**Key dates in US History**

* 1492 – Christopher Columbus arrives in the Caribbean – discovers America.
* C 1500 – Transportation of the first African slaves
* 1584 – Sir Walter Raleigh sent by Queen Elizabeth to explore and colonize Virginia.
* 1620-1691 – Pilgrims establish Plymouth Colony / The “Mayflower” Compact
* 1775-1783 - American War of Independence (initially Great Britain vs. 13 original colonies, later joined by France, Spain & Dutch Republic) – The Declaration of Independence signed by George Washington, Benjamin Franklin et al. (July 4th, 1776)
* 1783 - Peace Treaty ends Revolutionary War
* 1788 - Constitution ratified
* 1812-1821; 1845-1850; 1861-1867 - periods of expansion during which new states were admitted to the Union
* May 1830 – Indian Removal Act signed by President Andrew Jackson
* 1845 (term coined) – Manifest Destiny
* 1848 – California Gold Rush / The American Dream / Wild West
* 1861-1865 - Civil War between North and South (Confederacy), Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 / The Gettysburg Address in 1865.
* 1845-1890 – Massive Migration from Europe, expansion of territories, growth of industries.
* 1896 - Supreme Court rules “separate but equal” legal
* 1917 - US declares war on Germany
* 1924 – Immigration (Johnson-Reed) Act prevents immigration from Asia (Asian exclusion Act) and sets quotas on the number of immigrants from the Eastern Hemisphere (National Origins Act)
* 1930s - Stockmarket Crash (Black Tuesday, 1929), the Great Depression, F. D. Roosevelt’s “New Deal”
* 1941 - Pearl Harbor attack / U.S.A. joins in WWII
* 1945, 6th August - USA bombs Japan
* 1950s – “Baby Boom,” the Cold War (1948), the “Red Scare” (Joseph McCarthy’s “Anti-American Activities Committee”.
* 1960s - Civil Rights Movement (Rosa Parks, The Black Panthers (1966), Martin Luther King)
* 1961 – Bay of Pigs Invasion / 1962 – Cuban Missile Crisis
* 1964 – 1973 – The Vietnam War
* 1069, 24th July – Apollo 11 landing on the Moon.
* 1980s – Ronald Reagan, Wall Street.
* 1990s – End of the Cold War (1991), War on Drugs, 1st Gulf War (1990-1), multiculturalism and diversity VS the right-wing Christian Coalition. War in Yugoslavia.
* September 11, 2001 – Terrorist attack by the Al Quaeda on the World Trade Center
* 2003 – Invasion in Iraq, “War on Terror,” “Patriot Act,” Abu Ghraib prison, Guantanamo Bay detention camp (established by President George W. Bush in 2002)
* 2009 – Barack Hussein Obama elected the 1st African-American President of the U.S.