

The New Deal Today: FDR and President Obama

Part One – The New Deal

Go to <http://iws.ccccd.edu/kwilkison/Online1302home/20th%20Century/DepressionNewDeal.html>

Read through the information on this website to answer the following questions:

1. Look at the paragraph titled “Scholars’ Debates.” According to this, why do historians have different interpretations of the New Deal?

2. What were the main differences between the first and the second New Deals?

3. Did the New Deal pull the United States out of the Great Depression? Explain.

Part Two – Obama’s Plan Compared with FDR’s New Deal

Starting in 2008 and continuing today, President Obama’s plans to help the United States recover from the current recession have been compared with FDR’s New Deal. Using the links below, read the articles to find out more about Obama’s plans, public opinion, and the “new” New Deal.

1. Go to <http://www.newsweek.com/id/180551/page/1> Read through this article on how President Obama’s plan could reflect aspects of the New Deal. Then answer these questions:

- Why is Obama’s plan being compared with the New Deal in this article?

- How might our society change if some of what the author predicts happens (for example, if wireless internet becomes available publicly)?

