



Mrs. Janice Sutton
American History Syllabus

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Planning Period: 7:15 - 8:45 am

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Course Description: This course will explore the overarching themes, trends, and concepts of our nation's history, including the development and evolution of the American system of government, the patterns and impact of migration and immigration, cultural development through the arts and technological innovations, relationships with foreign nations, and the role of both the individual and diverse groups in building the American story. Students in this course will be asked to investigate major turning points in American History to develop an understanding of multiple causation, to determine patterns of change and continuity, and to be able to compare multiple perspectives of the past. Rooted in Inquiry-based skills, students will trace American development while learning to craft compelling questions, synthesize and evaluate evidence, develop claims, communicate ideas, and take informed action. Students will continue to build upon previous studies of American History, the fundamental concepts in civics and government, economics, behavioral science (culture), and geography taught in grades kindergarten through eight as they examine American history. As well-rounded, productive citizens, students will leave the American History course with both the knowledge and the skills to engage with the modern world by recognizing contemporary patterns and connections. - *(NC DPI 2021)*

Moving to College and Career Readiness: Students who complete this course will be able to go beyond memorization of isolated facts and be able to develop higher level thinking skills. Students will be able to make historical assessments and evaluations.

Text(s) & Resources: 1) American History: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt 2) History Alive! Pursuing American Ideals and The United States 3) various other primary and secondary sources 4) Infinite Campus



Course Scope and Sequence (see below)

Introduction and Historical Thinking Skills Unit 1: Age of Revolution & Foundations of Our Nation • French and Indian War • Taxes and Conflict • Declaration of Independence • New Nation • Washington and Adams Unit 2: Expansion and Reform • War of 1812 • Andrew Jackson • Texas Revolution • Mexican American War • Reforms Unit 3: Sectionalism-Reconstruction • Sectionalism • The Civil War • Black Reconstruction • Reconstruction • Western Expansion • Populism	Unit 4: Gilded Era and Progressivism • Industrial Revolution • Immigration • Urbanization • Federal Progressivism • Segregation • Jim Crow <u>CMS Midterm</u> Unit 5: Imperialism & WWI • Imperialism • Spanish American War • WWI • Treaty of Paris Unit 6: Boom to Bust • Politics 1920's • Society 1920's • Mass Media Culture • Great Depression New Deal Unit 7: WWII & Early Cold War • Rise in Totalitarian Leaders • WWII • Cold War • Second Red Scare • Truman Korea • Eisenhower	Unit 8: Turbulent Times- PW Capitalism and Social Change • Turbulent Times • JFK Presidency • JFK Assassination • Civil Rights • Chicano • Feminism • Vietnam History Unit 9: Vietnam and End of the Cold war • Legacy of Vietnam • Nixon • Ford and Carter • Reagan Years • George H.W. Bush and Clinton Unit 10: Modern America • Elections • 9/11 • Modern Economy • Social Justice • Digital Revolution Review <u>CMS Final Exam</u>
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Possible Assignments, and Projects: DBQs, Quizzes, Warm ups and Learning Logs will be a weekly thing. Students will have a notebook check and assessments at the end of each unit. Possible projects and topics: Journal entries, and Causes of the Revolution Choice Board, War of 1812 debate, Timeline activities, Modernize the Declaration of Independence, President Jackson Political Cartoon Analyzes, Reform Movement, Civil War Project, Reconstruction Report Card, Journey West Gallery, Business Leader Resume, Political Cartoon analyzes, Writing/Publishing Newspaper from the 1900s, Illustrated Story Book, WWII Project, Position Papers, Cuban Missile Crisis, Civil Rights Movement, 9/11, and more.

Required Materials:

1" Notebook or folder, College Ruled Notebook paper, and Pencils and Pens. **Optional items:** Color pencils, and our class could always use boxes of Kleenex and clorox wipes. **Students need to bring their CMS charged chromebooks everyday (no personal devices allowed).**

Grading Proportions

Grade Type	Percentage	Types of Assignments
Prepare Grades	20%	Warm-ups, and exit tickets (check for understanding)
Rehearse Grades	30%	Quizzes, Mini-Projects, Classwork, and Vocabulary
Perform Grades	50%	Unit Assessment, Performance Tests, Writing Assignments, Projects with Rubrics

HONOR CODE

Please read the Independence Honor Code and make sure you understand it. This includes the use of any form of AI on assignments. bit.ly/IHShonorcode

Late work and Make-up policy: Late work is defined as any assigned work that is not completed and ready to turn in before coming to class on the day it is due. Work not turned in on time will be counted as being “late”. Late assignments will be accepted for a grade until one week (5 school days) after the “Perform” date unless the “Perform” grade falls at the end of the quarter for which the principal may set the final date for all work to be submitted. Late penalties of no more than 5 points **per day** (unless absent) will be deducted for late work (using a 100 point scale). Assignments submitted after the “Perform” date will receive a 50% and feedback on progress will be provided to the student. Work is due the first day upon returning after an EXCUSED absence for no penalty. If a student is absent on an exam day, they must arrange to take the MAKE-UP exam upon return to school but within 5 days of the original date. MAKE-UP exams will not receive the option for extra credit or curve and will be randomized assessment from materials covered within the text and class. NO make-up exams/missing work/retest will be scored after the 5 days of original exam date per CMS 2025/26 scoring policy.



Retake Policy on Unit Assessments:

In the event that a student makes less than an 80% or higher on a Unit Assessment, the student has the opportunity to take a retest on the same material but not the same test. Any student wishing to retake a unit test must do so within the 5 days after the original exam. A student will not be able to score higher than a 79% on the retake.

Infinite Campus Parent Portal Information: Parents may access their student's grades and attendance using the Parent Portal. The teacher keeps grades updated every week. **Infinity:** Parents can also be observers on their child's Canvas account.

Criteria for a student to qualify for an exemption from participating in final exam in a course that is a non-EOC/state required assessment:

1. Students with a grade of an 'A' (90%) or above and no more than 3 absences.
2. Students with a grade of a 'B' (80%) or above with no more than 1 absence. Students would have the option to take the final exam to improve their grade rather than the exemption. *If a student chooses to take the exam, CMS grading practices are followed, and the exam counts for 20% of the student's final grade.*
3. For students that have an undue hardship with attendance due to not having transportation established as a new or MCV student or has a documented medical/health condition through an IEP or 504, the principal may exempt the student from participating in a non-EOC/state required final exam if the student has met the academic criteria.
4. Students who participate and complete Advanced Placement exams may choose to take the teacher-made final to include in their final grade for the class

ADDITIONAL HELP: Tutoring is available on Thursdays **2:20 to 3:00** and other times by appointment. This is also the time that you can make-up or retake a test, make-up a quiz, or other assignments.

All tests will be shown to the class and discussed at the beginning and end of each unit.

My Expectations:

1. Respect time.
2. Bring the required materials to class.
3. Allow yourself and others to learn!

CELL PHONE POLICY:

Cell phones will not be allowed during class time and per state law and school wide policy, cell phones will be collected upon entering class. Earbuds will not be allowed and may be collected. Students WILL NOT be permitted to use their own ipad, laptop, or other device to complete school work inside the classroom during the school day. Only school issue devices will be permitted inside the classroom to be used.



2025-2026 American History Pacing Guide

UNIT NAME	1st Semester Target Dates	Dates to Remember
Unit 0: Introduction to Course • Enduring Issues • Essential Questions • What is historical thinking?	<u>2 days total</u> August 25 - 26th, 2025	<i>School starts 8/25</i>
Unit 1: Age of Revolution & Foundations of Our Nation • French and Indian War • Taxes and Conflict • Declaration of Independence • New Nation • Washington and Adams	<u>7 days total</u> August 27th - September 5th	<i>Labor Day 9/1</i>
Unit 2: Expansion and Reform • War of 1812 • Andrew Jackson • Texas Revolution • Mexican American War • Reforms	<u>10 days total</u> Sept. 10th - 22nd	<i>Teacher Workdays 9/9 and 9/23</i>
Unit 3: Sectionalism- Reconstruction • Sectionalism • The Civil War • Black Reconstruction • Reconstruction • Western Expansion	<u>10 days total</u> Sept. 24th - Oct. 8th	<i>Early Release day - 10/1 Teacher workday -10/2</i>



• Populism		
Unit 4: Gilded Era and Progressivism • Gilded age • Industrial Revolution • Immigration • Urbanization • Federal Progressivism • Segregation • Jim Crow	<u>8 days total</u> Oct. 9th - 20th	
Midterm Review & Midterms (Units 1 - 4)	<u>1 day total</u> Oct.. 24th-30th (will be one of these days)	<i>End of 1st Quarter - 10/31</i>
Unit 5: Imperialism & WWI • Imperialism • Spanish American War • WWI • Treaty of Paris	<u>6 days total</u> Oct. 21st - Oct. 31st	<i>This unit will be done during midterm week but will not be on the midterm. - 10/ 21st - 10/31.</i>
Unit 6: Boom to Bust • Politics 1920's • Society 1920's • Mass Media Culture • Great Depression New Deal	<u>6 days total</u> Nov. 3rd - Nov. 12th	<i>Teacher workday - 11/4 Veterans Day Holiday - 11/11</i>
Unit 7: WWII & Early Cold War • Rise in Totalitarian Leaders • WWII • Cold War • Second Red Scare • Truman Korea	<u>8 days total</u> Nov. 13th - Nov. 25th	<i>Early Release Day 11/19 Thanksgiving Holiday - 11/26 - 11/28</i>



• Eisenhower		
Unit 8: Turbulent Times- PW Capitalism and Social Change • Turbulent Times • JFK Presidency • JFK Assassination • Civil Rights • Chicano • Feminism • Vietnam History	<u>10 days total</u> Dec. 1st - Dec. 12th	
Unit 9: Vietnam and End of the Cold war • Legacy of Vietnam • Nixon • Ford and Carter • Reagan Years • Bush Sr and Clinton	<u>4 days</u> Dec. 15th - Dec. 18th	<i>Winter Break - 12/22 - Jan. 2nd</i>
Unit 10: Modern America • Elections • 9/11 • Modern Economy • Social Justice • Digital Revolution	<u>4 days</u> Jan. 5th - Jan. 9th	
End of Year Test Prep	<u>2 days total</u> January 2026	<i>Last day of 2nd Quarter and 1st semester - 1/21/2026</i>
Final (Teacher Made Exams)	January 2026	<i>January 19th - MLK Holiday</i>