## Unit 1: Creating a New America from 1860 to 1913 (Chapters 16-19)

## Overview

### What the Title Tells You about This Unit

We begin with these regions:

* The South, with its previously wealthy minority owning slaves and land, defeated over a four-year period. After its defeat, the Union ends slavery as a legally protected institution and the South loses its wealth in slaves and large plantations without slave labor are not profitable.
* The North, with its previously technological Northeast with its factories and Northwest with machinery used for agriculture, is made more technological by the war’s rapid challenges. When the South seceded and no longer had votes in the House of Representatives and the Senate, the North laws creating a national banking and paper currency, increasing protective tariffs, subsidizing with land grants A&M colleges and a transcontinental railroad across the North, encouraging farming on the Great Plains by the opportunity to earn 160-acre farms.

We end at the end of the century with these regions:

* The South impoverished and with share cropping and tenancy dominant.
* The North with extremes in wealth and poverty but with a rising middle class concerned about the future of the republic, with 49% protective tariffs, with deflation and currency backed by the Gold Standard,
* The Great Plains in the West having farmers struggling to survive in a world of selling crops at prices set by free markets and buying at prices set by protective tariffs
* New colonies in the Pacific and in the Caribbean.

### Reading Assignments and Resources to Aid Reading and Analysis

#### Use of the Word *Chapter*

Unit 1 consists of Chapters 16-19. The word *Chapter* refers:

1. To numbered parts of your textbook
2. To the specific Blackboard learning module for that chapter.

#### Required Textbook (*America: The Essentials Learning Edition*), Chapters 16-19

It can be helpful to examine each chapter just to notice the headings, pictures, and maps to have a feel for the time period. Use the index at the back of the book to look up the individual items in the Study Guide.

#### Required Blackboard Learning Modules within Unit 1, Chapters 16-19

Blackboard learning modules have a Table of Contents on the left that let you see all of the resources available for the chapter. You can click directly on the one you want. All chapters have links from your instructor and a folder containing specific primaries. (Primaries are also available from the Course Menu on the left.) Some chapters also include resources such as maps.

### Graded Work in Unit 1

Available dates and due dates are in the Course Schedule at the end of the Syllabus & Schedule.

1. Begin reading the 2 primaries for Chapter 16—one a collection of 4 letters to and from Governor Altgeld and one George Pullman’s Response to Striking Workers.
2. Begin your postings about concepts and questions in Unit 1’s Collaborate! You may post either a definition of a concept required to understand that reading or a question about those concepts.   
   Continue to post throughout Unit 1 as you encounter additional concepts.
3. Begin taking Evidence Quizzes 1 to 4. Take at least 2 before you post in the 1st Primary Writing.
4. Click on Writing with Primaries and then the folder for the 1st Primary Writing. You will find:
   * Instructions
   * Copies of the primaries from chapter 16
   * The Discussion you use. You cannot see in the discussion until you post.
5. Complete the parts of the Unit 1 exam before the close of the Unit. There is a study guide for each unit to help you prepare. Notice the additional information available on that study guide for the concepts exam and the written exam. The 3 parts of the Unit 1 exam are:
   * Unit 1 Objective Exam
   * Unit 1 Concepts Exam
   * Unit 1 Written Exam