

Outlook Academy
Course Syllabus
United States History

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Textbook: We will use a class set of textbooks throughout the year. A textbook will not be assigned to you directly but, you may check one out at any time with me.

Course Description: This course begins with an overview of US History prior to the 1900s. Students will learn about the cultural, social, political, economic, and technological developments in the United States. Study skills, literacy skills, numeracy skills, writing skills, reasoning skills, and technology skills are also emphasized in this course. The U.S. Constitution test is a state requirement, that will be given in this course. You must pass to graduate. This is a year-long, one credit course. This course addresses Illinois State Learning Goals 14, 16, and 17 for Social Studies.

Instructional Philosophy: Students will be expected to answer essential questions for each unit in this course. Essential questions and unit goals will be presented to the student at the beginning of each unit. Students will be assessed on their knowledge of these goals upon the completion of each unit. Every effort will be made to connect current events that affect our country with past historical events and concepts. Students will be required to complete, on a daily basis, supplemental and textbook readings, note taking, reinforcement activities and various homework assignments. There will be a unit exam at the end of each unit. There will be a semester exam at the end of the semester. The final exam will consist of questions from each unit. Completion of unit projects is required to pass this class

Specific Classroom Expectations: Be responsible for yourselves—don’t feel the need to give excuses. Your notebook and your pen must be with you in class every day. Class grades should be checked by students on POWERSCHOOL constantly. Please let me know immediately about any discrepancies regarding your grade. **SAVE ALL RETURNED WORK.** This is your receipt in case of a grade discrepancy. It is the student’s responsibility to get any and all missing assignments due to absence. All written assignments may be turned in via e-mail. All unit exams will be taken on scantron sheets. Pencils are required on test days. **ALL MAKEUP / MISSING WORK MAY BE MADE UP DURING C.P. OR AT SATURDAY SUPPORT.**

If you feel you are falling behind please talk to me as soon as possible. I am here to help you succeed. Please feel free to ask me for help whenever you need it.

Course Goals:

Course Goal 1: Students will investigate and evaluate the effects of European exploration and colonization on the cultural and political development of early America upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 2: Students will assess the impact of our Constitutional guarantees on the lives of citizens from various backgrounds upon completion of this course. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the Constitution by passing the Constitution exam.

Course Goal 3: Students will understand the origins, conduct, and ramifications of the Civil War and Reconstruction of the United States upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 4: Students will examine and analyze the social, economic, political and technological changes which contributed to the settlement and taming of the American West upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 5: Students will investigate and identify the causes for the rapid growth in American industry and the subsequent reform movements that reshaped our society, economy and political structure upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 6: Students will examine the changes, both political and economic, that made the United States a world power and analyze how these changes affected America during World War I at both home and abroad upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 7: Students will compare and contrast the economic, social, and political elements that moved the United States from the prosperity of the 1920s to the depression of the 1930s upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 8: Students will analyze the political and economic factors that led to the United States' involvement in World War II and how U.S. involvement effected citizens on the home front and led to the advent of the Cold War upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 9: Students will investigate the causes and evaluate the effects of the Civil Rights movement and understand how it influenced America's social and political history upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 10: Students will examine the cultural changes that swept the United States during the 1960's and study the effect these changes had on the American political, social and economic systems upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 11: Students will apply the historical concept of containment to analyze America's entry into the Vietnam conflict and evaluate the cultural, political, and economic effects of our involvement in Vietnam upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 12: Students will recognize and analyze some of the major social, political, economic and environmental issues that face Americans today upon completion of this course.

Course Goal 13: Students will identify geographic features inside and outside of the United States and analyze how geography has impacted the social and economic history of the United States upon completion of this course.

Grading Procedures:

A = 90% OR ABOVE
B = 80-89%
C = 70-79%
D = 60-69%
F = 59 % AND BELOW

- Grades are determined by dividing the total number of points accumulated by the total number of points possible.

Supplies:

- **America: Pathways to the Present**—textbook
- Pen and pencil
- Spiral notebook for US History only
- Folder for US History only

Rough Schedule of study:

- **Unit 1:** chapters 1-2 (America's Founding Ideals and U.S. Constitution)
- **Unit 2:** chapters 4-9 (Civil War to the Turn of the Century)
- **Unit 3:** chapters 10-11 (Expansionism, Industrialism and Reform)
- **Unit 4:** chapter 12 (Imperialism and World War I)
- **Unit 5:** chapters 13-16 (Prosperity and Depression)
- **Unit 6:** chapters 17-20 (World War II and the Cold War era)
- **Unit 7:** chapters 21 & 22 (Civil Rights Movement & JFK, LBJ)
- **Unit 8:** chapters 23 & 24 (the Culture of the 1960s and Vietnam)
- **Unit 9:** chapters 25-27 (the last 40 years)

"We live in a world that has narrowed into a neighborhood before it has broadened into a brotherhood."

Lyndon B. Johnson