U.S. HISTORY

2025-2026

TEACHER: Mr. Ryan P. Sweeney

TEXTBOOK: Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States (online)

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SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS: needed everyday unless otherwise noted:

1. School-issued Chromebook
2. Notebook or 3-ring binder with paper
3. Textbook (online)
4. Homework/Agenda Book (provided by school)
5. Pen or pencil
6. Headphones (for the Chromebook - wired or bluetooth)
7. US History Folder (for handouts)
*if parents can donate a box of tissues, hand sanitizer, or colored pencils for class use, it would be greatly appreciated (not mandatory)

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Google Classroom is where I will be posting announcements, assignments, and other materials. Each week I will post our topics, objectives, assignments, and other materials. Please check Google Classroom DAILY this year to stay up-to-date with what is going on in this course, especially if you are ABSENT. Assignments and announcements will be posted on Skyward, as well, but Google Classroom will be the most important tool on a daily basis. I highly recommend that, if you have a

phone, you download the Google Classroom app and turn on the notifications. That way, you can see announcements from me whenever I post to Google Classroom (as well as your other teachers).

ABOUT THE COURSE:

This course is a study of America from the arrival of its first inhabitants to the end of the Civil War Era. Together we will examine the people, places, and events that have shaped the evolution of America as it is today. We will investigate these people, places, and events, and learn how and why they had an impact on the United States' current status as the most powerful and influential nation in the world. You will also be able to understand how our government and economy function as well as the impact both have on our own lives. Over the year we will also discuss current events, both national and global. You will become skillful at reading maps, graphs, and charts.

GRADES:

--Per school policy, grades will be weighted for this class according to the following scale:

1. **Assessments = 45%**
2. **Projects/Papers = 25%**
3. **Classwork/Homework/Participation = 30%**

**Tests are announced approximately one week in advance.

**Quizzes will usually be announced but pop-quizzes may be given.

**Homework will generally be due <u>at the beginning of the next class period</u>.

**Late homework<u> will be accepted</u> for ½ credit, one day late. If the assignment has already been reviewed as part of class, credit can no longer be earned for completion.

**Projects and papers are announced well in advance of the due date.

**Larger assignments will be marked with a 10% deduction for each day it is late. Parents, please contact me when special circumstances arise.

TESTS/ASSESSMENTS:

Tests/Assessments will be given approximately every 3-4 weeks, and students will be given approximately five school days' notice before a test (not classes, since we meet every other day).

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

1. Come to class <u>on time</u> and <u>prepared</u>.
   a. Bring all of the necessary materials for class.
   b. Come with all the required work done.
   c. Come with questions.
   d. Come ready to participate.
2. Respect everyone
   a. Do not call out.
   a. Please raise your hand if you would like to talk.
   b. Respect everyone's opinion.
3. Give your best effort!!!
   a. Focus! You need to be responsible for your own learning. Doing your best to remain focused shows a desire to do well.
   b. PHONES MUST BE **OFF** AND PLACED IN HANGING POCKET AT **BEGINNING OF CLASS**.
   c. If you focus and work hard you will have fun and be successful in this class.
4. Academic Honesty
   a. Please do not copy work from someone else. The whole point of homework is to help you gain a skill or learn a new topic. When you copy someone's homework, you lose out on both.
   b. If you are caught cheating on any assignment or test, you will get an automatic zero and a phone call/email home. Frequent violations will result in administrative referrals.