

United States History

Course Syllabus 2025 -2026

Purpose:

This class is designed to teach each student the thinking skills that relate directly to the process of learning and analyzing history. The course is also designed to introduce each student to the major themes in American History with a special emphasis placed on the Twentieth Century.

In the first semester, we will cover American history from the period after Reconstruction through World War II. (*We will also do a brief review of material learned in 8th grade- Colonization through Reconstruction.*) During the second semester, we will cover American history from 1945 through 2012, with special attention given to the Cold War, the Civil Rights movement and the modern era.

This is a STARR tested course as well as being a graduation requirement.

Procedures:

Students will receive a **calendar** at the beginning of each unit of study showing topics and assignments for each day as well as major assessments. Students who are in danger of failing will receive a progress report notifying them of that fact in the middle of the 9 weeks for which they are at risk.

Online access to view your child's grades and attendance on our Parent Viewer web is available by registering at <http://parentviewer.pisd.edu>. Parents can log onto www.pisd.edu for assistance in contacting teachers by email.

Textbooks:

Access on student Webdesk (Discovery Education tile)

Absence Policy:

Students will have one day for each day of an **excused** absence to make up work. Any unexcused absence will result in a **zero** for any missed assignment. When a student is absent from class, it is **the sole responsibility of the student** to get his/her own make-up work including class notes and learning targets. If a student is present to receive an assignment, but is absent when that assignment is due, that assignment is due as soon as the student returns to class.

Plano ISD Absence Policy

A student who is absent from school for any portion of a school day must provide a note that describes the reason for the absence. The note must be signed by the student's parent/guardian or by the student, if the student is 18 or older or is an emancipated minor. Failure to bring a written excuse signed by the parent or guardian within three school days of an absence may result in an unexcused absence being recorded. **Failure to submit documentation for absence may result in a zero for make-up work.**

Google Classroom Code: (*Code will given by student's teacher*)

We utilize Google Classroom to post class materials and notes. In order to have access you must go to classroom.google.com or download the app on your phone. Then join using the above class code.

Late Work:

Teacher discretion

Grading Policy:

60% major grades (tests, essays, CAP activities, learning targets, etc.)
40% minor grades (daily assignments and daily quizzes)

FINAL:

PISD requires that all students take a comprehensive final exam at the end of each semester. It is worth 20% of the final semester grade.

Make-up Testing and Tutoring:

US History Tutorials are available Tuesday - Friday according to the schedule posted in Google Classroom. Additional tutoring is offered by appointment with your teacher.

Test Retakes & Make Up Testing:

Students may retake a test that they have failed. Refer to the retesting/make-up schedule posted. Re-taking the test can **only** raise their grade to a **maximum of a 70** for that test. Make-up tests must be completed within 5 days of the original test date and you must have an excused absence.

Cheating and Plagiarism Policy:

In accordance with the district policy, cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students caught cheating will receive a zero for that work. If a student is found to be cheating on a unit test, that zero cannot be replaced by retaking. This policy applies to all students involved in the cheating no matter how small their role in that cheating was.

Plano East Honor Code:

Plano East, in a relentless effort to maintain high moral and ethical standards, is intolerant of academic dishonesty in any form. Cheating undermines both the integrity of the perpetrator as well as that of the school. In presenting an honor code of conduct based on individual integrity and ethics, we aspire to create a vision of what we would like our community to be. The honor code intends to reduce unhealthy competition in the school by shifting peer pressure away from cheating and towards ethical behavior.

--Adapted from the George Mason University honor code