# **Crash Course New Deal**



# Crash Course: The New Deal - Understanding FDR's Response to the Great Depression

The Great Depression. A period of unprecedented economic hardship that scarred a generation. But what exactly happened, and how did the United States attempt to claw its way out of the abyss? This "Crash Course: The New Deal" blog post dives deep into President Franklin D. Roosevelt's ambitious program, exploring its successes, failures, and lasting legacy. We'll unpack the key elements, analyze their effectiveness, and offer a concise yet comprehensive understanding of this pivotal moment in American history. Prepare for a whirlwind tour of one of the most significant government initiatives ever undertaken.

## The Great Depression: Setting the Stage for the New Deal

Before we delve into the New Deal itself, it's crucial to understand the context of its creation. The 1929 stock market crash triggered a domino effect, leading to widespread bank failures, soaring unemployment, and crippling poverty. Millions found themselves destitute, with breadlines and shantytowns, known as "Hoovervilles," becoming stark symbols of the era. President Herbert Hoover's initial responses proved inadequate, leaving the nation desperate for a radical change in approach.

## **Introducing the New Deal: A Three-Pronged Attack**

Franklin D. Roosevelt's election in 1932 heralded a new era. His New Deal wasn't a single program but a collection of initiatives aimed at addressing the crisis on multiple fronts. This "three-pronged attack" can be broadly categorized as:

#### **Relief: Immediate Aid for the Suffering**

The immediate priority was to provide relief to those suffering the most. Programs like the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) offered employment in conservation projects, while the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (FERA) provided direct financial assistance to states and localities for distributing aid. These initiatives provided crucial short-term support, easing the immediate burden of poverty and unemployment.

#### **Recovery: Stimulating the Economy**

The next step was to stimulate the economy and spur recovery. Key programs included the Public Works Administration (PWA), which funded large-scale public works projects like dams, bridges, and schools, creating jobs and boosting infrastructure. The Agricultural Adjustment Act (AAA) aimed to stabilize agricultural prices by reducing production, providing income support to farmers. These measures aimed to inject money into the economy and restore stability.

#### **Reform: Preventing Future Crises**

The final element focused on reforms designed to prevent future economic collapses. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) was established to regulate the stock market, preventing speculative excesses. The Social Security Act laid the foundation for a national social insurance system, providing old-age pensions, unemployment insurance, and aid to families with dependent children. These reforms aimed to create a more stable and equitable economic system.

## The Impact and Legacy of the New Deal

The New Deal's impact was profound and multifaceted. While it didn't completely end the Great Depression (World War II played a larger role in that), it undeniably provided crucial relief, stimulated economic growth, and fundamentally reshaped the relationship between the government and its citizens.

However, the New Deal wasn't without its critics. Some argued that it was overly expensive, inefficient, and infringed on individual liberties. Others pointed to its limitations in fully addressing racial and gender inequalities. Understanding these criticisms is essential to gaining a complete picture of its impact. The New Deal's legacy continues to be debated, but its influence on American society, government, and the role of the federal government remains undeniable. The expansion of the federal government's role in social welfare, economic regulation, and infrastructure development is a direct consequence of the New Deal era.

### **Conclusion**

The New Deal represents a pivotal chapter in American history, a bold and ambitious response to an unprecedented crisis. While its effectiveness remains a topic of ongoing discussion, its impact on the American landscape, its expansion of the role of the federal government, and its lasting legacy are undeniable. Understanding the New Deal is crucial for understanding the evolution of American politics and economics in the 20th and 21st centuries.

## **FAQs**

- 1. What were the main criticisms of the New Deal? Critics argued the New Deal was inefficient, overly expensive, and infringed on individual liberties. Some also highlighted its limitations in addressing racial and gender inequalities.
- 2. Did the New Deal end the Great Depression? No, while the New Deal provided significant relief and stimulated economic growth, it was World War II that ultimately pulled the United States out of the Great Depression.
- 3. What was the most significant long-term impact of the New Deal? The expansion of the federal government's role in social welfare and economic regulation, leading to programs like Social Security, is arguably its most significant long-term impact.
- 4. Which New Deal programs are still relevant today? Social Security, the SEC, and various infrastructure projects initiated under the New Deal continue to have relevance and influence today.
- 5. How did the New Deal change the relationship between the government and its citizens? The New Deal significantly expanded the role of the federal government in the lives of American citizens, creating a greater expectation of government intervention in times of economic hardship and social need.

**crash course new deal:** *New Deal Or Raw Deal?* Burton W. Folsom, 2009-11-17 ultimately elevating public opinion of his administration but falling flat in achieving the economic revitalization that America so desperately needed from the Great Depression. Folsom takes a critical, revisionist look at Roosevelt's presidency, his economic policies, and his personal life. Elected in 1932 on a

buoyant tide of promises to balance the increasingly uncontrollable national budget and reduce the catastrophic unemployment rate, the charismatic thirty-second president not only neglected to pursue those goals, he made dramatic changes to federal programming that directly contradicted his campaign promises. Price fixing, court packing, regressive taxes, and patronism were all hidden inside the alphabet soup of his popular New Deal, putting a financial strain on the already suffering lower classes and discouraging the upper classes from taking business risks that potentially could have jostled national cash flow from dormancy.

crash course new deal: *Economics: A Crash Course* David Boyle, Andrew Simms, 2019-07-30 Not long ago, economic theories were generally based on a narrow set of principles. Then the continuing boom-bust cycle combined with the failure of the best economic minds to ensure that prosperity spreads down through the economy has left a series of very obvious question marks, and the orthodoxy has been challenged from inside and outside the profession. It now seems clear that human beings and the planet have to be brought into the analysis. The first chapter goes right back to the debate about the purposes for which money was originally invented. The Big Ideas chapter builds up a picture of the key ideas that have driven economic theories. Economics and People derives insights into the way that money and economics works from the way that people actually behave. Economics and the Planet covers some of the economic insights that have come from those whose expertise has been biological or environmental.

crash course new deal: FDR's Folly Jim Powell, 2007-12-18 The Great Depression and the New Deal. For generations, the collective American consciousness has believed that the former ruined the country and the latter saved it. Endless praise has been heaped upon President Franklin Delano Roosevelt for masterfully reining in the Depression's destructive effects and propping up the country on his New Deal platform. In fact, FDR has achieved mythical status in American history and is considered to be, along with Washington, Jefferson, and Lincoln, one of the greatest presidents of all time. But would the Great Depression have been so catastrophic had the New Deal never been implemented? In FDR's Folly, historian Jim Powell argues that it was in fact the New Deal itself, with its shortsighted programs, that deepened the Great Depression, swelled the federal government, and prevented the country from turning around guickly. You'll discover in alarming detail how FDR's federal programs hurt America more than helped it, with effects we still feel today, including: • How Social Security actually increased unemployment • How higher taxes undermined good businesses • How new labor laws threw people out of work • And much more This groundbreaking book pulls back the shroud of awe and the cloak of time enveloping FDR to prove convincingly how flawed his economic policies actually were, despite his good intentions and the astounding intellect of his circle of advisers. In today's turbulent domestic and global environment, eerily similar to that of the 1930s, it's more important than ever before to uncover and understand the truth of our history, lest we be doomed to repeat it.

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crash course new deal: The Crash Course Chris Martenson, 2011-02-14 The next twenty years will be completely unlike the last twenty years. The world is in economic crisis, and there are no easy fixes to our predicament. Unsustainable trends in the economy, energy, and the environment have finally caught up with us and are converging on a very narrow window of time—the Twenty-Teens. The Crash Course presents our predicament and illuminates the path ahead, so you can face the coming disruptions and thrive--without fearing the future or retreating into denial. In this book you will find solid facts and grounded reasoning presented in a calm, positive, non-partisan manner. Our money system places impossible demands upon a finite world. Exponentially rising levels of debt, based on assumptions of future economic growth to fund repayment, will shudder to a halt and then reverse. Unfortunately, our financial system does not operate in reverse. The consequences of massive deleveraging will be severe. Oil is essential for economic growth. The

reality of dwindling oil supplies is now internationally recognized, yet virtually no developed nations have a Plan B. The economic risks to individuals, companies, and countries are varied and enormous. Best-case, living standards will drop steadily worldwide. Worst-case, systemic financial crises will toss the world into jarring chaos. This book is written for those who are motivated to learn about the root causes of our predicaments, protect themselves and their families, mitigate risks as much as possible, and control what effects they can. With challenge comes opportunity, and The Crash Course offers a positive vision for how to reshape our lives to be more balanced, resilient, and sustainable.

crash course new deal: We Own the Future Kate Aronoff, 2020-01-14 A stunningly original and timely collection that makes the case for socialism, American style It's a strange day when a New York Times conservative columnist is forced to admit that the left is winning, but as David Brooks wrote recently, the American left is on the cusp of a great victory. Among Americans under thirty, 43 percent had a favorable view of socialism, while only 32 percent had a favorable view of capitalism. Not since the Great Depression have so many Americans questioned the fundamental tenets of capitalism and expressed openness to a socialist alternative. We Own the Future: Democratic Socialism—American Style offers a road map to making this alternative a reality, giving readers a practical vision of a future that is more democratic, egalitarian, inclusive, and environmentally sustainable. The book includes a crash course in the history and practice of democratic socialism, a vivid picture of what democratic socialism in America might look like in practice, and compelling proposals for how to get there from the age of Trump and beyond. With contributions from some of the nation's leading political activists and analysts, We Own the Future articulates a clear and uncompromising view from the left—a perfectly timed book that will appeal to a wide audience hungry for change. Table of Contents Part I: Is a New America Possible? Introduction Kate Aronoff, Peter Dreier, and Michael Kazin How Socialists Changed America Peter Dreier and Michael Kazin Toward a Third Reconstruction Andrea Flynn, Susan Holmberg, Dorian Warren, and Felicia Wong A Three-Legged Stool for Racial and Economic Justice Darrick Hamilton Democratic Socialism for a Climate-Changed Century Naomi Klein Part II: Expanding Democracy Governing Socialism Bill Fletcher Jr. We the People: Voting Rights, Campaign Finance, and Election Reform J. Mijin Cha Confronting Corporate Power Robert Kuttner Building the People's Banks David Dayen Democracy, Equality, and the Future of Workers Sarita Gupta, Stephen Lerner, and Joseph A. McCartin Who Gets to Be Safe? Prisons, Police, and Terror Aviva Stahl On Immigration: A Socialist Case for Open Borders Michelle Chen On Foreign Policy: War from Above, Solidarity from Below Tejasvi Nagaraja Part III: The Right to a Good Life Livable Cities Thomas J. Sugrue What Does Health Equity Require? Racism and the Limits of Medicare for All Dorothy Roberts The Family of the Future Sarah Leonard Defending and Improving Public Education Pedro Noguera Reclaiming Competition: Sports and Socialism David Zirin What About a Well-Fed Artist? Imagining Cultural Work in a Democratic Socialist Society Francesca Fiorentini How Socialism Surged, and How It Can Go Further Harold Meyerson Afterword: A Day in the Life of a Socialist Citizen Michael Walzer

crash course new deal: Crash Course H. Bruce Franklin, 2018-09-03 Growing up during the Second World War, H. Bruce Franklin believed what he was told: that America's victory would lead to a new era of world peace. Like most Americans, he was soon led to believe in a world-wide Communist conspiracy that menaced the United States, forcing the nation into a disastrous war in Korea. But once he joined the U.S. Air Force and began flying top-secret missions as a navigator and intelligence officer, what he learned was eye-opening. He saw that even as the U.S. preached about peace and freedom, it was engaging in an endless cycle of warfare, bringing devastation and oppression to fledgling democracies across the globe. Now, after fifty years as a renowned cultural historian, Franklin offers a set of hard-learned lessons about modern American history. Crash Course is essential reading for anyone who wonders how America ended up where it is today: with a deeply divided and disillusioned populace, led by a dysfunctional government, and mired in unwinnable wars. It also finds startling parallels between America's foreign military exploits and the equally brutal tactics used on the home front to crush organized labor, antiwar, and civil rights

movements. More than just a memoir or a history book, Crash Course gives readers a unique firsthand look at the building of the American empire and the damage it has wrought. Shocking and gripping as any thriller, it exposes the endless deception of the American public, and reveals from inside how and why many millions of Americans have been struggling for decades against our own government in a fight for peace and justice.

crash course new deal: Politically Incorrect Guide to the Great Depression and the New Deal Robert P. Murphy, 2009-03-31 In this timely new P.I. Guide, Murphy reveals the stark truth: free market failure didn't cause the Great Depression and the New Deal didn't cure it. Shattering myths and politically correct lies, he tells why World War II didn t help the economy or get us out of the Great Depression; why it took FDR to make the Depression Great; and why Herbert Hoover was more like Obama and less like Bush than the liberal media would have you believe. Free-market believers and capitalists everywhere should have this on their bookshelf and in their briefcases.

crash course new deal: Crash Course Paul Ingrassia, 2010-01-05 With an updated Afterword by the author. This is the epic saga of the American automobile industry's rise and demise, a compelling story of hubris, missed opportunities, and self-inflicted wounds that culminates with the president of the United States ushering two of Detroit's Big Three car companies—once proud symbols of prosperity—through bankruptcy. With unprecedented access, Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Ingrassia takes us from factory floors to small-town dealerships to Detroit's boardrooms to the White House. Ingrassia answers the big questions: Was Detroit's self-destruction inevitable? What were the key turning points? Why did Japanese automakers manage American workers better than the American companies themselves did? Complete with a new Afterword providing fresh insights into the continuing upheaval in the auto industry—the travails of Toyota, the revolving-door management and IPO at General Motors, the unexpected progress at Chrysler, and the Obama administration's stake in Detroit's recovery—Crash Course addresses a critical question: America bailed out GM, but who will bail out America?

**crash course new deal:** *The Great Depression and New Deal* Eric Rauchway, 2008-03-10 The Great Depression forced the United States to adopt policies at odds with its political traditions. This title looks at the background to the Depression, its social impact, and at the various governmental attempts to deal with the crisis.

crash course new deal: Crash Course Ricardo Jiménez, 2024-06-18 In Crash Course, Ricardo Jiménez recounts his personal startup failure so that other entrepreneurs and business founders may learn from his mistakes as they chase their own business dreams. Nine times out of ten, the passionate, well-educated, semi-cocky entrepreneur with dreams of taking the market by storm . . . fails. Whether it's a guick crash and burn within the first year or a longer struggle over several years, the result is usually the same: an exhausted, confused, financially broke, and emotionally broken startup failure. We love to hear stories of lean-and-mean startups that bootstrap their way to a hard-fought victory. But what about the other 90 percent? What about the startup founders who were chewed up and spit out by potential investors, dirty-dealing partners, and fickle customers? What about the ones who dared to give their dream wings . . . only to watch it crash on the runway? Don't we have as much or more to learn from them as we do the lucky few who actually make it? In Crash Course, entrepreneur Ricardo Jiménez crawls out from under the wreckage of his failed startup and forces himself to explore how his best-laid plans went so terribly wrong. With surgical precision, Jiménez explores every decision, meeting, step, and misstep that turned his once-promising international toy company into an expensive lesson in how not to succeed in the highly competitive global marketplace. Putting pride aside, Jiménez puts his whole story on display—the good, the bad, and the terrible—with the hope that the next generation of startup entrepreneurs can learn from his mistakes and take a pain-free shortcut to the important lessons he had to learn the hard way.

**crash course new deal: The Great Crash, 1929** John Kenneth Galbraith, 1997 An examination of the stock market crash of 1929.

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**Online** Larry Krieger, 2020-01-02 REA: the test prep AP teachers recommend.

crash course new deal: Black Politics in New Deal Atlanta Karen Ferguson, 2003-04-03 When Franklin Roosevelt was elected president in 1932, Atlanta had the South's largest population of college-educated African Americans. The dictates of Jim Crow meant that these men and women were almost entirely excluded from public life, but as Karen Ferguson demonstrates, Roosevelt's New Deal opened unprecedented opportunities for black Atlantans struggling to achieve full citizenship. Black reformers, often working within federal agencies as social workers and administrators, saw the inclusion of African Americans in New Deal social welfare programs as a chance to prepare black Atlantans to take their rightful place in the political and social mainstream. They also worked to build a constituency they could mobilize for civil rights, in the process facilitating a shift from elite reform to the mass mobilization that marked the postwar black freedom struggle. Although these reformers' efforts were an essential prelude to civil rights activism, Ferguson argues that they also had lasting negative repercussions, embedded as they were in the politics of respectability. By attempting to impose bourgeois behavioral standards on the black community, elite reformers stratified it into those they determined deserving to participate in federal social welfare programs and those they consigned to remain at the margins of civic life.

crash course new deal: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal William E. Leuchtenburg, 2009-02-24 When the stability of American life was threatened by the Great Depression, the decisive and visionary policy contained in FDR's New Deal offered America a way forward. In this groundbreaking work, William E. Leuchtenburg traces the evolution of what was both the most controversial and effective socioeconomic initiative ever undertaken in the United States—and explains how the social fabric of American life was forever altered. It offers illuminating lessons on the challenges of economic transformation—for our time and for all time.

**crash course new deal:** The Gilded Age Mark Twain, Charles Dudley Warner, 1892 **crash course new deal:** No Ordinary Time Doris Kearns Goodwin, 2013-11-05 Examines the distinct leadership roles of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt during the war years and discusses the dynamics of their marriage.

**crash course new deal: FDR's New Deal** Don Lawson, 1979 A readable, well-illustrated portrayal of America between the wars.

**crash course new deal:** *U.S. History* P. Scott Corbett, Volker Janssen, John M. Lund, Todd Pfannestiel, Sylvie Waskiewicz, Paul Vickery, 2024-09-10 U.S. History is designed to meet the scope and sequence requirements of most introductory courses. The text provides a balanced approach to U.S. history, considering the people, events, and ideas that have shaped the United States from both the top down (politics, economics, diplomacy) and bottom up (eyewitness accounts, lived experience). U.S. History covers key forces that form the American experience, with particular attention to issues of race, class, and gender.

**crash course new deal:** *Crisis Economics* Nouriel Roubini, 2011-05-05 In this myth-busting book Nouriel Roubini shows that everything we think about economics is wrong. Financial crises are not unpredictable 'black swans', but an inherent part of capitalism. Only by remaking our financial systems to acknowledge this, can we get out of the mess we're in. Will there be another recession, and if so what shape? When will the next bubble occur? What can we do about it? Here Roubini gives the answers, and lists his commandments for the future.

crash course new deal: A Rabble of Dead Money Charles R. Morris, 2017-03-07 The Great Crash of 1929 profoundly disrupted the United States' confident march toward becoming the world's superpower. The breakneck growth of 1920s America -- with its boom in automobiles, electricity, credit lines, radio, and movies -- certainly presaged a serious recession by the decade's end, but not a depression. The totality of the collapse shocked the nation, and its duration scarred generations to come. In this lucid and fast-paced account of the cataclysm, award-winning writer Charles R. Morris pulls together the intricate threads of policy, ideology, international hatreds, and sheer individual cantankerousness that finally pushed the world economy over the brink and into a depression. While Morris anchors his narrative in the United States, he also fully investigates the poisonous political

atmosphere of postwar Europe to reveal how treacherous the environment of the global economy was. It took heroic financial mismanagement, a glut-induced global collapse in agricultural prices, and a self-inflicted crash in world trade to cause the Great Depression. Deeply researched and vividly told, A Rabble of Dead Money anatomizes history's greatest economic catastrophe -- while noting the uncanny echoes for the present.

**crash course new deal:** *Nature's New Deal* Neil M. Maher, 2008 Neil M. Maher examines the history of one of Franklin D. Roosevelt's boldest and most successful experiments, the Civilian Conservation Corps, describing it as a turning point both in national politics and in the emergence of modern environmentalism.

**crash course new deal: Roosevelt's Second Act** Richard Moe, 2013-10-03 Discusses President Franklin D. Roosevelt's decision to defy one hundred fifty years of tradition and seek a third term in office.

**crash course new deal:** *Texas, Cotton, And The New Deal* Keith Joseph Volanto, 2005 Cotton growing-Government policy-Texas-Historly 2. Cotton trade-government policy-Texas-History. 3. New Deal1933-1939-Texas. 4. United States.

crash course new deal: The New Possible Philip Clayton, Kelli M. Archie, Jonah Sachs, Evan Steiner, 2021-01-26 2020 upended every aspect of our lives. But where is our world heading next? Will pandemic, protests, economic instability, and social distance lead to deeper inequalities, more nationalism, and further erosion of democracies around the world? Or are we moving toward a global re-awakening to the importance of community, mutual support, and the natural world? In our lifetimes, the future has never been so up for grabs. The New Possible offers twenty-eight unique visions of what can be, if instead of choosing to go back to normal, we choose to go forward to something far better. Assembled from global leaders on six continents, these essays are not simply speculation. They are an inspiration and a roadmap for action. With essays by: Kim Stanley Robinson, Michael Pollan, Varshini Prakash, Vandana Shiva, Jack Kornfield, Mamphela Ramphele, Justin Rosenstein, Jack Kornfield, Helena Nordberg-Hodge, David Korten, Tristan Harris, Eileen Crist, Francis Deng, Riane Eisler, Arturo Escobar, Rebecca Kiddle, Mike Joy, Natalie Foster, Jess Rimington, Jeremy Lent, Atossa Soltani, Mark Anielski, Ellen Brown, John Restakis, Zak Stein, Oren Slozberg, Anisa Nanavati, and Fr. Joshtrom Isaac Kureethadam

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**crash course new deal:** New Deals Colin Gordon, 1994-07-29 This book, an economic history of the interwar era, is the first major reinterpretation of the New Deal in thirty years.

crash course new deal: The Forgotten Depression James Grant, 2014 By the publisher of the prestigious Grant's Interest Rate Observer, an account of the deep economic slump of 1920-21 that proposes, with respect to federal intervention, less is more. This is a free-market rejoinder to the Keynesian stimulus applied by Bush and Obama to the 2007-09 recession, in whose aftereffects, Grant asserts, the nation still toils. James Grant tells the story of America's last governmentally-untreated depression; relatively brief and self-correcting, it gave way to the Roaring Twenties. His book appears in the fifth year of a lackluster recovery from the overmedicated downturn of 2007-2009. In 1920-21, Woodrow Wilson and Warren G. Harding met a deep economic slump by seeming to ignore it, implementing policies that most twenty-first century economists would call backward. Confronted with plunging prices, wages, and employment, the government balanced the budget and, through the Federal Reserve, raised interest rates. No stimulus was administered, and a powerful, job-filled recovery was under way by late in 1921. In 1929, the economy once again slumped--and kept right on slumping as the Hoover administration adopted the very policies that Wilson and Harding had declined to put in place. Grant argues that well-intended federal intervention, notably the White House-led campaign to prop up industrial wages, helped to turn a bad recession into America's worst depression. He offers the experience of the earlier depression for lessons for today and the future. This is a powerful response to the prevailing notion of how to fight recession. The enterprise system is more resilient than even its friends give it credit for being, Grant demonstrates--

crash course new deal: The Case for the Green New Deal Ann Pettifor, 2019-11-05 What is the Green New Deal and how can we afford it? To protect the future of life on earth, we need to do more than just reimagine the economy—we have to change everything. One of the seminal thinkers of the program that helped ignite the US Green New Deal campaign, Ann Pettifor explains how we can afford what we can do, and what we need to do, before it is too late. The Case for the Green New Deal argues that economic change is wholly possible, based on the understanding that finance, the economy and the ecosystem are all tightly bound together. The GND demands total decarbonization and a commitment to an economy based on fairness and social justice. It proposes a radical new understanding of the international monetary system. Pettifor offers a roadmap for financial reform both nationally and globally, taking the economy back from the 1%. This is a radical, urgent manifesto that we must act on now.

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crash course new deal: America's History James Henretta, Eric Hinderaker, Rebecca Edwards, Robert O. Self, 2018-03-09 America's History for the AP® Course offers a thematic approach paired with skills-oriented pedagogy to help students succeed in the redesigned AP® U.S. History course. Known for its attention to AP® themes and content, the new edition features a nine part structure that closely aligns with the chronology of the AP® U.S. History course, with every chapter and part ending with AP®-style practice questions. With a wealth of supporting resources, America's History for the AP® Course gives teachers and students the tools they need to master the course and achieve success on the AP® exam.

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crash course new deal: The Midas Paradox Scott B. Sumner, 2015 Economic historians have made great progress in unraveling the causes of the Great Depression, but not until Scott Sumner came along has anyone explained the multitude of twists and turns the economy took. In The Midas Paradox: Financial Markets, Government Policy Shocks, and the Great Depression, Sumner offers his magnum opus--the first book to comprehensively explain both monetary and non-monetary causes of that cataclysm. Drawing on financial market data and contemporaneous news stories, Sumner shows that the Great Depression is ultimately a story of incredibly bad policymaking--by central bankers, legislators, and two presidents--especially mistakes related to monetary policy and wage rates. He also shows that macroeconomic thought has long been captive to a false narrative that continues to misguide policymakers in their quixotic quest to promote robust and sustainable economic growth.

The Midas Paradox is a landmark treatise that solves mysteries that have long perplexed economic historians, and corrects misconceptions about the true causes, consequences, and cures of macroeconomic instability. Like Milton Friedman and Anna J. Schwartz's A Monetary History of the United States, 1867-1960, it is one of those rare books destined to shape all future research on the subject.

crash course new deal: The Sum of Us Heather McGhee, 2021-02-16 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • LONGLISTED FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD • One of today's most insightful and influential thinkers offers a powerful exploration of inequality and the lesson that generations of Americans have failed to learn: Racism has a cost for everyone—not just for people of color. WINNER OF THE PORCHLIGHT BUSINESS BOOK AWARD • ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: Time, The Washington Post, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Ms. magazine, BookRiot, Library Journal "This is the book I've been waiting for."—Ibram X. Kendi, #1 New York Times bestselling author of How to Be an Antiracist Look for the author's new podcast, The Sum of Us, based on this book! Heather McGhee's specialty is the American economy—and the mystery of why it so often fails the American public. From the financial crisis of 2008 to rising student debt to collapsing public infrastructure, she found a root problem: racism in our politics and policymaking. But not just in the most obvious indignities for people of color. Racism has costs for white people, too. It is the common denominator of our most vexing public problems, the core dysfunction of our democracy and constitutive of the spiritual and moral crises that grip us all. But how did this happen? And is there a way out? McGhee embarks on a deeply personal journey across the country from Maine to Mississippi to California, tallying what we lose when we buy into the zero-sum paradigm—the idea that progress for some of us must come at the expense of others. Along the way, she meets white people who confide in her about losing their homes, their dreams, and their shot at better jobs to the toxic mix of American racism and greed. This is the story of how public goods in this country—from parks and pools to functioning schools—have become private luxuries; of how unions collapsed, wages stagnated, and inequality increased; and of how this country, unique among the world's advanced economies, has thwarted universal healthcare. But in unlikely places of worship and work, McGhee finds proof of what she calls the Solidarity Dividend: the benefits we gain when people come together across race to accomplish what we simply can't do on our own. The Sum of Us is not only a brilliant analysis of how we arrived here but also a heartfelt message, delivered with startling empathy, from a black woman to a multiracial America. It leaves us with a new vision for a future in which we finally realize that life can be more than a zero-sum game. LONGLISTED FOR THE ANDREW CARNEGIE MEDAL

crash course new deal: Playing President Robert Scheer, 2006-05-01 Reflections on, and interviews with, US presidents from Nixon to George W. Bush, from "one of the best reporters of our time" (Joan Didion, New York Times-bestselling author of The White Album). Robert Scheer's interviews with and profiles of US presidents have shaped journalism history. Scheer developed close journalistic relationships with Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and George H. W. Bush, and his reporting on them had a tangible impact on national debate—with examples including the famed 1976 Playboy interview in which then-candidate Jimmy Carter admitted to have lusted in his heart; and the 1980 interview with the Los Angeles Times during which the senior Bush confessed to Scheer his dream of a "winnable nuclear war." In Playing President, Robert Scheer offers an unparalleled insight into the presidential mind, analyzing administrations from Nixon to George W. Bush, offering insights that will surprise the reader—particularly those with rigid preconceptions about the decision-making processes of our leaders. Also included are reprints of Scheer's famous presidential interviews, along with previously unpublished interview transcripts and select writings.

**crash course new deal:** *How to be a conservative* Roger Scruton, 2014-09-11 Roger Scruton's How to be a Conservative presents the case for modern conservatism not in the terms of an elegy but rather as a practical example of how to live as a conservative despite the pressures to live otherwise. As he writes, the book 'is not about what we have lost, but about what we have retained,

and how to hold on to it'. In this witty and frank account, Scruton draws on his years of experience as a counter-cultural presence in public life. He examines the truths in Nationalism, Socialism, Capitalism, Liberalism, Multiculturalism, Environmentalism, Internationalism and finally Conservatism. The book concludes on a personal note, with 'a valediction forbidding mourning but admitting loss'.

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