

American History

Classroom Expectations

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COURSE: American History is a one-semester course **required** of all high school students. The course is a survey course that examines how the United States has developed as a country. Our study of American History will begin with a study of the following events and time periods: Exploration & Colonization, The Revolutionary Period, The Federalist Period, The Jeffersonian Era, Westward Expansion, The Jacksonian Era, The Antebellum Period, Sectionalism, The Civil War, and Reconstruction. We will then continue with US Imperialism, The Gilded Age, The Progressive Era, the US in World War I, the Roaring 20s, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, and Modern America. These time periods and events provide the basis for explaining how America came to be what it is today.

I. Student Conduct in the Classroom

To ensure a learning atmosphere all students are expected to:

1. Keep a comprehensive, organized, loose-leaf notebook that will include all class notes and assignments. You may use either a pencil or pen but many tests will require a #2 pencil.
2. Be in the assigned seat and ready to begin instruction when the tardy bell rings. Note new tardy policy.
3. Contribute daily to classroom discussions and/or activities. Be an active learner.
4. Treat **everyone** in the classroom with respect.

II. Homework Policy

All assignments must be completed and turned in on the due date to receive full credit. There will be plenty of time provided to get all assignments completed in class. Should the assignment not get finished in class then it is the responsibility of the student to get it done outside of class.

III. Assessment

Student grades will be based on classwork, tests, quizzes, and various projects. Tests will be given upon the completion of each unit or goal. Quizzes may be given without notice to reinforce responsible study habits. There is no state-issued final exam, but students may be required to take a teacher-made final exam.

IV. Make-up Policy

ABSENCES: It is the responsibility of the student to personally contact the instructor and make arrangements to find out what was missed during the absence upon the day of returning to school. Appointments to make up missed tests may be scheduled with

the teacher and completed within **five** school days. A student **does not** have the right to make up work due to laziness. Due to their nature, some of the assignments do not allow for makeup. Alternative credit options are given for these situations.

V. Cell Phones

Cell phones are an excellent resource that, if used appropriately, can be beneficial to the learning environment. However, they can become very distracting as well. Be mindful of the cell phone policy. If asked to put it away, then it needs to be placed out of sight. Excessive texting is not allowed. It is a privilege to be able to use your cell phone in class, not a right!

VI. Textbooks

The textbook used for US History is entitled *American Anthem*, which will be used in class. There may be other supplementary materials used throughout the semester as well.

VII. Website and Remind Sign Up

Mr. Jensen has a Google Classroom website.. You are free to download any materials that you wish.

All students will need to sign up with BAND to get notifications from Mr. Jensen. You can find sign-up instructions on Google Classroom.

VIII. Movies and Videos

To reinforce the content, several videos and clips from movies may be used in this course. This list includes:

<u>Documentaries</u>	<u>Movies</u>
America The Story of US – History Channel	Race To Freedom – Underground Railroad
The Presidents – History Channel	Glory – Civil War
The Century: America’s Time – History Channel	Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee – The West and Native Americans
United Streaming Videos	Far & Away – Immigration, Gilded Age, Urbanization
NCLive Streaming Videos	
The Men Who Built America – History Channel	
The Ultimate Guide to the Presidents – History Channel	

THESE RULES AND POLICIES ARE INTENDED FOR GENERAL SITUATIONS. ANY UNIQUE PROBLEMS WILL BE DEALT WITH INDIVIDUALLY. ALSO, THE ABOVE GUIDELINES ARE SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT AS REQUIRED; STUDENTS WILL BE INFORMED IN SUFFICIENT TIME IF SUCH PROVES TO BE NECESSARY.

I look forward to having you in my class this semester and hope that you can develop an appreciation for American History.