

11th Grade U.S. History

Instructor: Ms. Salomon

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Course Description: This course will focus on U.S. history from the rise of industrialization to the present. We will cover American society, American foreign policy and events that changed the face of America. You will learn how different events in U.S. History have shaped this nation and how they relate to contemporary events.

I. Classroom Procedures and Activities

- A. Warm-Ups** –Each day, we will begin class with a warm-up question. Answers will be short response (3-5 sentences).
- B. Lecture/Notes** – Chapters will be supplemented and/or summarized with lecture. You are required to participate in taking notes. Chapter tests will be open-note depending on student behavior (see Classroom Behavior and Expectations).
- C. In-Class Activities** – Chapters will be accompanied by a variety of activities. These will include, but not be limited to: timelines, graphs, maps, presentations, skits, group work, debates, discussions, quickwrites, essays and crossword puzzles. Curriculum will also be supplemented, or supported, with additional readings, articles, worksheets and videos.
- D. Group Projects** – Group projects will occur during each grading period. Group projects will be graded on an individual as well as a group basis. Some projects will require research outside of the classroom.
- E. Participation** – It is required that you participate in this class. Regular participation is necessary to make this class interesting. Be prepared to speak in class *at least* 3 times a week.

II. Student Work

- A. Late Work/ Make-Up Work** –You are responsible for coming to get your make-up work from me. *Tests must be made up within one week of returning from an absence.* Acceptance of late work will depend upon the assignment, however, I will accept most work late for partial credit. No late work for the quarter will be accepted after the following dates:
 - i. First Quarter: 10/21
 - ii. First Semester: 1/13
 - iii. Third Quarter: 3/24
 - iv. Second Semester: 6/1
- B. Extra Credit** – Extra credit opportunities may arise throughout the year; however they will be determined by class behavior. Do not expect enough extra credit to raise your grade from failing to passing.
- C. Notebook** – It is expected that you will have a spiral notebook or a folder that you will keep all of your work in for this class. This will be used for this class alone, and you will need to leave it in class. You are expected to keep all of your assignments, notes and graded work. If a mistake is ever made in grading, you will be required to show me the *graded* work before I will change the mistake in the grading system. Notebook checks will occur every 2-3 weeks. You will be given 1 week's notice to get your notebook in order. You will be allowed 1 (ONE) late notebook check, but otherwise, notebooks will NOT be accepted late.

III. Grading Policy

- A. **Grading Scale** – All letter grades will be determined based on the following grading scale. A curve will not be used.

100%-90% = A

89%-80% = B

79%-70% = C

69%-60% = D

59% and below = F

IV. Classroom Behavior and Expectations

- A. **Be Prepared** – Come to class prepared with your own paper, pen/pencil, notebook etc. Have your homework completed before class starts. Do not waste my time by asking me or your classmates for supplies during class time, or I will keep you after class and take up your time.
- B. **Be Prompt** – Students must be in the classroom and in their seats when the bell rings. A note from another teacher or an administrator will excuse a tardy; however the school policy will be followed if excessive tardies occur. Excessive tardies will also result in a referral and will lower students' citizenship grades. At the end of class, stay seated. I excuse you from class, not the bell. Leaving class without my permission will result in a referral.
- C. **Be Positive** – I expect positive attitudes in my classroom. "I can't" is not an excuse for laziness. Do your work, try your best. You can and you will. I expect you to always work your hardest. Turning in work that you are not proud of is unacceptable.
- D. **Be Polite** – Always be respectful, polite, helpful and honest with your peers and with me. I will respect you, and I expect you to respect me. When I am talking, you are not. When you are talking, others are not.
- E. **Be Productive** - There will not be excessive homework in this class. Most homework will be classwork that you did not finish while in class. Use your time wisely and productively and you will rarely have to do work outside of the classroom.
- F. **Always Use Your Own Words** – Never, ever, ever copy someone else's work and turn it in as your own. You will receive an immediate zero on the assignment and you will not be able to make it up.
- G. **Always Ask** – If you have questions, do not ever hesitate to come and ask me. I am here to help you do your best, but I cannot help you if you don't let me know that you need help.
- H. **Food or Drink** – Aside from water, please keep all food and drink in your backpack during class.
- I. **Cell Phones/ iPods** – Cell phones and iPods are not allowed in class. Administration has instructed teachers to write a referral and send any student with their phone or iPod out down to the office.
- J. **Bathroom** – You may use the bathroom after the first 15 minutes or prior to the final 15 minutes of class. You will be given four bathroom passes to be used over the semester. If you choose not to use your passes, each one of them is worth 10 extra credit points (for up to 40 points).

***Note: Any part of this syllabus is subject to change at my discretion.**

Video Permission Slip

Over the course of the year, I will use videos to help reinforce chapter concepts and to help students visualize major historical events. Some of these videos are rated “R.” In order for your child to watch these videos, it is necessary for you to sign a permission slip. If you are not comfortable with your child watching rated “R” movies in class, an alternate assignment will be provided for them

Movies may include (either in clips or, rarely, in entirety):

- The Last of the Mohicans
- The Patriot
- Far and Away
- Flyboys
- Saving Private Ryan
- Flags of our Fathers
- Enemy at the Gate
- Iron Jawed Angels
- Pearl Harbor
- Dear America: Letters Home From Vietnam
- The Long Walk Home
- Malcolm X

I have read the above and I have no problem allowing my child to watch the listed videos in history class.

I have read the above and I will allow my child to watch rated ‘R’ videos in history class.

Student’s Name: _____

Parent’s Name: _____

Parent’s Signature: _____