

U.S. HISTORY SYLLABUS

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Course Introduction

The purpose of this course is to learn about the history of the United States from ancient America to the present day. You should already have a knowledge base about how our country began and a general knowledge of what the U.S. has gone through to become the country we are today. We will begin our journey with the first humans arriving in America and continue through the modern day United States. We will analyze the events of U.S. history by looking at key events, people, and historical documents. By the end of the course you will have a greater understanding of how the U.S. came to its current place in the world today and how you are a continual part of its history. Below is a breakdown of the topics we will study in each semester.

Materials

You will need the textbook *The Americans* as well as a notebook with paper and a writing utensil. We will be taking notes as well as completing a lot of in class activities so you will need these materials each and every day for class.

Daily Expectations

My expectations of students are that they come to class prepared and ready to learn. This means you will have your book, a notebook, a writing utensil and an eager mind. We will refer to the text often and you will need it to effectively participate in class.

- **Before Entering the Classroom:** Check to make sure you have the appropriate class materials. Use the bathroom before coming to class. *Leave all iPods, cell phones, and other electronic devices in your locker or at home.*
- **Upon Entering the Classroom:** Take your seat and wait for class to begin.
- **During Class:** Refrain from talking to your peers unless instructed to do so. Always stay focused on the task at hand. Whether we're taking notes or working on a project always give your full attention to the class activity of the day. Everyone in class needs to participate in some fashion. We will have a lot of class discussion and group work assignments. Always remember to RESPECT your peers and your teacher.

Homework Expectations

Zeros are inexcusable. Assignments are due on the DUE DATE. I will make exceptions for some circumstances, but you must speak to me. If assignments are not turned in you will be referred to academic detention where you will make up your work. If turning work in on time continues to be a problem we will work through the problem solving/WEBSS process.

***Additional Help** - If you need additional help with any class work see Mr. Mueller to set up an appointment.

If You Miss Class

If you know you will be missing class please see Mr. Mueller before you're going to be gone to receive the assignments you will miss. If you're sick or miss class unexpectedly stop in and see Mr. Mueller before or after school to pick up the missing work. Please don't ask for missing work during class time as we will not have time to go over it.

Grading Policies

Units will be covered in a number of ways and therefore your grade will be based on a number of factors. These factors include: tests, quizzes, written assignments, daily work, class participation, and projects. Generally speaking, you will have a lot of different opportunities to learn and a lot of opportunities to change your grade. **EVERYONE IN THIS CLASS IS CAPABLE OF GETTING A GOOD GRADE** – but you **MUST** work for it.

Grading Scale:

A+	98-100
A	95-97
A-	93-94
B+	90-92
B	87-89
B-	85-86
C+	82-84
C	79-81
C-	77-78
D+	75-76
D	72-74
D-	70-71
F	69 or below

Finally...

Enjoy your time in here. It is my goal for you to develop a deeper appreciation for the history of the United States and to see that each person has an integral part in our history as a nation. **EVERY SINGLE ONE OF YOU HAS THE CAPABILITY TO LEARN AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE.** The more informed you are, the better decisions you can make to move this country in a positive direction.

I have read and understand the syllabus and the expectations for this class.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Weekly Topics/Assignments

The following is a general outline for the 1st semester. The instructor may make changes as necessary throughout the semester. An outline for second semester will be distributed in January.

August 19-20

Topics: Syllabus/Introduction

Assignments Due: Signed Syllabus Form

August 23-27

Topics: Early America

Assignments Due: Native American Societies, Transatlantic Encounters

August 30-September 3

Topics: Early America

Assignments Due: An English Settlement at Jamestown, England and It's Colonies

September 6-10

Topics: Early America

Assignments Due: The French and Indian War, **Early America Test**

September 13-17

Topics: Revolution and the Early Republic

Assignments Due: The Stirrings of Rebellion, Ideas Help Start a Revolution

September 20-24

Topics: Revolution and the Early Republic

Assignments Due: Drafting the Constitution, **Revolution and Early Republic Test**

September 27-October 1

Topics: Growth of a Young Nation

Assignments Due: Jefferson Alters the Nation's Course, The War of 1812

October 4-8

Topics: Growth of a Young Nation

Assignments Due: The Age of Jackson, **Growth of a Young Nation Test**

October 11-15

Topics: Civil War

Assignments Due: Slavery and Secession, Civil War Begins

October 18-22

Topics: Civil War

Assignments Due: The North Takes Charge, **Civil War Test**

October 25-29

Topics: Civil War

Assignments Due: **Civil War Presentations**

November 1-5

Topics: Reconstruction

Assignments Due: Reconstruction and It's Effects, **Reconstruction Quiz**

November 8-12

Topics: Industrial Revolution

Assignments Due: The Expansion of Industry, Big Business Emerges

November 15-19

Topics: Industrial Revolution/Immigration & Urbanization

Assignments Due: **Industrial Revolution Test**, The New Immigrants

November 22-26

Topics: Immigration & Urbanization

Assignments Due: Problems of Urbanization, **Immigration & Urbanization Test**

November 29-December 3

Topics: Progressive Era

Assignments Due: Origins of Progressivism

December 6-10

Topics: Progressive Era

Assignments Due: Teddy Roosevelt's Square Deal, Progressive Era Test

December 13-17

Topics: Imperialism & Spanish-American War

Assignments Due: America Becomes a World Power

December 21-22

Topics: Finals

Assignments Due: **1st Semester Final Exam**