

# RECONSTRUCTION & POLITICS IN THE GILDED AGE

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**Outcomes:** Students will

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- A. Reconstruction
  - 1. Define the major problems facing the South and the nation after the Civil War
  - 2. describe the condition of African Americans following the war, and the responses of African Americans and whites to the end of slavery
  - 3. analyze the differences between the presidential and congressional approaches to Reconstruction
  - 4. explain how the blunders of President Johnson and the white South opened the door to more radical Reconstruction policies
  - 5. describe the effects of congressional Reconstruction in the South
  - 6. indicate how white militant opposition gradually undermined the Republicans' attempts to empower Southern blacks
  - 7. explain why Radical Republicans impeached Johnson but failed to convict him
  - 8. explain the legacy of Reconstruction, and assess its successes and failures
- B. Politics in the Gilded Age
  - 1. describe the political and economic corruption of the Grant era, including in his administration, local government, and private life
  - 2. describe various political divisions and strategies in the Gilded Age, and efforts made to clean up politics
  - 3. describe the economic slump of the 1870s and the growing conflict between "hard" and "soft" money advocates
  - 4. explain the intense political activity of the age, despite the low quality of political leadership and the agreement of the two parties on most issues
  - 5. analyze the disputed Hayes-Tilden election of 1876, and its long-term impact on the South and African American rights
  - 6. describe how the end of Reconstruction led to the loss of blacks' rights and the imposition of the Jim Crow system of segregation in the South
  - 7. explain the growth of class and ethnic conflict during and after the 1870s
  - 8. describe the sharp personal and partisan clashes between Grover Cleveland and his Republican opponents
  - 9. show how the rise of the populists and the depression of the 1890s stirred growing social protests and class conflict

**Resources**

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- A. texts, chapters 22 & 23

**Outline**

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- I. Reconstruction
  - A. Problems of Peace
  - B. The Status of African Americans
    - 1. Freedom
    - 2. Freedmen's Bureau
  - C. Presidential Reconstruction
    - 1. Lincoln & Johnson's "10% Plan"

- 2. Andrew Johnson
  - 3. Southern reaction: the Black Codes
  - D. Congressional Reconstruction
    - 1. Radical Republicans & conflict with Johnson
    - 2. Radical military Reconstruction
    - 3. Assessment & Southern reaction
  - E. Impeachment of Johnson
  - F. Evaluation
  - G. sidenote: Purchase of Alaska
- II. Party Politics in the Gilded Age
- A. the Grant administration
    - 1. election of 1868 & the bloody shirt
    - 2. Corruption: The Era of Good Stealings
      - a) Fisk, Gould, & gold
      - b) Tammany Hall
      - c) Credit Mobiler
      - d) Whiskey Ring
    - 3. Election of 1872
    - 4. Panic of 1873 and calls for inflation
  - B. Political issues & strategies of the Gilded Age; the two-party system
  - C. Hayes
    - 1. 1876 election v. Tilden, and the dirty Compromise of 1877
    - 2. end of Reconstruction
    - 3. *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 1896
  - D. Class conflict & ethnic clashes
  - E. Garfield & Arthur: civil service reform
- III. The Politics of Populism
- A. What's the problem?
  - B. Grover Cleveland I
    - 1. Election of 1884
    - 2. tariff battles
  - C. Benjamin Harrison
    - 1. Czar Thomas Reed & the Billion Dollar Congress
    - 2. Tariffs & disposing of the surplus
  - D. The Populist Challenge
    - 1. populist beliefs
    - 2. election of 1892
  - E. Grover Cleveland II
    - 1. Depression of 1893
    - 2. Pullman strike
    - 3. tariff controversy

## **Vocabulary**

### **Chapter 22**

Oliver O. Howard  
 Andrew Johnson  
 Alexander Stephens  
 Charles Sumner  
 Thaddeus Stevens  
 William Seward

Freedmen's Bureau  
 10 percent plan

Wade-Davis Bill  
 "conquered provinces"  
 moderate/radical Republicans  
 Black Codes  
 sharecropping  
 Civil Rights Act  
 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment  
 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment  
 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment  
 "swing around the circle"

Military Reconstruction Act  
*Ex parte Milligan*  
 "radical" regimes  
 scalawags  
 carpetbaggers  
 Ku Klux Klan  
 Force Acts  
 Tenure of Office Act  
 "Seward's Folly"

## **Chapter 23**

Ulysses S. Grant  
Horatio Seymour  
Jay Gould  
Jim Fisk  
Thomas Nast  
Horace Greely  
Jay Cooke  
Roscoe Conkling  
James G. Blaine  
Rutherford B. Hayes  
Samuel Tilden  
James A. Garfield  
Chester A. Arthur  
Winfield S. Hancock  
Charles J. Guiteau  
Grover Cleveland  
Benjamin Harrison  
Thomas Reed  
William McKinley  
James B. Weaver

Tom Watson  
William Jennings Bryan  
J.P. Morgan  
  
“Crime of ‘73”  
“Ohio Idea”  
“Redeemers”  
“Rum, Romanism, & Rebellion”  
Billion-Dollar Congress  
Bland-Allison Act  
Chinese Exclusion Act  
Compromise of 1877  
contraction  
Credit Mobilier  
crop-lien system  
GAR  
Gilded Age  
grandfather clause  
Greenback Labor Party  
Half-Breed  
hard/sound money

Jim Crow  
Liberal Republicans  
McKinley Tariff  
Mugwumps  
Pendleton Act  
People’s Party (Populists)  
*Plessy v. Ferguson*  
populism  
pork-barrel bills  
resumption  
Sherman Silver Purchase Act  
soft/cheap money  
Spoils system  
Stalwart  
the “bloody shirt”  
Tweed Ring  
*U.S. v. Wong Kim*  
Whiskey Ring