

Twentieth Century American History – Inclusion

INSTRUCTORS	
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[Email is the quickest & easiest method of communication between parents/guardians, students & instructors.]	

*****Access to South Western Canvas and Google can be found on the District web page – Click on “District Contacts” and then go to the appropriate site.**

COURSE OVERVIEW

Welcome to American History! The primary emphasis of this course pertains to the study of United States history from the beginning of the Twentieth Century to the present day. More specifically, this course focuses on the transformation of America in the twentieth century. Several major themes are presented that apply to all periods of American history to enable the student to link events across time. Government, the economy, society, culture, technology, environment, diversity, unity and conflict are all explored and analyzed as parts of the larger pattern of American history. The critical role of the United States in a global, multicultural world of technology and innovation is also an integral part of the curriculum taught.

This course offers learning opportunities for students to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting. Students are empowered to perform at higher levels of critical thinking as they engage in the following: analyzing historical documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient note-takers, participating in Socratic seminars/discussions, emphasizing free-response and document-based writing, contrasting opposing viewpoints, solving problems, etc.

The majority of class assignments, directions and documents will be accessible on the class Canvas site. As such, if students are absent from class, they are responsible for retrieving the work for which they are not in attendance. **NOTE: If a student does not have internet access at home, he/she will need to make time before or after school or during lunch in the Learning Commons.**

We are looking forward to getting to know each student this year. We plan on having a great school year with improvement and growth from ourselves and the students. Everyone—teachers, students, and parents—is in this together, so let’s work together to have a successful school year!!! Do not be afraid to ask questions and seek help. We cannot read your mind; so if you do not ask, we will assume you understand everything we are covering in class. It is critical that you communicate with us as soon as possible in the event you are having difficulties.

CLASS MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to take students where they cannot take themselves. We will create an atmosphere that teaches young people:

1. to develop character that leads to honesty, integrity, respect, loyalty, and compassion.
2. to uphold the standards of being a student while achieving academic success.
3. to promote the qualities of effective leadership.
4. to inspire students to develop goals for future academic and personal growth!

DAILY REQUIREMENTS

- **Come to class on time and prepared everyday:** Being late and unprepared will not be tolerated, and will negatively affect your grade, as well as result in disciplinary action. You have six minutes between classes, so you need to plan accordingly. You need to be in your seat when the bell rings, or you will be marked late! For every three (3) tardies without a pass, you will receive some disciplinary action and a lower behavior grade. Every day, you must have the following:
 - **Three ring binder (2")**
 - **Homework (if assigned any)**
 - **Assigned Readings**
 - **Writing Utensil (pen/pencil)**
 - **Laptop - You will need this everyday!**
 - **Set of earbuds/headphones**

- **Zoom Expectations:** On the days that you are not in the building, you will be required to attend class via Zoom. Below are the expectations we have for you:
 - **Be on time** – Log on a few minutes before class begins
 - **Be in a quiet place** – Make sure you are in an area that does not have noise that may be distracting to others, particularly when speaking or asking questions.
 - **Be prepared** – Make sure your computer is charged or connected to a charger, your camera is on (must stay on the entire time to receive credit for attendance), and use headphones/earbuds if you have them to listen/speak.
 - **Presentation** – Wear appropriate clothing and be in the view of the camera.
 - **Mute yourself** – By default, when you enter the class, you are muted. If you ask a question, make sure you unmute yourself to speak and then mute yourself again when finished speaking.
 - **Participation** – Just because you are at home does not mean you won't be called on to answer questions. Make sure you are focused, attentive, and an active participant.
 - **Responsibility** – Using the “Participant” button in Zoom, you can select from any of the options to the right of your screen. If you have questions or wish to volunteer to answer a question, please use this feature.
 - **Communication** – Speak clearly, maintain eye contact, and stay on topic.
 - **Be respectful** – Be kind and considerate to others.

MOBILE DEVICES IN THE CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Electronic devices

- May be brought into the classroom, but must be put away at the beginning of the class.
- At times we may use electronic devices in the classroom for research or as part of a class activity. On such occasions, students may use the devices with the consent of the teachers.
- Any violations will be dealt with according to the Districts “**Acceptable Use**” and **BYOD** policy as outlined in the student handbook (pgs. 6-8).
- Any activity conducted on mobile devices **cannot be published online** without the permission and approval of Mr. Flaherty and Mrs. Gilbert.

Free Sites/Apps to Bookmark or Download on Your Browser:

1. [Canvas](#) [LMS you'll be using]
2. [Google](#) [Email, Google Docs, Google Slides, Calendar] - Use your SW login
3. [Kahoot](#) [review games]
4. [Quizizz](#) [review games]
5. [Remind.com](#) [school-related messages/reminders]
6. Quick QR Code Reader: Download by going to the App Store/Google Play and searching “Neoreader”

DISTRICT-ISSUED LAPTOPS EXPECTATIONS

1. Laptops are to be brought with you every day to class, whether we use them or not in class.
2. Unless they are being used for a class activity, your laptops need to **remain in your carrying bag**.

CLASSROOM POLICIES & EXPECTATIONS

Student Expectations

- Respect everyone in the classroom
- Participate positively in class
- You will be held accountable for assignments & behavior while working in groups! Don't be the one with whom no one wants to work!
- Always do your best!

Classroom Policies

1. Come to class on time every day

- Be in your seat and log into your computer by the sound of the last bell
- For every 3 tardies without a pass, you will receive a disciplinary action & a lower participation grade

2. Due Dates and Incomplete Assignments

- Assignments must be completed when assigned. Often, these assignments are an extension of the material that was covered in the classroom and, thus, they are graded.
- Failure to complete assignments can affect a student's overall grade.
- Students with incompletes will be assigned "Academic Accountability" until all work has been completed.

3. No food or drink as per district policy

- Unless you have water in a clear water bottle

4. Absences

- Make-up work is your responsibility!!
- Upon your return to school, pick up your work from the assigned folder and see Mr. Flaherty or Mrs. Gilbert. -You can also access missed work & assignments by logging into Canvas
- Any work not returned in a timely fashion will be marked as a **zero [0], according to district policy!**

COURSE GRADE

The high school has eliminated marking periods. Thus, your grade will be based on a cumulative average for the semester. A current grade report will be issued at the end of each marking period, and a final grade report will be issued at the conclusion of each semester.

- **There will be no Final Examination for this course.**
- Students' grades will be updated on a regular basis as per district grading guidelines.

CHEATING AND/OR PLAGIARISM WILL NOT BE TOLERATED IN ANY FORM

Your personal honor and integrity are a significant part of who you are as a person. We expect that you will do your own work! If you are caught cheating, disciplinary action as outlined in the student handbook (pg. 4) will be taken. A high level of maturity, responsibility, and integrity are expected (and required) in this classroom.

DISTRICT NO-ZERO POLICY:

We will treat all incomplete assignments as “incomplete with no penalty reflected in a student’s grade” for one [1] week after the teacher-established due date. Following the one-week period, Canvas will begin treating the “incomplete” assignment as a 0% in the calculation of the student’s overall MP grade. Assignments will be accepted after the “one week window” at the discretion of the teachers.

Teachers will report a student’s failure to submit assignments on time as a behavioral comment on student report cards.

DISTRICT RETESTING POLICY (Revised 2020)

- **All students have the ability to retake an assessment. The assessment that is being retaken may not be the exact same assessment as the original one but will assess the same material as the original version.**
- **Who must retest?**
 - **1st 9 weeks of each semester:** Each department member will **STRONGLY** encourage any student who scores below a 70% on a summative assessment to take a retest.
 - **2nd 9 weeks of each semester:** A *student may request* to complete a reassessment on any summative assessment.
- The student must complete reassessments within a **two-week** period from the date the classroom teachers return the graded assessment.
- Students will be required to demonstrate additional preparation for the retest by completing a minimum of one [1] session of remediation during 5th period or an equivalent of preparation time with one of the classroom teachers in after-school detention.
- **All student work (including homework, review sheets, etc...) must be completed prior to the assessment in order to be eligible for a reassessment on the material.**
- The most recent assessment score (better or worse) is the one that will be recorded in the grade book. (see student handbook)
- Students will be granted only one (1) retest per single summative assessment.
- Retesting can be done before school, in the testing center – 5th period, or after school, depending on the availability of the teachers.
- It will be noted on a student’s report card that retesting was utilized.