the “sovereign people” who made the const= ruled court
    - Any ban on slavery was violatioin of 5th amendment which prohibited denying propery rights without due process of law
    - Missouri compromise was unconstitutional
  + Election of 1860
    - Lincoln defeated Stephen douglas
* Consequences
  + Physical devastation
  + Spread of disease and sickness
  + Hunger and homelessness
* Effects
  + Emancipation proclamation
    - Slaves of rebel state were freed; 3 mil black slaves
    - 186k joined union army
  + Reconstruction amendments
    - 13th: abolished slavery 1865
    - 14th: granted citizenship, equal rights and legal rights 1868
  + Reconstruction acts 1867\*68
  + Division of west virginia
    - stems from the 1861 Wheeling Convention, which was an assembly of northwestern Virginian Southern Unionists, who aimed to repeal the Ordinance of Secession that Virginia made during the American Civil War
    - admittance to the Union as a new state in 1863.
  + Rise of Industrialization
  + Jim Crow Laws
    - Ku klux klan

Reconstruction

Early

* The southern US state of Louisiana enacted a law in 1859 giving people of color the “freedom” voluntarily to opt in to slavery, a practice often described as “**warranteeism**.”
* Radical republicans adopted an aggressive vision of using activist govt to remake South and the rest of the country. (amendments, reconstruction acts)
* After death of Lincoln, Johnson pushed for lenient vision of Reconstruction based on states’ rights, white supremacy, and decidedly nonrevolutionary approach to the remaking of federal union
* His slogan was “the Union as it was, the Constitution as it is.”
* In practice, this meant that if former Confederate states renounced secession and ended slavery (however reluctantly), they could swiftly regain full statehood without having to confer any civil or political rights on freed slaves.
* Johnson envisioned a postwar order in which former slaves would transition into permanent serfdom, destined for labor but no independent economic life and no place in politics.
* He resisted radical Reconstruction by vetoing nearly every act passed by the Republicans in Congress. (until mid-term elections of 1866 Republican success)
* Johnson’s continued obstructionism, obstinate personal behavior, and virulent racism led to his impeachment in early 1868
* Industrialization, corruption scandal galvanized Grant administration, KKK, railroads, focus moved elsewhere from Reconstruction
* no law can itself protect Americans from their own worst impulses: racism, nativism, authoritarianism, greed.
* **Tulsa Massacre**: On May 31-June 1, 1921, Greenwood, a thriving African-American section of the segregated Oklahoman town, was razed to the ground.
* Greenwood’s relative prosperity led it to being dubbed the ‘Black Wall Street’ — a red rag to the white supremacist bull that dominated Tulsa. The racists needed an excuse to live out their fantasies. They found it in a non-event.
* Dick Rowland, a 19-year-old African American shoeshine boy in downtown Tulsa, needed to empty his bladder. He headed for the only nearby facility for blacks, in what was known as the Drexel Building. He apparently tripped as he entered the elevator, and inadvertently touched the arm or shoulder of the 17-year-old elevator operator, Sarah Page.
* She screamed, and Rowland sprinted out of the building. Someone called the police, and Rowland was subsequently arrested. The local afternoon rag, the Tulsa Tribune, published a lurid report the following day, alleging a sexual assault, and an incendiary editorial headlined ‘To Lynch Negro Tonight’.
* A burgeoning mob thirsting for vengeance thronged to the city courthouse. A much smaller contingent of black World War I veterans turned up to protect Rowland. They were turned away, but as they were leaving a shot was fired — in anger, or perhaps accidentally. That’s when all hell broke loose, and 16 hours later Greenwood was a smouldering ruin.
* Scott Ellsworth, the aforementioned historian, says the first time he saw a photograph of the aftermath, “it looked just like Nagasaki or Hiroshima or Frankfurt”. The hotels, cinemas, clinics, pharmacies and groceries were all gone. So were most of the churches. At least 300 people were killed, but the death toll is disputed.
* A substantial proportion of the community simply disappeared. Some fled to neighbouring states, but the fate of others remains unknown. There were bodies floating down the Arkansas River, and mass graves are still being unearthed 100 years later.
* The atrocity included the first instance of an American city being bombed from the air, as biplanes dropped incendiary turpentine shells on to buildings and streets in Greenwood.
* The Tulsa massacre was effectively wiped out from history, referred to in hushed tones by white families as a ‘riot’ or ‘race riot’ rather than a pogrom, and edited out of conversations by black families when children were around. Most descendants of the victims and survivors knew next to nothing about it until they were adults.

Jim Crow

* **Voter suppression** is a long-standing instrument of white supremacy in America. The story has been told most vividly by W.E.B. Du Bois in Black Reconstruction in America, published in 1935. At the core of the South’s Jim Crow regime after Reconstruction was the suppression of African-American voting, in flagrant violation of the Constitution.
* **Blacks couldn’t use same public transport Rosa Parks**
* **Interracial marriages were illegal**
* **Couldn’t vote: unable to pass voter literacy tests**
* **Plessy V Ferguson**

# Industrialization/ The Gilded Age

* Birthplace: UK
* Passage of embargo act 1807
  + closed U.S. ports to all exports and restricted imports from Britain.
  + Jefferson's response to British and French interference with neutral U.S. merchant ships during the Napoleonic Wars.
* War of 1812
* Role of civil war
  + Industrialists made full use of the advantages offered to them by war
* Scientific inventions
  + Englishman James Hargreaves spinning jenny: multiple spools of thread simultaneously
  + Cotton gin
  + Developments in iron industry appliances, buildings
  + Steam engine: locomotives power machinery
* Vast natural resources
  + Coal iron, petroleum, copper; greater potential water; great dams and producing electricity
* High Interstate trade
  + Thanks to constitution; single market
* Transportation
  + Robert Fulton built steamboat, steam locomotives, railroads, motor car by henry ford
  + Flying machine by wright brothers
* Labour supply
  + Flood of immigration
    - War torn countries such as Italy and Czechoslovakia; poor less educated than irish and german
* Effects
  + Increase in middle class
  + Urbanisation
  + Jobless poor idle rich
  + Big business monopolies
  + Road to imperialism
  + Rise of progressivism

# Populism

185 sadaf

# Progressive era

* Negative Effects of industrialization
* Diff representations
  + Literature of upton Sinclair
  + Architecture of Frank Wright
  + History of Charles beard
  + Educational system of john dewey
  + Political leders such as teddy and Wilson
* Robber barons
  + No labour law protections; injured get fired; intensive work
  + Prifts all of barons
* Railroad corruption
  + Govt subsidies and land grants
  + Union pacific railroad company began in Nebraska and pushed westward
  + Leland;s Stanford’s central pacific railroad oushed eastwards from Sacramento
* Social Darwinism and the Gospel of Wealth
  + Survival of the fittest; millionaries are product of natural selection
  + Person’s great riches a gift from God
* Urban slums
* Monopolies
  + Andrew Carnegie JP Morgan REockfeller standard Oil
  + Carnegie vertical integrateion: expanded one Penssylvania production plant into steel empire
    - Buying out all of the companies=coal iron ore and so on needed to prdocue steel and companies that produced steel ship and sold
    - Sold to banker JP morgan
  + John D Rockfeller Standard Oil company; horizontal integration
    - Buying out all other oil companies so no competition
* Solutions
  + Purpose of govt: heavy involment
  + Believed in regulated capitalism
  + Muckrakers
    - Journalists
    - Upton Sinclair graphic description of meatpacking industry in 1906 novel The Jungle disgusted teddy Roosevelt and congress
    - Meat Inspection Act and Pure food and Drug Act
    - 1890 Jacob riis How the other half lives
    - Ida tarbell The History of Standard oil company
    - Standard oil was investigated and eventually broken up by SC for violating federal anti-trust laws
    - The Vitter cry of children conditions of child labour
  + Women reformers
  + Progressive leadership teddy Roosevelt and William taft Wilson
  + Labour protection laws
  + Trust bursting laws
  + Conservation of environment
  + Banking reforms
* Legislations
  + See progressive works of Teddy and Wilson

# Teddy Roosevelt

* Progressive
  + Feared discontented will turn to socialism
  + Devoted towards cause of labour
    - Miner’s strike led by John Mitchel President of United mine workers
    - Appointd arbitration commission; decide in favour of miners
  + Brought suit against Northern Securities Company JP morgan under Sherman anti trust law
  + Brought 44 such cases and earned the reputation of trust burster
  + Strengthened govt control over railroads through Elkin Act 1903, forbade the practice of giving rebate
  + Conservation of natural resources
    - Set aside million acres of forest reserves
    - Convinced congress to fund construction of several dams
  + Pure food and drug act 1906

# Woodrow Wilson

* Progressive Acts
  + Federal Reserve Act 1913 to reconstruct national banking and currency system; created Federal Reserve Board that regulated the rates of interest and currency circulation
  + Calyton Anti trust act 1914 to supersed Sherman; help workers and farmers that strikes boycotts and picketing were not illegal
    - Price discrimination in interstate trade
    - Major holding of one corp by another
  + Federal Trade Commisssion to oversee business involved in interstate trade
  + Child labour laws
  + Underwood simmons Act 1913 reduced the tariff on imports
  + Women suffrage
  + Sixteen Amendment: creation of national income tax
  + Seventeenth Amendment: right to elect us senator directly
* WWI
  + Neutraility
  + German ships torpedoed Lusitania 128 american
  + Zimmerman telegram: Ge vrman Mexico ko razi kar raha tha
  + Safe for Democracy; rights of mankind
* 14 points
  + Navigation of seas, economic freedom, impartial decision on colonies, open covenents, disarmament, LON
* Why unique?
  + Aimed for peace
  + Based on morality
  + Did not punish germany

# WWI

* Causes
  + Trade relations with Europe
  + German submarine warfare
  + Zimmerman telegram
  + Russian revolution
  + Remember Belgium
  + Weapon’s credibility issue

# WW2

Causes:

* Treaty of Versailles (which forced a crippling peace on Germany to end the First World War enveloped the world during the 1930s (which led to particularly desperate conditions in many European nations
* US public opinion was alarmed by Germany’s position in Europe; in addition, the bombing of London and other cities in the summer and autumn of 1940 and increasing submarine attacks on British ships aroused sympathy.
* FDR did not want to fight Germany and Italy without wide backing. Instead he used his presidential powers to implement a decidedly one-sided neutrality.
* 1940–41 he declared that America would be an “Arsenal of Democracy”. providing arms to Britain without direct payment.
* Washington became in 1941 the main counterweight to Japan. To deter Japan from occupying more Asian territory , Washington made use of powerful economic sanctions
* japan pre-emptive attacks, against both the Philippines and the American fleet at Pearl Harbor

Effects:

* American society became more affluent in the postwar years
* Public policy, like the so-called GI Bill of Rights passed in 1944, provided money for veterans to attend college, to purchase homes, and to buy farms
* Emergence of cold war rival soviet union
* turning away from its traditional isolationism and toward increased international involvement

# Cold War

* Causes
  + Russian revolution: not recog of ussr for 16 year after Bolshevik takeover
  + George kennan long telegram
  + Capitalism v communism
    - Spread of communism/iron curtain: takeover of eastern European countries immediately after the war
  + Delaying D-Day
    - Enormous Soviet deaths: GB and US waited so long to open a front in France
    - Agreed after ussr affirmed to declare war on japan Tehran Conf
  + Allowing West Germany to join NAT
    - Deterrent against Soviet Union
    - ensure that it did not develop independent military forces
    - NATO v Warsaw pact
  + USSR fear of atomic bomb
  + US foreign policy: containment
  + Truman doctrine
    - Modified containment with his own doctrine
    - Us would support foreign govts resisting armed minorities or outside pressures
    - Convinced congress to 400 million to prevent fall of Greece and Turkey
    - Critics argue it accelerated polarization btw USSR and US
    - Defendants claim USSR had already begun Cold War by thwarting attempt to reunite and stabilize Germany; to prevent US isolationists from abandoning the cause
    - Legacy: shaped american foreign policy for next four decades
* Martial plan V Molotuv plan
* Nato and warsaw pact
* Arms race
* Proxy wars
  + Korean
  + Vietnam war
* Eisenhower’s new look
  + Massive retaliation: Use of nuclear weapons and new tech rather than ground troops and conventional bombs
  + Pledged us support to any govt fighting communist insurgencies in MidEast
  + Sent 5000 marines to Lebanon
* McCarthyism
* Sputnik and space race
* Khrushchev and Camp David
* U-2 incident
* Effects
  + Emergence of Unipolarity

# American Mexican war 1846\*48

Reason:

* stemming from the United States’ annexation of Texas in 1845 and from a dispute over whether Texas ended at the Nueces River (Mexican claim) or the Rio Grande (U.S. claim)
* belief in Manifest Destiny helped gain public support for the war despite criticism of Polk’s use of executive power

Treaty: Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. According to the treaty, which was subsequently ratified by both national congresses, Mexico ceded to the United States nearly all the territory now included in the states of New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, Arizona, California, Texas, and western Colorado for $15 million

* + effects: war reopened the slavery-extension issue,
  + The Wilmot Proviso
  + United States thus acquired vast mineral wealth, especially gold, and extended its border to the Pacific Ocean.
  + --questionable character of the American claims to Mexican lands also contributed a heritage of ill will to the troubled relations between the United States and Mexico

# American-Spanish war

* Wilson-groman tariff 1894; restriction on siugar imports to the us; hurt the economy of cuba
* Cuba strategic importance: controlled gulf of Mexico, Caribbean trade with south America
* Panama canal be built more imp
* Mckinley political aims against William bryan free silver platform election 1900
* Public was sakht anti spani thanks to journalism of pulitzer and Hearst
* Teller amendment 1898; not annex cuba
* Cuban struggle for independence from Spain, which began in February 1895. The Cuban conflict was injurious to U.S. investments in the island, which were estimated at $50 million
* 2. Of more importance than its effect on U.S. monetary interests was the appeal to American humanitarian sentiment. Cubans were herded into so-called “reconcentration areas”

peace: United States must take possession of the roughly 7,000 islands and 7,000,000 inhabitants of the Philippines. This demand was reluctantly agreed to by Spain, with the stipulation that the United States pay Spain $20,000,000 nominally for public buildings and public works in the Philippines. **The Treaty of Paris** signed December 10, 1898.

- Spain relinquished Cuba and ceded to the United States the Philippines, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

consequences for america:

* United States emerged from the war a world power. It now had insular possessions in the Caribbean and stretching across the Pacific
* Spain’s defeat decisively turned the nation’s attention away from its overseas colonial adventures and inward upon its domestic needs, a process that led to both a cultural and a literary renaissance and two decades of much-needed economic development in Spain
* enthusiasm for the U.S. Navy, which soon grew from fifth or sixth to second place among the world’s war fleets
* the United States had made the Caribbean a U.S. lake, was taking a leading part in the politics of the Far East (with initiatives such as the Open Door policy), and was preparing, in spite of itself, to play a determining role in the affairs of Europe.
* Teller amendment

# US imperialism

* Economic factors
  + Internal market saturated
  + Looking for foreign destinations
  + invest cuba huwaii
* Doctrine of racial superiority
* New manifest destiny
* The influence of Sea power upon history Captain Alfred Mahan
* Role of leaders.
  + Theodore Roosevelt committed US to construction of Panama Canal and encouraged separation of Panama from colombia
* Open door diplomacy china
  + Annexation of Hawaii 1898
    - Sugar industry
    - Strategic location for us military base (teddy)
    - 1893 US Marines american expatriates Queen LiliuoKalani depose
    - Not until 1898 following the use of the naval base at pearl harbor during Spanish-american war; strategic importance became evident
    - 190o annexed
    - Hawaii become state mar 1959
  + Spanish american war
  + Open door diplomacy in china
    - Agreed with GB on the policy of open door
    - Each power would respect the trading rights of the others within each nation;s sphere of influence
    - Chinese official would collect import duties
    - No nation would discriminate against others in duties or railroad rates

# Great Depression

* Causes
  + Stock market crash
    - Speculation based trading
  + Overproduction in farming
    - WW1
    - machinery
  + Dust bowl
    - Over grazing western areas;
  + Industries overproduction
    - WW1
  + Herbert hoover laissez fairz policy
  + European recession
    - Treaty of Versailles
  + Weak banking system
  + Uneven incomes
* Effectss
  + Homelessness
  + Unemployment
  + Starvation and illness
  + Mass migration

# FDR

* Govt intervention 635 veto
* WW2
  + Four freedoms speech
  + Freedom of speech, religion, from fear, from want
  + to provide a rationale for why the United States should abandon the isolationist policies that emerged from World War I.
* Bank holiday
  + 4 days banking transactions across the nation suspended
  + Emergency banking act to reopen bnks that were solvent and assist those that were not
* Fireside chats on radio
* Glass Steagall banking reform act createdfederal deposit insurance corporation
* Farming problem
  + Agricultural adjustment admin
  + Soil conservation and domestiv allotment act
    - Paid farmers to plant clover and alfalfa instead of whea and corn; return nutrients to the soil
* FDR Alphabet soup
* Social Security Act
  + Contact between generations
  + Current would pay into the fund while retirees would take a ,monthly stipend
  + Revolutionary
  + Unmarried women, disabled
* Putting people to work
  + Federal Emergency Relief Act 3billion state and local govt to give relief payments
  + Civilian conservation corps 2 million unemp
    - Countryside 30$ per monthe
  + Civil works admin
    - To teach illiteraties. Build parks school enrolled writiers nd artisits
    - 15$ per week
  + Works progress admin
    - Largest relief approx. 9 mil
    - American of all skill levels were fiven jobs
    - Most resources in roads and bridges
* Industry
  + National recovery act
    - Created National recovery admin Spark business growth and improve labour conditions
* Housing
  + Federal housing agency
    - Provided low interest loans for new home constr
* Roosevelt critics
  + Court packing scheme
    - Judge 70 retire; added 6 justices to the high courts
  + Conservative (socialism in disguise) and liberals (not enough relief)
  + Roosevelt Recession
    - Relief ended suddenly
* Evaluation
  + Bold program saved the capitalism
  + No nationalistation: safety net paled by European standards
  + Failed to achieve main goal: WW2 helped

# Civil rights movement

* Jim Crow laws
* Plessy v Ferguson 1896
* Brown v board of education
* Montgomery bus boycott
* Sweat v Painter 1950
* NAACP
* Civil rights act 1957
* Little Rock crisis 1957
* March on Washington 1963
* Civil rights act 1964
* Voting rights act 1965
* Assassinations
* Fair Housing Act 1968
* Movement legacy
  + Obama president Justice Ketanji Brown
  + George Floyd I can’t breathe
  + creation of a national commission to examine the legacy of racial injustice in the United States – from slavery to the policing and carceral abuses of the present. More to the point, the commission created under H.R.40 would ultimately address the controversial question of reparations for the descendants of slaves. 82k Japanese-American who had been interned in the US during World War II received reparations checks.
  + Biden has rightly called the new law by Georgia’s Republican-controlled legislature to restrict voting in the state a clear case of “Jim Crow in the twenty-first century.”
  + Juneteenth National Independence Day Act
  + June 19, 2021 marks the 156th anniversary of the last African American slaves being freed in Texas. first federal holiday approved since Martin Luther King Jr.

Critical Race Theory

What it is?

* Critical race theory is an academic concept that is more than 40 years old. The core idea is that racism is a social construct, and that it is not merely the product of individual bias or prejudice, but also something embedded in legal systems and policies.
* The basic tenets of critical race theory, or CRT, emerged out of a framework for legal analysis in the late 1970s and early 1980s created by legal scholars Derrick Bell, Kimberlé Crenshaw, and Richard Delgado, among others.
* A good example is when, in the 1930s, government officials literally drew lines around areas deemed poor financial risks, often explicitly due to the racial composition of inhabitants. Banks subsequently refused to offer mortgages to Black people in those areas.
* Today, those same patterns of discrimination live on through facially race-blind policies, like **single-family zoning** that prevents the building of affordable housing in advantaged, majority-white neighborhoods and, thus, stymies racial desegregation efforts.
* **Kendall Thomas**, co-editor of “Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings That Formed the Movement” said critical race theorists aim to shift focus away from individual people’s bad actions and toward how systems uphold racial disparities.

Critics

* Critics of this intellectual framework often contend that it is divisive and even racist to examine the role of race in U.S. systems and structures. Opponents also argue that critical race theory is a Marxist framework that suggests the nation is inherently evil and that White people should feel guilty for their skin color.
* On May 14, several Republican members of Congress introduced a bill banning the teaching of critical race theory in federal institutions and a resolution highlighting “the dangers” of teaching the theory in schools. In statements accompanying the announcement, the representatives said critical race theory promotes discrimination and stokes division.
* The 1776 Project PAC, a new political action committee established to back school board candidates who oppose critical race theory, alleges that adherents to this framework are trying to remake the United States to reject capitalism and the nation’s founding principles. The PAC contends that critical race theory is “hostile to white people.”

Is it Marxist?

* While critical race theory is not characteristically Marxist, there is a loose connection. Scholars of “critical legal studies,” a precursor to critical race theory, included neo-Marxists “and other varieties of oppositionists in law schools,” according to “Critical Race Theory: The Key Writings That Formed the Movement.” Critical race theorists diverged from critical legal studies scholars to focus on studying race, Bridges said.
* Some critical race theorists also believe that racism endures because it is profitable and that fighting racism therefore must mean opposing capitalism, Bridges said — but that opinion is far from universal within the field.

Relation with schools?

* Since the murder of George Floyd by a police officer last year, schools across the country have been overhauling their curriculums to address systemic racism and seek to make classrooms more equitable. Among other efforts, districts are instituting anti-bias training for teachers and requiring that history lessons include the experiences of marginalized groups.
* Conservative politicians have pushed back on these attempts to talk about race more often. Critics say teachers are trying to “rewrite history” and should not consider race when interacting with students. Proponents counter that discussing race creates more inclusive schools and helps students overcome systemic barriers restricting their achievement.
* Academic critical race theorists do not necessarily agree on whether schools are promoting critical race theory. **Khiara Bridges**, author of “Critical Race Theory: A Primer,” said she would not characterize the increased focus on diversity and multiculturalism as critical race theory, while Thomas said critical race theory “is defined by this more expansive view of history now taught in classrooms.”

Present debate and status of banning

* Critical race theory (at its core, the belief that racism in America is systemic) had been around for decades in academic circles without attracting much attention — until Fox News took it up last summer. As The Post’s Laura Meckler and Josh Dawsey report, a Fox News guest, Christopher Rufo, declared that critical race theory had “pervaded every institution in the federal government” — and Trump and his allies took it from there. They’ve redefined the obscure theory to include, as Rufo put it, “all of the various cultural insanities” and they’ve made it their latest front in the culture wars.
* Spurred by Rufo, this complaint has come to dominate conservative politics. Debates over critical race theory are raging on school boards and in state legislatures. Fox News has increased its coverage and commentary on the issue. And Republicans see the issue as a central element of the case they will make to voters in next year’s midterm elections, when control of Congress will be at stake.
* It’s the latest cultural wedge issue, playing out largely but not exclusively in debate over schools. At its core, it pits progressives who believe White people should be pushed to confront systemic racism and White privilege in America against conservatives who see these initiatives as painting all White people as racist. Progressives see racial disparities in education, policing and economics as a result of racism. Conservatives say analyzing these issues through a racial lens is, in and of itself, racist. Where one side sees a reckoning with America’s past and present sins, another sees a misguided effort to teach children to hate America.
* In September 2020, President Donald Trump directed federal agencies to cease any trainings related to critical race theory, White privilege or other forms of what he called “propaganda.” A federal judge later blocked the directive on First Amendment grounds, and President Biden rescinded the ban after he took office.
* The anti-critical race theory movement is now focused on classrooms, with Senate Republicans criticizing the Biden administration in April for pushing for federal funding for U.S. history programs that “reflect the diversity” of all students. Most efforts to stop the teaching of systemic racism have played out in state legislatures, at least a dozen of which have taken up the issue in recent months.
* Republican-led legislatures in Arkansas, Idaho, Tennessee, Texas and Oklahoma have passed bans, with some restricting the teaching of critical race theory in public colleges, in addition to lower-level classrooms.
* The American Civil Liberties Union characterized the bans as an attempt to silence teachers and students and impose a version of American history “that erases the legacy of discrimination and lived experiences of Black and Brown people.”