**Possible Future History:**

**Failing to Teach Likely Future History Ignores Some of the Central Reasons for Learning It, Prediction & Warning. Teaching It Engages Students.**

**Successful Prophecy: Hopi Elders- Trains, Nuclear Fallout, United Nations**

**Ojibwe Elders- “Beware the light skinned race wearing the face of death.”**

**Da Vinci-Tanks, Planes, Helicopters, Robots, Parachutes, Machine Guns.**

**Hawaiian David Malo 1837-“Big fish…ships of the whitemen…will eat us up.”**

**Morgan Robertson’s *Wreck of the Titan* Predicts Titanic Sinking 14 Yrs Early.**

**AF Gen. Billy Mitchell- In 1924 Predicted Pearl Harbor Attack by Japan.**

**HG Wells-Computers, Nuclear Bombs, United Nations, WWII, Women’s Rights, Email, Lasers, Genetic Engineering**

**Jules Verne-Submarines, Planes, Lunar Flight, Holographs**

**Edward Bellamy-Credit Cards, Social Security**

**Hugo Gernsback-TV, Solar Power, Video Phones**

**Isaac Asimov-Nuclear Bombs, Robotics Arthur Clarke-Satellites, IPads**

**John Brunner-Pres. Obomi, School Shootings, Electric Cars, Laser Printers**

**William Gibson-Internet, Virtual Reality, Hacking**

**Failed Prophecy-Few Foresaw End of the Cold War, Drop in Overpopulation.**

**Hundreds of End of World Predictions Failed, Biblical Times, Columbus.**

**Fake “Prophecies”-Cortes as Queztalcoatl, 2012 Hoax, Rainbow Warriors.**

**Learning from History: FDR Avoids More Failed US Invasions Latin America**

**Public Learns from Japanese American Internment, No Muslim Internment.**

**GWB & Obama Learn from Rwandan Genocide, Condemn Darfur Genocide.**

**Obama Learned from Failed US Invasions, Led to Iraq & Afghan Withdrawal**

**Failing to Learn from History:**

**Failing to Defeat White Terrorism in Reconstruction Led to Segregation, Inequality, Denialism Honoring Confederate White Supremacists Today. Failing to Punish Armenian Genocide Made the Holocaust More Likely.**

**Eisenhower Failed to Learn from FDR, Invades Latin America in Cold War.**

**Reagan Tries to Refight Vietnam War in Central America, Sponsors Terrorism in El Salvador & Nicaragua, Genocide in Guatemala.**

**Rwandan Genocide Predicted by Previous Atrocities 1959, 1963, 1969, 1988. US & Other Embassies, UN All Predicted. Clinton’s Wrong Lessons Somalia.**

**GW Bush Failures in Iraq & Afghanistan Predicted by Failures in Vietnam. Weinberger Doctrine-Always Have Exit Strategy, Avoid Gradual Buildup of Force, & Have US Public, Local, & International Support.**

**Trump’s Failures as Pres. Predicted by Business Failures & Personality Flaws.**

**How Does the American Empire Decline or End?**

**Oswald Spengler’s *Decline of the West* & Kevin Phillips’ *American Theocracy*: Spanish, Dutch, UK, US Empires Same Patterns.**

**1. Switch from Producing Wealth to Wealth from Speculation.**

**2. Military Strength Used to Mask Economic Decline.**

**3. Two Disastrous Wars in a Row Bankrupt Empire. In US Case, Vietnam & Iraq/Afghan Wars.**

**4. After Empire Ends, Nation is Much More Democratic.**

**5. Later Wars or Anti-Democratic Mvmts to Hold Empire Always Disasters.**

**European Union Larger Economy than US in 2007, China in 2010, India by 2050. US Dollar Increasingly No Longer Used as Reserve Currency.**

**BRICS (Brazil Russia India China South Africa) Growing Regional Powers.**

**Worldwide Pattern- Humanity Less Willing to Tolerate Violence.**

**Battle Death Rates 1/1000th of What They Were 1,000 Years Ago.**

**Murder, Rape, Death Penalty, Discrimination, & Child Abuse Declining.**

**5X as Many Democracies as 60 Years Ago. UN & NGOs Halt Wars.**

**UN Peacekeeping Led to 40% Drop in Wars in 20 Years, Currently Keeps Peace in 15 Nations, Clears Mines in 30 Nations, 10,000 Development Projects, Aid 370 Million in Poverty, 50 Million Refugees, & 90 Million Hungry Per Yr, Save 2 Million from Disease Per Year, Birth Control Use Rose from 20% to 63%, Negotiated 510 Treaties.**

**Demographic Change-No Racial Majority in US by 2040. But Older & White Voters Vote in Higher Numbers, Sometimes Resent, Hate, or Fear Young & Minorities, eg Tea Party, Trump Voters. White Wealth Increasing > Nonwhite. Ideas on Race Shift to Define Mixed Ancestry Asians & Lighter Latinos as “Whites.” Racists Reward Nonwhites Who Don’t ID by Ethnic Ancestry or Culture, Reward Self-Hatred or Hatred of Other Minorities.**

**Wealth Inequality Tripled in US in 30 Yrs, Mostly in Last 10 Yrs:**

**Wealthiest 16,000 Worth More than Poorest 80%. 1/2 of Americans Poor.**

**Wealthiest 400 Americans Own More Than Poorest 1/2 of Americans.**

**Walton Family (Walmart) Alone Worth More Than Poorest 30%.**

**Top Income Tax Rates Dropped From 70% in 1970s to 38% Today.**

**US Taxes Lowest Since 1953, Lowest of Any Developed Nation.**

**Greatest Successes- Mixed Economies China, Scandinavia, Singapore.**

**Sharing Economy-1 Billion in Co-ops Worldwide, <Multinational Corps.**

**$1 Trillion in Goods- Fairtrade, Champagne, Olive Oil, Parmesan.**

**Transition Towns, Peer to Peer Networks, Community Agriculture, Food Sovereignty, Co Housing, Car Sharing, Airbnb, Communal Councils.**

***Zero Cost Society*- Software, Music, Film, Books, End of Intellectual Property.**

**Increasing Automation Means Unemployment Will Always Go Up.**

**Half of Current Jobs Automated by 2034, 83% of Jobs >$20 Hour.**

**Technology Will Decouple Production from Location & Population.**

**Medicine, Military, Police, Gov’t, Economy All Potentially Automated.**

**30-35 Hour Workweeks in Europe, Guaranteed Minimum Income Experiments in 18 Nations Including US (SSI for 8 million disabled).**

**Technological Singularity-When AI Supersedes Humans.**

**Global Warming, Accepted as Scientific Fact Since 1980s by <99.99% of Scientists, Increasingly Denied by More of US Public & Govt.**

**Oil Industry Opposes Environmentalism w/Potential Loss of Hundreds of Billions. Exxon Executives Knew Warming Real in 1982 from Own Research.**

**Many Evangelicals See Warming as End Times. Conservatives Oppose Govt Regulation. Spend <$40 Million a Year Funding Global Warming Deniers:**

**Franklin Ctr, Federalist Soc, State Policy Network, Hudson Inst, Mercatus Ctr, GMU Foundation, American Enterprise Inst, Americans for Prosperity.**

**Hurricane Katrina Brought First Global Warming Refugees.**

**Pacific Island Nations Already Disappearing. Arctic Refugees.**

**Rise in Sea Levels Threatens Caribbean & SE Asia Nations.**

**SE US Esp FL GA LA MS. US Loses .7% of Econ for 1 Degree Rise Temp.**

**Coasts Rise, Droughts in Farm Areas, More Extreme Weather.**

**Famine, Refugees, Disease, Leading to Wars, Rise in Dictatorships.**

**150,000 Deaths from Global Warming Each Yr, Potentially <1 Billion.**

**CIA Used to List Global Warming as World’s Greatest Security Threat.**

**Societal Collapses Can Be Gradual or Sudden, Long or Short Term.**

**China Has 4X More Patents, Faster Supercomputers, 35 Satellites. China Students 1st in Math & Sci, US 39th & 25th. China Plans “Cyberattacks & Directed Energy Weapons” Rather Than Air Force, Missiles, or Navy.**

**US Military Bloated, Unready, Inefficient, Spending Higher Than Cold War.**

**Until 2013, US Spent More on Military Than Rest of World Combined.**

**Trump Cut State Dept. & Foreign Aid. 1000 US Bases in 120 Nations, 268 in Germany Alone. 234 Golf Courses. <5,000 Useless Nuclear Weapons,**

**4 Air Forces, 5X Officers Now vs WWII. <3500 Drone Assassinations Iraq Yemen Afghanistan Colombia. 7000 Drones 350 Pilots <Fighter/Bomber Ones.**

**US Space Corps 4th Branch Service Proposed by Congress, Military Opposes.**

**Tauranis-Automated Combat Plane. SGRA1-Automated Sentry. Automated Tanks Planned. <1100 Robotics Experts Call for Ban on “Killer Robots.”**

**SF Predictions:**

***Alien* series & *Avatar*- Interplanetary Corporate Colonialism for Resources.**

***Brave New World*-Dictatorship w/Public Indifferent, Constantly Entertained.**

***Brave New World* & *Star Trek*-Genetics Ldg to Attempted Supermen Dictators.**

***Elysium* & *Hunger Games* series-Dictatorship & Extreme Inequality Incl Tech.**

***Handmaid’s Tale*- US Military Theocracy, Women as Trophies or Breeders.**

***Her*- AI Self Aware, Evolves Past & Abandons Socially Isolated Humanity.**

***I Robot*-Robot Takeover to Protect Humans from Themselves.**

***Mad Max* series-Environmental & Societal Breakdown w/Few Survivors.**

***1984*-Competing Dictatorships Rule World w/Staged Perpetual War.**

***Star Trek* series-Near Collapse Followed by Alien Contact Leading to Advanced Interplanetary Multicultural Rationalist Federation.**

***Terminator* & *Westworld* series-Self Aware Machines Turn on Humans.**

***Zardoz*-Elites Withdraw Leaving Masses to Poverty, Elites Self Destruct.**

**Documentary Predictions:**

***An Inconvenient Truth* & *Inconvenient Sequel*- Global Warming.**

***Where to Invade Next*- US Should Adopt Best Ideas from Other Nations.**

**Italy-6 hour workdays & <35 days vacation. Finland-No standardized tests, private schools, or homework. Germany-unions run business w/CEOs. Most of Europe-free college. Much of Europe & Latin America-some drug use legal.**

**Iceland-bankers jailed. Norway-humane prisons reform.**

**10 Nations w<40% Congress Are Women, 18 Women Pres or PM.**

**Essay Questions: 1. Trump is impeached for fraud, bribery, conflict of interest, or other illegal/unconstitutional acts. Will he leave office voluntarily? How will his supporters (including militias, white nationalists, & other racists) react? How will his successor deal with possible wars & other issues?**

**2. Trump dies from health problems between now & the 2020 election. How will his supporters react? How will both parties, progressives, & anti Trump conservatives react? How will his successor Pence deal with current political issues, including possible conflicts with other nations?**

**3. Predict the future of the US the next 25 years. Discuss inequality, demographic changes & racism, political culture, global climate, & the US role in the world. What will happen to the American empire? Base your answers on evidence, not fears, anxieties, or wishful thinking.**

**4. Argue what the future of humanity is most likely based on events matching up with sci fi, documentary, & book predictions. Pick two: SF- *Alien* series & *Avatar, Brave New World*, *Elysium* & *Hunger Games* series, *Handmaid’s Tale*, *Her*, *I Robot*, *Mad Max* series, *1984*, *Star Trek* series, *Terminator* & *Westworld* series, or *Zardoz.* Documentaries- *An Inconvenient Truth* or *Where to Invade Next.* Books- *Decline of the West* & *American Theocracy* or *Zero Cost Society.***

**5. Predict if, when, & how these will occur within your lifetime:**

**War in space, colonization in orbit around Earth, of the Moon, Mars, moons of other planets, asteroids, & independence movements there.**

**Predict also which of these current space programs will colonize, in what order, & conflicts between them:**

**Australia (private co), Brazil, China, Denmark (nonprofit), European Union, India, Iran, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico (private co), New Zealand (private co), Nigeria, N & S Korea, Pakistan, Peru, Russia (military), South Africa, Sweden (private co), Turkey, US (military & private cos), Venezuela.**

**Also consider colonization by corporations for resource exploitation, wealthy idealists or power seekers, religious groups, or nationalist, separatist, & other political groups. Also describe likeliest colonists by ethnicity, creed, & politics.**

**6. How will possible human colonization of other planets or moons be similar to what happened to indigenous peoples? Include:**

**a. Lifeless but transformable planets. b. Livable planets without intelligent life. c. Encountering equally intelligent but less technological beings.**

**d. Less warlike beings. e. More warlike beings. f. Technologically more advanced/more intelligent/more powerful beings. g. Alien diseases effect on humans. h. Human-borne diseases on other planets. Which humans are likeliest to colonize, oppose colonization, or insist on ethical limits?**

Link for Further Reading

“Decline and Fall of the American Empire,”

<https://www.thenation.com/article/decline-and-fall-american-empire/>

“The End of Capitalism Has Begun,” [www.theguardian.com/books/2015/jul/17/postcapitalism-end-of-capitalism-begun?CMP=share\_btn\_fb](http://www.theguardian.com/books/2015/jul/17/postcapitalism-end-of-capitalism-begun?CMP=share_btn_fb)

“The End of White America,” [www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2009/01/the-end-of-white-america/7208/#](http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2009/01/the-end-of-white-america/7208/)

“Stop Killer Robots” <https://www.stopkillerrobots.org/>

“A World Less Violent,” [www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/10/22/world-less-violent-stats\_n\_1026723.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/10/22/world-less-violent-stats_n_1026723.html)

“World Population May Actually Start Declining…”

[www.slate.com/articles/technology/future\_tense/2013/01/world\_population\_may\_actually\_start\_declining\_not\_exploding.single.html#pagebreak\_anchor\_2](http://www.slate.com/articles/technology/future_tense/2013/01/world_population_may_actually_start_declining_not_exploding.single.html#pagebreak_anchor_2)

“WWIII With China,” [www.commondreams.org/views/2017/09/26/world-war-iii-china](http://www.commondreams.org/views/2017/09/26/world-war-iii-china)

Books

Kevin Phillips, *American Theocracy*

Mack Reynolds, *United Planets* series, *Lagrange* series, *Year 2000* series

Jeremy Rifkin, *The End of Work*, *Zero Marginal Cost Society*

Kin Stanley Robinson, *Red Mars* trilogy

Oswald Spengler, *Decline of the West*

Sci Fi Film & TV

*Alien* series, *Avatar, Brave New World, Elysium, Hunger Games* series, *Handmaid’s Tale, Her, I Robot, Mad Max* series, *1984*, *Star Trek* series, *Terminator* series, *Westworld* series, *Zardoz*