

U. S. History (SOC 301) Syllabus

Dr. Raymond Epps

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Class Information

This document is posted on the website under the “Syllabus” tab while the assessment calendar, which is subject to change, is posted on the “Assessment Calendar” tab. Other class information (e.g., PowerPoints, guided notes, vocabulary terms/definitions) is posted in Google Classroom.

Learners who are absent are expected to access the website/online course material to remain current with class activities. The website also is available by navigating to Grovetown High School’s website then selecting “Academics”, “Social Studies”, “Epps”, and “U.S. History” in the upper right corner of my webpage.

Course Text and Readings

There is no required textbook for this course. All course material is posted in Google Classroom.

Course Synopsis

The study of U.S. History includes an overview of the settlement of the Americas, the American Revolution, constitutional period, antebellum era, and the Civil War. Beginning with the Post- Reconstruction Era, the course includes a more in-depth concentration of both geographic characteristics and the changing political climate of our nation, the wars in which the United States was involved as well as social, economic, political, and contemporary issues. There is a state-mandated End-of-Course test.

Supplies

Learners are expected to come to class with the following resources:

- Two #2 pencils;
- One notebook or notebook paper;
- One folder (I recommend having a different colored folder for each class period);
- Colored pencils (if desired.)

Expectations

Learners are expected to:

- demonstrate responsibility for their learning (e.g., submit their best work, meet deadlines);
- come to class on time and actively engage in learning;
- complete assignments to the best of their ability;
- be well-organized;
- analyze information and create historically accurate theories/beliefs/conclusions;
- read passages and watch videos, as necessary, which may be included in the content PowerPoint or posted in Google Classroom.

Learner Interaction with Others

Essential skills to demonstrate when interacting with others include treating others as you want to be treated, actively listening to the person talking with you, and demonstrating patience and kindness. Learners are expected to demonstrate these skills when dealing with other learners and adults in school and during school functions.

Learners are expected to comply with all requests, guidance, and direction from school staff members. Learners may talk with me after class if they don't understand or disagree with my request, guidance, or direction or such from another adult in school.

Personal Technology Devices

Following the enactment of Georgia's Distraction-Free Education Act, learners are not permitted to use or display their personal electronic devices during the school day. All devices must be stored in a backpack or locker and must not be carried on a learner's person. Please refer to the district's June 12, 2025, letter for more information.

Tutoring

Tutoring sessions are offered *by appointment only*. I highly encourage learners to schedule tutoring as soon as they do not understand information discussed in class or have questions that were not asked/answered before, during, or after class. Please note, learners who arrive to the tutoring location, which is typically my classroom, more than five minutes past the scheduled tutoring time are not allowed to attend tutoring that day.

Grades

Learners who are absent for one or more instruction days, but present on the assessment or assignment date, will complete the assessment/assignment on the assessment/assignment date. Learners who are absent on the assessment/assignment date will complete the assessment/assignment upon their return to class.

Each assignment or assessment that is not completed or turned in on the test or due date will be marked in Infinite Campus as a missing assessment or assignment, which automatically records the grade as 0. Assessment and assignment grades are normally posted in Infinite Campus on the assessment/due date or the next school day. Learners may review, but not keep, their graded assessments and assignments.

Learners will take a semester exam (SOC 301), which may be exempted, and end-of-course test (SOC 302), which may not be exempted. The semester exam and end-of-course test count as 20 percent of the final grade.

Late Assignments/Reassessment

Learners must submit in-class assignments (e.g., study guide, end of class assignment) on the assignment's due date. Learners may submit at-home assignments up to **five** school days past the due date and earn full credit for the assignment. Learners who turn in the assignment six or more days past the due date will not earn any points for the assignment.

Learners who request to reassess a summative assessment must do so within **10** school days of the assessment grade's posting in Infinite Campus. An assessment may be reassessed only once and, in accordance with county policy, no grade higher than 90 may be earned on the reassessment.

To reassess, learners must complete all unit assignments that were due prior to the assessment date and attend tutoring. Reassessments are offered *by appointment only*. Learners who arrive to the reassessment location, which is typically my classroom, more than five minutes past the reassessment time are not allowed to reassess that day.

The higher of the two assessment grades (i.e., original assessment, reassessment) will be recorded as the assessment's final grade in Infinite Campus. The lower grade will be recorded in the notes section of Infinite Campus; however, the lower grade will not calculate into the learner's course grade/average.

Communicating with Parents and Guardians

Parents and guardians are encouraged to communicate with me via email, **raymond.epps@ccboe.net**. I will respond/reply to your email within one school day; however, the most effective and efficient way for me to respond/reply is via phone. Please ensure your phone accepts calls from blocked numbers as my number will appear as blocked or unknown. I will reply via email if I'm unable to reach the parent or guardian via phone.

Tardy

Learners who are not in class by the class start time bell are tardy. Learners who arrive to class after the class start time bell must have a note from a staff member or the learner's attendance will be recorded as tardy.

Classroom Management

Learners are expected to comply with all district, school, and teacher policies and guidance. I will use the below model as a guide when dealing with learner disruption in the school or classroom. Please note that I maintain discretion as to which step will be used to address the disruption.

1. Non-verbally communicate (e.g., proximity) to redirect the learner's behavior/action.
2. Redirect the learner's behavior/action and remind the learner of district, school, and/or class expectations.
3. Provide verbal warning to the learner and remind the learner of district, school, and/or class expectations.
4. Talk with the learner in the hallway or after class.
5. Contact learner's parent/guardian.
6. Assign lunch detention.
7. Provide discipline office referral.

Food and Drink

Learners may have beverages with lids/caps and food in my class. Learners are expected to throw their trash in the trash can, clean up spills, and pick up dropped items off the floor.