*Period 9: Globalized Adjustments (1980 - Present)*

* ***Conservatism Surges:***
* **Election of 1980**
	+ Reagan was elected in this election over incumbent Jimmy Carter, who had failed to remove hostages from Iran
	+ A wave of conservatism and a record as Governor of California carried him into the White House
* **Reagan’s Domestic Policy**
	+ Reagan emphasized supply-side economics, or “Reaganomics,” in which he believed that giving tax cuts and more money to the rich would lead to more investment and job creation
	+ This type of economics was denounced by George H.W. Bush
	+ He believed that big government was a problem, not a solution
	+ Reagan appointed the first female Justice to the Supreme Court and Antonin Scalia as well
	+ Reagan continued Nixon’s disastrous “war on drugs” that disproportionately targeted the anti-war left and black people
* **Reagan’s Foreign Policy**
	+ In order to secure the release of hostages and stop the spread of communism simultaneously, Reagan secretly secured the help of the Iranian government
	+ Weapons were given to the Iranians in exchange for money that was funneled to Nicaraguan Contras
	+ This became known as the Iran-Contra Affair
	+ Reagan escalated the Cold War by speaking about “mutually assured destruction” and saying the famous line → “Mr. Gorbachev...tear down this wall!”
	+ H.W. Bush was elected after Reagan, but did not enjoy the same amount of popularity after his promise of not raising taxes fell through
* ***New Democrats:***
* **Clinton’s Victory**
	+ Clinton served as Governor of Arkansas first for four terms and then was elected in 1992 as president
	+ Clinton and Gore moved to the center in order to gain more public support rather than only following liberal policies
	+ NAFTA was signed and the economy was made a centerpiece in this plan
* **Clinton’s Policy**
	+ Clinton wanted to reform the healthcare system of the nation, but failed
	+ He also attempted to reform the welfare system
	+ He faced opposition from the Republican Contract With America and was struck down by the Supreme Court when his line-item veto of picking and choosing parts of a bill to pass was deemed unconstitutional
	+ Abroad, he tried to hold Saddam Hussein accountable for possible WMDs
	+ Intervening in Bosnia was another part of Clinton’s foreign policy
* **Clinton’s Scandals**
	+ Clinton was almost impeached for perjury after an affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky
	+ Although denying any sexual relations, leaked tapes proved this to be false
	+ The House had enough votes to impeach, but the Senate did not so he was acquitted of charges and finished his term
	+ Despite scandal, he remained very popular
* **Bush Jr.**
	+ Son of the previous Bush, he was elected in a contested election in 2000 →  *Bush v. Gore*
	+ Bush took the country into the Iraq War over alleged WMDs and the attack on the Twin Towers on September 11, 2001
	+ He enacted the PATRIOT Act that would surveil citizens for terrorist connections and No Child Left Behind in terms of education reform
* **Obama**
	+ Obama became the first black president in 2008
	+ He enacted education reform in his Race to the Top program and managed to pass healthcare reform in the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare
	+ Obama ended most involvement in Iraq and coordinated a mission that killed Osama bin Laden, the man who led the 9/11 attacks
	+ Obama sought to continue his legacy with Hillary Clinton, former First Lady and presidential candidate, winning the presidency in 2016, but she lost in an upset election against Donald Trump, a television personality and businessman with no experience in government