**11 U.S. History D Block**

**Mr. Bedar**

# Unit Guide: The Gilded Age

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| **Essential Questions:** 1. How did the U.S. economy change in the late 19th century?
2. How did US society change in the late 19th century?
3. How did US politics change in the late 19th century?
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**Study Questions**

1. How did the philosophy of 19th century liberalism (laissez-faire and social Darwinism) contribute to the rise of “Big Business”?
2. What is a corporation and how did it change the American economy?
3. How did the railroads change the American economy? How did they impact the West?
4. To what extent did the federal government regulate the economic and social changes that took place during this era?
5. Were men like Carnegie, Rockefeller, and Vanderbilt “Captains of Industry,” or “Robber Barons”?
6. Explain the formation and goals of labor unions during the Gilded Age. How effective were labor unions during this time?
7. How did immigration (and nativism) impact American society?
8. What contributed to urbanization and what problems resulted?
9. To what extent does the “myth of the West” match its reality?

10.Why did the political parties fail to confront the major social and economic issues of the late nineteenth century?

1. In what ways does the time period after the Civil War in the United States deserve the title “The Gilded Age”?