

**American History**

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**Course Description**

American History provides students with the opportunity to acquire an understanding of the chronological development of the American people and government by examing the political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural events that have affected the rise and growth of the nation.

Content covered includes, but is not limited to: an understanding of geographic-historic and time-space relationship, changes and trends in American culture through the centuries, the Civil War as the solution to the secession issue, the technological and urban transformation of the country, and the American foreign political development.

**Class Expectations and Consequences**

1. Be in seat when tardy bell rings.

2. Treat EVERYONE with respect.

3. Do not use electronic devices in class without teacher permission.

4. Use restroom during passing breaks.

5. Maintain a clean and orderly work area.

6. Bring all of your supplies to class daily.

7. Complete all of your work and turn it in on time.

1. **Warning**: the teacher provides a verbal reprimand/reminder to student.

2. **Behavior Journal**: student will complete a Behavior Journal to reflect on undesired behavior.

3. **Phone Call:** a phone call to parents may be necessary to detour behavior.

4. **Referral:** a written disciplinary action. Parents may be notified

 **Referral to Administration**: a student will be immediately referred to

 administration for severe behavior problems.

**Grading**

Grading will be broken down in the following way: Classwork-35%, Assessments-25%, Projects-25%, Homework-15%.

Class progress reports will be sent home bi-weekly via e-mail, so please have an updated e-mail address on file with the office. Parents and students are strongly encouraged to check the **Parent Portal** on a weekly basis to view the most current grades

**Late/Incomplete Work**

Late homework will be deducted 10 points for every day that it is late. After the second day, it will be the teachers discretion as to whether or not the homework will be accepted.

Students will be allowed to make up assignments on designated “make-up days.” These days will periodically fall at the end of each quarter. Work will be graded no higher than a 70%. It will be the student’s responsibility to ensure that assignments are turned in at this time.

If a student chooses not to complete classwork, due to off task behavior, there will be no make-up time given.

**Absentee Policy**

**YES, WE DID SOMETHING IMPORTANT WHILE YOU WERE ABSENT.** It is the student’s responsibility to check with the Class Secretary to see what work was missed.

We are a VPA school, and it is understood that there will be times when students will be out for rehearsal and shows. It will be the responsibility of those students to get missing assignments.

\* A student has two extra days to turn in any work assigned on a day a student was absent. If a quiz was administered on a day a student was absent, the quiz must be made up on the first day the student returns. If previously assigned work was due on the day of the absence, the work is due on the first day the student returns

**Plagiarism/ Cheating**

**Plagiarism** is the taking ideas and writings of another and passing them off as one’s own.

**In this class, plagiarism includes...**

1. turning in another’s **work** as one’s own

2. **copying** work from a friend before class (or while in another class)

3. including a source but failing to **cite** it

4. copying an **author’s exact words** and passing them off as one’s own

**Students caught plagiarizing will be given a ZERO for the assignment.**

\* The teacher will notify the administration and contact parents if cheating / plagiarism is suspected.

**Technology**

iPads will be used frequently in American History, students are expected to abide by all school and district digital safety rules and guidelines. This includes being on unauthorized websites and/or changing settings on the device. Failure to do so will result in said student being banned from technology while in this class.

**Topics by Quarter**

**!st Quarter-Founding and Revolution**

* European interest in America
* Jamestown
* 13 Colonies and Regions
* Causes of the Revolution
* The Revolutionary War

**2nd Quarter-Our Government (Constitution Test is required)**

* Declaration of Independence
* Articles of Confederation
* Creation of Government
* Principles of Constitution
* Functions of Government

**3rd Quarter-Slavery, Industrialization, and Westward Expansion**

* Industrial Revolution
* Slavery and the Plantation System
* Exploration and the Western Expansion
* Manifest Destiny

**4th Quarter- The Civil War and Reconstruction**

* Political and Social Reform Movements
* Causes of the Civil War
* The Civil War
* Reconstruction