AP US History Themes Overview

There are seven identified themes of US history. Each is illustrated with overarching questions, all taken from the College Board AP United States History Curriculum Framework 2014-2015.

1. **Identity (ID)**
   1. How and why have debates over American national identity changed over time?
   2. How have class, ethnic, religious, regional, and other group identities changed in different eras?
2. **Work, Exchange and Technology (WXT)**
   1. How have changes in markets, transportation, and technology affected American society from colonial times to the present day?
   2. Why have different labor systems developed in British North America and the United States, and how have they affected US society?
   3. How have debates over economic values and the role of government in the US economy affected politics, society, the economy, and the environment?
3. **Peopling (PEO)**
   1. Why have people migrated to, from, and within North America?
   2. How have changes in migration and population patterns affected American life?
4. **Politics and Power (POL)**
   1. How and why have different political and social groups competed for influence over society and government in what would become the US?
   2. How have Americans agreed on or argued over the values that guide the political system, as well as who is a part of the political process?
5. **America in the World (WOR)**
   1. How have events in North America and the United States related to contemporary developments in the rest of the world?
   2. How have different factors influenced US military, diplomatic, and economic involvement in international affairs and foreign conflicts, both in North America and overseas?
6. **Environment and Geography - Physical and Human (ENV)**
   1. How did interactions with the natural environment shape the institutions and values of various groups living on the North American continent?
   2. How did economic and demographic changes affect the environment and lead to debates over use and control of the environment and natural resources?
7. **Ideas, Beliefs, and Culture (CUL)**
   1. How and why have moral, philosophical, and cultural values changed in what would become the US?
   2. How and why have changes in moral, philosophical, and cultural values affected US history?