**AMERICAN II STUDY GUIDE: UNIT 1A**

Unit 1A: Gilded Age (1870-1920)

* Why is this period of US History referred to as the Gilded Age? Support this theme with examples from the New South and the West
* Vocabulary List and Map Worksheet: look for words and places in your readings, my PowerPoint notes, and this study guide

The New South (Chapter 16.2-3)

*Focus: African Americans*

* Civil War Amendments (13-15) and how they were undermined by local, state, and federal gov’ts
* Sharecropping and the cycle of poverty
* Segregation through Jim Crow laws, *Plessy v. Ferguson*
* Educational changes – whites v. African Americans
* Democratic Party political machine, methods to prevent blacks from voting – poll tax, literacy tests, grandfather clause
* Racial violence – KKK and lynching, Ida B. Wells
* Compare and contrast Booker T. Washington (Tuskegee) and W.E.B. DuBois (Niagara/NAACP)

The West (Chapter 13.1-3 and 14.2)

*Focus: Native Americans*

* Indian Policy, in general: Removal, broken treaties, “divide and conquer”, destruction of buffalo
* Railroads, gold/silver, cattle, land rushes > shift to aggressive reservation policy
* Massacres: definition, Sand Creek, Wounded Knee
* Sioux: Treaty of Ft. Laramie > Sitting Bull v. Custer at Little Bighorn, Ghost Dance > Wounded Knee
* Assimilation policy – Helen Hunt Jackson, Dawes Act: failures of faming and boarding school policies, corruption of Indian Bureau and surplus land deals

*Focus: Settlers*

* Difficulties of life as a cowboy, miner, farmer, railroad worker, minority
* Railroads: The Good (transcontinental, food shipped to cities), The Bad (ranchers and farmers dependent, speculation and bubble leads to economic problems), and The Ugly (buffalo, misuse of land grants - Crédit Mobilier, price discrimination, price fixing)
* Government policies: Homestead Act and Morrill Act to help farmers, land grants to build RR,   
  “Granger laws” - *Munn v. Illinois* and Interstate Commerce act to regulate railroads
* Rise of Populism and The People’s Party: “Railroads, Farmers, and Banks, oh my!” – debt/bankruptcy,  
  Panic of 1893, bimetallism debate, William J. Bryan, Omaha Platform, coalition of farmers and workers