

Mr. Burkhard's U.S. History Course Outline

Class: U.S. History

Teacher: Mr. Paul Burkhard

Location: Technology Lab, Room 104

Phone: (970) 834-2816

Email: pburkhard@weldre9.org



Contacting me: It will be easiest for parents to contact me via email, as I will be checking it frequently during the school day. Parents may also contact me through the phone number above. Please note that I have a website which outlines all of the coursework and deliverables for this course. It can be found at: <http://www.highlandtechnology.org>. You can also reach me and all of my course webpage information on the district website at <https://www.weldre9.org>.

Course Content: All of the assignments for this course, as well as all of the class lectures and classroom outlines, are available at one of the two websites listed above. You will be able to exactly track the learning expectations of your student by monitoring course assignment sheets on the website and on the Infinite Campus Parent's Portal.

Hours of Availability: I will be available to meet with students for extra help during Sixth and Seventh Period each day. I will usually be in the Technology Lab each day until at least 4:00-4:30 p.m. after school. Please visit me during those times, if needed. You will need to check in at the office first!

Course Description and State Standards:

U.S. History "Students will ... Understand the nature of historical knowledge as a process of inquiry that examines and analyzes how United States history is viewed, constructed, and interpreted." (CDE Social Studies Standards, 2020)

U.S. History Students Will:

- Formulate compelling and supporting questions after evaluating primary sources for point of view and historical context.
- Gather and analyze historical information to address questions from a range of primary and secondary sources containing a variety of perspectives.
- Gather and analyze historical information from a range of qualitative and quantitative sources. For example: demographic, economic, social, and political data.
- Construct and defend a historical argument that evaluates interpretations by analyzing, critiquing, and synthesizing evidence from the full range of relevant historical sources.

CLASS DISCUSSION AND RHETORIC: One of the main problems that I see with America today is the lack of an ability for citizens to properly discuss and argue their beliefs in the historical and political arenas. That being the case, we will spend a great deal of time analyzing and discussing historical issues in the classroom. As this could easily become a free for all of name calling and hostility, I will be instituting the **"Discourse Rule"**- *Students must be respectful of the arguments and beliefs of others and should only speak from a place of evidence and understanding when making a point or an argument.* Name calling, mocking, threatening language, hateful comments concerning race, gender, sexuality, political views, appearance, or of any other type, etc. WILL NOT be tolerated.

CLASS PARTICIPATION: It is the expectation that all students will actively participate in classroom learning and discussions on a daily basis. Students that do not participate will not receive a high score in this class.

Materials: Unlike most of Mr. Burkhard's classes and although HHS is moving towards a paperless school year as much as possible, U.S. History students will be required to bring a **notebook and pencil** to class EACH DAY. In addition, we will also be using an extensive amount of online resources, reading and research materials on a regular basis. The student will be expected to have these materials at hand whenever needed.

Tardiness/Attendance: I expect students to arrive on time for this class. You are all upperclassmen, and should be responsible enough to show up on time for events. There will be regular bellringer work that will be graded. Students that are late will receive ZEROES for their bellwork for those days.

Late Work: This year, Highland is instituting a new policy regarding late work. Work that is not submitted by the due date listed on the class website or on an assignment sheet will still be eligible for submission for 75 percent credit PRIOR TO THE END OF THE CURRENT UNIT in the course. I will make sure that the class is aware of these unit dates as the year progresses.

Grading: We will be completing a number of classroom assignments, written works and projects throughout the year. Because we are a computer based classroom and because I am interested in saving trees, most of our assignments will be submitted electronically, by sharing Google documents through the school network. I will be grading on a standard 90/80/70/60 grading scale. Grades will be posted into the "Infinite Campus" system, which is accessible to parents online.

Classroom Expectations: We will cover in more detail the classroom expectations at the beginning of the semester. However, if at any time, students in my classroom are disrespectful of the classroom or the learning process, I will take the following steps immediately to restore a suitable learning environment in the classroom:

1. The student will be asked to move to a different computer station in the room, likely one with little opportunity to disrupt the classroom.
2. The student may be removed to the hallway or to the school office, as per school policy.
3. A student sent to the hallway will be expected to complete a written assignment that covers the classroom material for that day. Parents and guardians will be notified of the students actions.
4. All disciplinary issues will be thoroughly documented in the Infinite Campus system. Should classroom issues continue to occur, a counseling session will be scheduled with the school principal and the family to discuss options for the student.

EXTREMELY IMPORTANT: We will frequently be involved in classroom discussions and group project work in U.S. History. At all times during this course, students will respect other people in the classroom. This means active listening when others are speaking, with no interruptions. Students will exhibit courtesy and respect toward all other students at all times.

HALL PASSES: If you need to use the restroom, please let Mr. Burkhard know. DO NOT make it a daily habit, or he will start denying you the privilege.

CELL PHONES: As usual, the administration at HHS is asking that students do not access their cell phones during class. I will be following this directive to the best of my ability. In the Tech Lab, unless you are specifically directed to use your phone for a classroom activity or have work time where you are able to listen to music, you should keep your phone in your backpack. If I see your phone being used in an unauthorized manner, I will first give you a warning, then I will complete an office referral for Administration for dispensation.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a very serious offense, and is an act of fraud. According to copyright law, all of the following are considered plagiarism:

- Turning in someone else's work as your own
- Copying words or ideas from someone else without giving credit
- Failing to put a quotation in quotation marks
- Giving incorrect information about the source of a quotation
- Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source without giving credit

- Copying so many words or ideas from a source that it makes up the majority of your work, whether you give credit or not. *Source: Plagiarism.org*
- ANY INCIDENT OF PLAGIARISM WILL BE GIVEN A ZERO FOR THE ASSIGNMENT WITHOUT OPPORTUNITIES TO RESUBMIT.
- Please do not take the chance and bet your grade in this class and your high school graduation on PLAGIARISM! Be RESPONSIBLE and do your own work!

✂ **-----Please Detach the Section Below and Return it to Class.-----**

Please complete the form below and have it returned by Friday, August 19, 2022, so that I have appropriate contact information for all students in my classes. Completion of this assignment is our first assignment for the semester and will be worth 15 points.

I have reviewed and have a copy of Mr. Burkhard's U.S. History Course Outline:

PRINT Student's NAME: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's NAME: _____ Date: _____

Primary Contact Person: _____ Relationship: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

**Parents, can I contact you by email, as necessary, regarding the progress of your student? _____

If so, please give me your contact email address: _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____