

PLAINFIELD EAST HIGH SCHOOL



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U.S. History Syllabus

2017/2018

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a survey of U.S. History, originating with a review of the founding of our nation. It investigates the study of Presidential administrations, and compares major historical events and movements with a focus on the social, economic, and political aspects of America's past. Students are expected to think critically in order to participate in classroom discussions and produce analytical essays utilizing primary and secondary source documents.

GRADING:

Course Grades: Course grades will not be based upon a total accumulation of points. Instead, student grades will be determined based on the following weighted categories:

Practice (Classwork/Homework): 20%

Quiz: 10%

Assessments: 50%

Final Exam: 20%

Grading Scale: A=100 – 90; B=89 – 80; C=79 – 70; D=69 – 60; F=59.9 and below

Practice: Homework/Classwork:

Homework and classwork for US History will strengthen the student's understanding and knowledge of various American historical (and current) topics we will cover, as well as reinforcing reading and writing strategies. Assignments not finished in class will also be assigned as homework due the following day at the beginning of the class period. We will review each assignment for any questions or problems that may arise. Classwork is expected to be completed in given time frame. All assignments will count as "Practice" towards our goals in assessments.

Assessments:

The chart on the following page outlines the chapters/topics covered and assessments for each semester. Quizzes will take place for numerous chapters as checkpoints for understanding; quizzes include multiple choice, fill in the blank, & short answer. There will also be four Performance Based Assessments given throughout the entire year for more formative assessments; these assessments will focus on document analysis, thesis writing, essay outlining, and essay writing.

Students who wish to retake quizzes or PBA assessments will need permission from their teacher in order to do this, having the student follow the procedure for the Request to Retake form. In certain cases, the student will be issued a mandatory assessment retake based upon the teacher's discretion.

| First Semester Course Outline | |
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| Progressive Era, Imperialism, & WWI (1890-1920) | Chapter 9 <i>The Progressive Era (1890-1920)</i> Chapter 10 <i>America Claims an Empire (1890- 1920)</i> Chapter 11 <i>The First World War (1914-1920)</i> |
| PBA #1 | Progressive Era Document Analysis |
| 1920s, The Great Depression, & the New Deal (1919-1940) | Chapter 12 <i>Politics of the Roaring 20's (1919-1929)</i> Chapter 13 <i>The Roaring Life of the 1920's (1920-1929)</i> Chapter 14 <i>The Great Depression Begins (1929-1933)</i> Chapter 15 <i>The New Deal (1933-1940)</i> |
| PBA #2 | 1920s & Great Depression Document Analysis & Thesis |
| Before, During, & After WWII (1931-1945) | Chapter 16 <i>World War Looms (1931-1941)</i> Chapter 17 <i>The United States in WWII (1941-1945)</i> |
| Second Semester Course Outline | |
| Cold War & Postwar Boom (1945-1960) | Chapter 18 <i>Cold War Conflicts (1945-1960)</i> Chapter 19 <i>The Postwar Boom (1946-1960)</i> |
| PBA #3 | Cold War Document Analysis & Essay Outline |
| LBJ & JFK & the Civil Rights Movement (1954-1968) | Chapter 20 <i>The New Frontier and the Great Society (1960-1968)</i> Chapter 21 <i>Civil Rights (1954-1968)</i> |
| Vietnam War & Social Changes (1954-1965) | Chapter 22 <i>The Vietnam War Years (1954-1975)</i> Chapter 23 <i>An Era of Social Change (1960-1975)</i> |
| PBA #4 | Vietnam War Essay" DBQ |
| Conservatism (1968-1992) | Chapter 24 <i>An Age of Limits (1968-1980)</i> Chapter 25 <i>The Conservative Tide (1980-1992)</i> |
| USA & Now (1992-Today) | Chapter 26 <i>The United States in Today's World (1992-pres</i> |

EXPECTATIONS:

Assessment expectations: It is expected that students will retake any assessment (Quiz or Outcome Exams) every time they do not earn a 70%. It is expected that every student will continue to retake assessments until they have mastered the material with the minimum 70% grade. Regarding Performance Based Assessments (PBAs), students must also must make the effort to retake the assessment if they score below 70%. Students must meet with the teacher to discuss areas of problem for this retake. Test corrections are always offered for Outcome Exams & Quizzes for partial credit. Questions?

General expectations for my class: come prepared for class each day and contribute intellectual thoughts and ideas to class discussion & assignments. Homework and classwork are given to further your knowledge in whatever historical topic we are covering so it is expected to be completed for your benefit. Carelessness, disrespect, and laziness will not be tolerated in my class.

ABSENCE POLICY:

Students who have a pre-excused absence (field trips/vacations) are allowed to make up work missed during the absence. When assignments are provided by the teacher before the student leaves, the student is required to turn in the assignments upon return to each class.

For an excused illness absence, the student is entirely responsible for requesting the make-up work from the teacher(s). Tests/quizzes will be scheduled at an agreed upon time. Students will be given one school day for each day of excused absence to make up assignments and tests. Additional considerations will be given for students with extended illnesses.

In the matter of disciplinary absences, for the first offense resulting in a suspension longer than 3 days, the Attendance Office will collect and provide homework assignments to the student. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Main Attendance Office and make arrangements to pick up the homework assignments. For subsequent, external suspensions, it is the responsibility of the student or parent to contact the teacher to obtain homework assignments. It is the suspended student's responsibility to make up missed work or tests. Work is due on the date of return to school.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

Tests, Projects, Essays & Final Exams

If a student is caught cheating on a major assignment and/or test, he or she may receive the following:

1st Offense: 1 hour referral (referral submitted by teacher to the appropriate dean), but an opportunity to retest, and/or complete the assignment with 20% off their retake grade.

2nd Offense: 4 hour referral (referral submitted by teacher to the appropriate dean), but an opportunity to retest, and/or complete the assignment with 50% off their retake grade.

3rd Offense: ASDA (referral submitted by teacher to the appropriate dean) and a 0% on their grade.

(Note: Due to the different format of major assignments and tests between departments, the times and policies for completing the assignment will be determined by individual departments.)

Homework

If a student is caught cheating on a homework assignment, he or she may receive a 0% on the assignment and follow the above discipline consequences. Make-up work will not be given.

Additional Information Regarding Academic Honesty

Unless otherwise stated by the teacher, all assignments are to be turned in and completed independently.

The consequences for multiple occurrences of cheating are cumulative across subjects/disciplines.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:

- You need to be in your seat when the bell sounds.
- Respect others and your school. We all know what this means.
- Keep hall passes to a minimum. You can't learn if you're not in the room.
- Refer to your student handbook for all other rules and regulations.
- Bell Ringer activity will take place every day at the start of class & will be collected bi-weekly.
- Bring your required materials every day.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

The following materials must be brought to class every day:

1. Textbook- The Americans: Reconstruction to the 21st Century
2. Spiral notebook or binder with paper
3. Folder or accordion file for papers
4. Pen or pencil for notes and activities
5. Red pen
6. Highlighter

COMMUNICATION:

Teacher-Student communication is important. You need to tell me **the moment** you feel you need additional assistance. You can contact me by email at JMontana@psd202.org. I am here to help you, but you have to let me know that you need assistance.