



U.S. History (SHS 201 & SHS 202) These courses meet the intent and philosophy of the *History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools*.

Course Description

This course provides juniors with an awareness of our national heritage. Students will develop a better and deeper understanding of how our country became what it is today. Students will continue to develop their reading, writing, thinking and research skills with the use of primary and secondary sources. This course satisfies the A section of the A-G graduation requirements.

The units of study are taught thematically and will progress as follows:

Unit 1: The Nation's Beginnings

Unit 2: Growing Pains

Unit 3: The Progressive Era

Unit 4: The Jazz Age

Unit 5: The Great Depression

Unit 6: World War II

Unit 7: The Cold War

Unit 8: Civil Rights Movement

Unit 9: Postwar American Society

Unit 10: Modern America

Teacher

Mr. Messineo

Vincent-Messineo@scusd.edu

916-433-5200 x 1807

Grades can be checked online via **Infinite Campus** at www.scusd.edu

Textbook

Primary Text: *American Anthem* (Holt, Rinehart and Winston) c. 2007, Ayers, de la Teja, White, and Schulzinger.

Required Materials

- Notebooks, pencils, pens (colored pencils, scissors and glue sticks recommended)

Grading Policy

Grades will be based on the total points earned in the following grade categories and then weighted according to the following percentages.

- Classwork/Homework= 30%
- Exams and Quizzes= 30%
- Research Papers/Projects= 20%
- Final Exam= 20%

Your points in all four categories will be weighted to determine your overall grade. Keep all papers pertaining to your grade. It is your responsibility to prove any discrepancies with the grade sheet. Grade updates detailing your individual progress will be posted regularly in class.

90-100%= A 70-79%= C 0-59%= F
80-89%= B 60-69%= D

Course Objectives

In addition to the geographic skills and concepts described in the above course description, students in Geography will learn the following communication, language, and research skills throughout the year:

- Writing in defense of an argument using the Jane Schaffer Chunk Paragraph Model
- Thesis statement development
- Supporting a thesis with evidence
- Utilizing the library and internet for research
- Evaluate information and make judgments between conflicting interpretations
- Citing Sources using MLA Format
- Public Speaking

These critical thinking skills will be built upon each year in subsequent social sciences courses and coincide with the Common Core Standards. Our goal is to have each student capable of writing a college level research paper by the time they graduate.

- **Class Participation** -- is important! Each of you will be expected to take part in discussions on your own and/or when called upon.
- **Homework** – expect it! Both short-term assignments and long-term projects and research will require your attention at home most afternoons or evenings. Work should be completed prior to the start of class on its given due date. **Late work is unacceptable.**
- **Group Work** -- earns both a group and individual grades. Groups will be assigned by the teacher (this is not negotiable, please stop whining now) and will change frequently. Your cooperative skills and contributions to group work will also impact your participation grade.
- **Attendance** is vital. Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you've missed. You have the same number of days to turn in work as the number of days for which you had excused absences. *Many activities and experiences cannot be recreated for an individual who misses class. Poor attendance will affect your grade.*
- **Lying, cheating, plagiarism or any form of dishonesty will not be tolerated.**

Class Rules/Behavior Expectations

- ❖ **Be on time, prepared to learn and work. This includes being in compliance with our school's dress code. You may not enter my classroom wearing a non-JFK ball cap, headphones, talking on a phone, texting on a phone, or listening to music without headphones.**
- ❖ **Everyone will be treated with respect.**
- ❖ **No one will be allowed to disrupt the learning process of anyone else.**
- ❖ **No food, beverages, or gum are allowed at anytime.**
- ❖ **Attendance is critical. Any student with an unexcused absence won't be allowed to make up missed assignments.**
- ❖ **Whether or not you can make up assignments if you have been suspended from school is at my discretion.**
- ❖ **Students are allowed to have cell phones in their possession but they are not allowed out in class. If I don't see it or hear it, there will be no issues. If I see it or hear it, it will be confiscated and a parent/guardian will have to pick it up in the office. Refusal to hand over a cell phone when asked will result in a referral to the discipline office.**
- ❖ **Bathroom passes will be given if Mr. Messineo feels it is an appropriate time unless policy is being abused.**
- ❖ **Let the positive vibes flow. Negativity will not be allowed.**

I have read and understand what is expected of me in World Geography.

Student name (please print): _____

Student signature: _____

I have read and understand what is expected of my student in World Geography.

Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____