



The Reluctant Colossus:
America Enters the Age of Imperialism
~ Part 1 ~

- The Options:**
- (1.) *Fulfill Our National Destiny*
 - (2.) *Preserve Our Democratic Values*
 - (3.) *Carefully Calculate Our Interests*

This week, grade seven begins its work on choices facing the American people and their government, both before and after the Spanish-American War of 1898. Here are the questions presented by that war: Is an *imperialistic* path for the U.S. in the world *inevitable*, part of America's destiny? Or would it be a dangerous violation of our core values as a *republic*? Or, is there a *responsibility that comes with global power* that can serve our republic without violating its principles? Our intrepid scholars will role-play the position of being advisers to the U.S. government in 1898. They will become selective experts on each of these options as the United States steps onto the global stage.

Reading assignments:

Due Tuesday, 2/28:

» First, read the section on p. 4 on "Social Darwinism, including the Rev, Josiah Strong quotation. Then read pp. 7 – 13 in the section *Part I – The Spanish-American War*.

Due Friday, 3/3:

» Read from page 17 (beginning at "What was 'scientific racism'?" – through page 19, part of the section called *Race and American Society* pp. 14 –19.

In class, Monday, 3/6:

» Work on selected questions of the *Study Guide* which will be handed out in class.

Due Tuesday, 3/7:

» Make sure the *Study Guide* selections are complete. We will go over them in class and it will be handed in as a graded assignment.

Due Friday, 3/10:

» Read page 20 *closely!* (*HINT, HINT!!*)

Over >>>



Study Questions:

- ✓ *What does the term “the pearl of the Antilles” refer to? Why was the place called that?*

- ✓ *Make one statement of fact about U.S. sugar trade and investment in Cuba.*

- ✓ *Name the reason for William Randolph Hearst’s and Joseph Pulitzer’s use of what became known as “yellow press” or “yellow journalism” in the publication of their newspapers.*

- ✓ *Make a connection between “Remember the Maine!” and yellow journalism and the war itself:*

- ✓ *Why did the term “a splendid little war” come to be used for the Spanish American War? What was “splendid” about it?*

- ✓ *Identify Commodore George Dewey and the role he played in the war.*

Over >>>>



- ✓ *Explain how Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders unit reflect his philosophy of “the strenuous life?”*

- ✓ *Give a reason why the Philippine Rebellion of 1896 played a role in the U.S. decision to attack the Spanish fleet at Manila Harbor.*

- ✓ *Why did Emilio Aguinaldo become disappointed in U.S. support over time?*

- ✓ *What does it mean to say that the Philippines became a U.S. “protectorate?”*
