



John F Kennedy High School
Course Syllabus
United States History 2017-2018

Instructor:	Mr. Issac	Office Hours:	Mon/Weds/Fri 3:17-4:00
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Room:	C-213		

Course Description:

This World History course will focus on the study of civilizations and cultures from Pre-history to the end of the 20th Century. This course will align with California and Common Core standards and focus on the relationship between rising and falling civilizations. Students will engage in academic writing, reading, and critical thinking exercises to comprehend and infer historical time periods, geographical borders, political and economical institutions, and interactions between peoples from around the world.

Course Objectives:

- Improve students' ability to critically engage using primary and secondary historical source material in reading, writing, and debate exercises.
- Understand the progression of the creation of the United States
- Develop the ability to recognize the significance of change over time and cause and effect.
- Understand how U.S. history still impacts modern America.

Attendance Policy:

Every student is expected to attend every class on time every day unless the student is required to be absent for a valid excuse. Truancy, unverified and unexcused absences, excessive absences, and tardies affect the students' education and increase the chances for failure. Tardies interrupt and interfere with the learning environment for all students and the teaching opportunities for teachers.

*For the rest of the school and district policy on attendance please see the JFK Handbook.

Required Materials:

- Writing utensils: Pens or pencils
- 1 single subject Notebook
- Textbook: Human Legacy

Grading Scale:

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

Grading:

I will try my best at updating grades weekly through Infinite Campus. If you ever need a grade check please ask me 1 day prior.

Assignment Categories:

Paper: 3	20%
Exam: 3	15%
Project: 2	15%
Classwork/Homework (when assigned):	40%
Quizzes:	10%

Testing and Essays:

These are created to help you as a student practice independently the skills and knowledge you learn in class. Your essays will be drafted, edited, and worked through class as well as at home. In this course, you will learn strategies to better increase your writing and your papers will be a reflection of your supported ideas. All exams will test your knowledge about material covered in class, you will also be required to make your own supported arguments depending on the topics we cover.

Any makeup exams will need to be rescheduled with me.

Behavior Expectation:

- Be on time every time. School Tardy policies will be enforced.
- Treat everyone with respect.
- Believe in yourself and your ability to learn.
- Participate daily.
- Cursing and foul language will not be tolerated.

Plagiarism/Cheating:

Most of your submitted work will require you to make your own arguments, thus it is impossible for you to simply copy and paste someone else's work without getting caught; all plagiarized work will receive a 0 for that assignment without the ability to make it up. We will explore many different primary and secondary sources and you may adopt or use their ideas to make an argument–YOU MUST CITE all ideas or theories from someone else's work.

Bathroom:

To avoid issues with Hallway Sweeps or students roaming the hallways, we use **1 bathroom pass** to allow 1 student to use the restroom at a time. If a student is continually leaving class for extended amounts of time to use the bathroom it is possible that you will lose privileges.

Open Door:

My classroom is your classroom. Don't hesitate to come in early, during lunch, or after school if you need help or just a place to relax. I'm very accustomed to having students in and out of my office, you are more than welcome to make my class a place to lay your hat.