

## The United States and International Crises

### From the Cold War to 9/11

La problématique, les parties et notions de la séquence sont celles du programme commun aux académies de Montpellier et Toulouse

**Durée:** 7 à 8 heures

**Problématique:** *How do the international crises involving the United States from the Cold War to September 11, 2001, reflect the evolution of the American power in the world?*

**Notions et vocabulaire:** Superpower – Containment – Domino Theory – Protest Movements – Civil Rights – Hyperpower – Multilateralism – Terrorism – Preemptive War – War on Terror

**Evaluation :** Oral DNL exam simulation (commentary on an unknown document, 20 min prep + 10 min oral)

**Démarche :**

Partie-problématique	Documents-Supports (Voir fiche élèves)	Activités élèves (voir fiche élèves pour détails)	Trace écrite	H
<b>1. The U.S. as a Superpower (1945–1960s)</b> How did the U.S. assert global power after 1945?	Timeline of crises; short video (“The Cold War in 5 Minutes”)	Brainstorm, timeline creation, oral synthesis	Definition of “superpower” and Cold War context	1h
<b>2. The Vietnam War: A Challenge to American Power</b> How did Vietnam undermine U.S. influence and confidence?	Johnson speech (1965); <i>Napalm Girl</i> (1972); <i>Apocalypse Now</i> (1979)	Jigsaw analysis + debate “Military or moral defeat?”	Summary chart + oral conclusions on limits of power	1h
<b>3. The Civil Rights Movement and the American Model</b> How did domestic struggles challenge U.S. democracy?	MLK “I Have a Dream”; March photo	Group document analysis + oral restitution + short writing/oral task	Synthesis: “The American model questioned from within”	1h

<p><b>4. The End of the Cold War and the 'Hyperpower'</b> Was the U.S. an uncontested leader after 1991?</p>	<p>Speech Bush (1991); Speech Clinton (1999)</p>	<p>Text analysis + mindmap + short oral</p>	<p>"From Superpower to Hyperpower"</p>	<p>1h</p>
<p><b>5. 9/11 and the 'War on Terror'</b> How did 9/11 redefine U.S. foreign policy?</p>	<p>Bush speech (2001); NYT front page;</p>	<p>"Crisis Café" workshop</p>	<p>9/11 as a turning point in U.S. foreign policy</p>	<p>1h</p>
<p><b>6. Comparing the Two Crises (Vietnam / 9/11)</b></p>	<p>Comparative table; <i>Press Room Simulation</i></p>	<p>Creative newspaper front page + oral presentation</p>	<p>Chart comparing the two crises; summary paragraph</p>	<p>1h</p>
<p><b>7. Oral Exam Training (Type Bac)</b></p>	<p>Type Bac</p>	<p>Oral preparation and commentary (20 min prep + 10 min oral)</p>	<p>Oral skills consolidation; final evaluation</p>	<p>2h</p>