

American History Syllabus

Ms. Clark

Room 2616

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630-876-6460

How does the past help us understand the present?

Unit 1: American Foundations

How do foundational events help us understand present issues?

Unit 2: Civil Rights

Why does social change happen?

Unit 3: Immigration

To what extent has the American Dream been an achievable reality?

Unit 4: Boom and Bust

To what extent has the American Dream been an achievable reality?

Unit 5: Friends, Foes, and Fanatics

Does might make right?

Expectations:

Come to class on time and prepared.

Respect your peers and teachers.

Be honest and open-minded.

Materials:

Chromebook & charger

Folder/binder

Pen/pencil

Grades:

A 90%-100%

B 80%-89%

C 70%-79%

D 60%-69%

F below 59%



- PowerSchool is the official record of grades.
- Assessments may consist of a multiple choice exam, essay, short answers, socratic seminar or a project. **Assessments will consist of 80% of your final grade.**

- This will be an interactive class and will include short assignments, simulations, discussions, active reading, note-taking, and group activities. Therefore, your participation is crucial if you want to be successful and if you want the class to be enjoyable. **Participation will consist of 20% of your final grade.**
- I do not assign homework in this class. However, if you do not complete your work during class, you will be responsible for completing it outside of class.
- **Late work will be accepted at any point during the unit.** Once we have moved on to a new unit, I will not accept late work from previous units.
- Retakes on assessments will be available for all students. It is your responsibility to complete **retakes within three weeks of the initial assessment.** However, to qualify for a retake you must demonstrate to me that you have prepared and are ready to retake the assessment.
- Cheating/plagiarism results in an automatic zero on the assignment for every student involved. For example, if you give your friend your assignment to copy, you will both receive zeros on the assignment.

Course Movie Permission Form:

I have selected a variety of short video clips to show in class, including: *Amistad*, *PBS: Lewis and Clark Expedition*, *Gangs of New York*, *The Godfather(II)*, *PBS: Eyes on the Prize*, *Freedom Song*, *We Shall Remain*, *El Norte*, *Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam*. I also intend to show clips from various PBS and History Channel documentaries. Some scenes may depict graphic violence, foul language, and/or any other possible sensitive scenes.

I have read and understand the expectations, course requirements, and grading policy. I will allow my child to view the selected films listed above.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Syllabus signatures will be checked on Friday August 20th. This will be your first grade in our class. If there are any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at bclark@d94.org or 630-876-6460.