

This is a yearlong course that will cover all the things that we never get to cover in the regular US History course. We will start with the Presidencies of Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon. We will look at the domestic and foreign policies of each of these Presidents. Subjects will include the Civil Rights Movement, The Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam, and Watergate. Other subjects will be chosen based on class recommendations. We will continue to read Zinn's A People's History of the United States and will begin with his epilogue and discuss his ideas of where the United States was heading at the end of his book. We will also open with an exploration of where we think we are and start the search for how we got here. Class participation in discussions is a must as well as bringing your willingness to talk about tough subjects. We will discuss guidelines for these tough discussions at the start of the class. In addition to reading Zinn, you will be working with primary source materials such as Presidential speeches, articles about specific events and people and timelines. We will also use The Presidents Series from the American Experience about each of the presidents studied.

Students should be prepared to maintain a notebook, complete both reading and writing assignments, actively participate in group projects and be willing to express their thoughts in class discussions if they wish to obtain credit for this course.

Lateness Policy: It is expected that you will arrive on time to class as well as complete and hand in all written assignments by the due date. Any student who fails to hand in three assignments on time will be given an extra assignment to complete. Any student who is late to class five times will be given an extra assignment. Also, you are not allowed to leave class during the first fifteen minutes of the class. If there is a time when you will have to miss class due to an outside obligation, please see me as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements to keep you up to date in the class.

Each student is expected to maintain a notebook for this class. In this notebook, you are expected to keep careful notes, your reading materials and handouts. You should also have a safe place or folder for completed assignments. Maintaining your notebook in this fashion will assist you with homework assignments and will keep work safe for your portfolio. **You can expect to take notes in every class...please have a writing utensil for every class!!!!**

Finally, we will be engaging in class discussions and debates this trimester...it is expected that all members of the class will participate and be respectful of each other's thoughts, questions, and opinions. This is essential to good conversations and discussions. Also, if at any time you feel that you need help, please see me...do not suffer in silence and do not wait until something is due to ask for help...that just makes me cranky!!!! I am available most days to help...ASK!!!