



George Washington High School

Course Syllabi 2025-26



Course Name: VA and United States History
Instructor Name: Mr. Abourjilie / Mr. or Coach ABO
Contact Information: cabourjilie@mail.dps.k12.va.us

- **School Phone:** (434)799-6410
- **Room location:** A-102
- **Email address:** cabourjilie@mail.dps.k12.va.us
- **Planning Period/ Office Hours:** 8:45 – 9:30 a.m.
- **Tutoring Schedule:** I will make myself available for you Monday – Thursday AFTER SCHOOL until 4:30. Let me know when you need help and want to come in for extra work/practice/studying together, and we will make it happen.

Course Description:

United States History is a social studies course that examines the history of our state and nation from colonization to modern history. This course will emphasize the economic, social, and political developments of the nation.

We will focus on understanding cause-effect relationships, multiple causation, detecting trends, analyzing movements and events, and developing a "sense of history". Students will evaluate, analyze, and interpret historical eras, events and people.

This is a Virginia graduation requirement & SOL.

Instructional Philosophy: *Never, never, never give up. Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard. Nothing changes if nothing changes. Self-discipline & Personal Responsibility are the game changers. Have fun. Be nice. In this class at least, Live by the "Golden Rule"—treat others the way you want to be treated!*

Course Competencies/Learning Objectives:

US History is divided into 13 SOL goals that each cover a historical era. We will focus on one goal at a time with a comprehensive assessment when we have finished each goal

Sol 2& 3	Early Exploration & Colonization	Sol 4	European Colonization
Sol 5	French & Indian War/ Revolutionary Period	Sol 6	Development of American political System
Sol 7	Civil War	Sol 8	Reconstruction Early 20 th Century
Sol 9	Spanish American War, Imperialism & WWI	Sol 10	1920's & 30's & The Great Depression
Sol 11	WWII	Sol 12	Cold War, Korean War & Vietnam
Sol 13	Civil Rights	Sol 14	Modern Day America

Grading Scale & Student Evaluation:

- **GOLD:** Assessments, Test, Projects (may include major projects, papers & cumulative assignments) **40 %**
- **SILVER:** Quizzes **35 %**
- **BRONZE:** Classwork, Homework, and Daily Assignments/Bell Ringers & Class Closers **25 %**

Attendance Policy:

Regular and prompt class attendance is an essential part of the educational experience. State law requires students to be present for 90% of the class days—meaning you cannot miss 18 days or more. George Washington High School expects students to exercise good judgement regarding attendance and absences. Students will accept full responsibility for ensuring their work does not suffer because of absences. All students are expected to attend every scheduled class on time. Exceptions may be made for illness and valid emergencies.

Grading Scale**

100- 90	A
89 - 80	B
79 - 70	C
69 - 60	D
59 & /Below	F

Grades are grades.... They don't make you and they don't break you!

*Do **YOUR** best, and never give up or "settle" for anything that isn't your best effort!! Put in the work and real effort, and it will show—that I promise.*

Take advantage of each opportunity, and don't be afraid of success or what it takes to get there!!

Class Expectations and Goals:

#1 – Be Nice! ☺

- Students will be expected to **complete assignments** whether they be bell ringers, formative or summative assessments, and/or projects by a given due date or time.
- **Come in ready to learn and work together**; don't waste time/get started asap; do you—don't worry about your "neighbor", the bell, the clock etc... WE got this!
- Students are expected to **RESPECT** not only themselves, but also the education process and those giving (teachers, guest speakers, guest teachers) and receiving education (your classmates).
- Any uncalled for disruptions or rudeness will not be ignored or tolerated, handled on a one on one basis, and handled as per the student code of conduct in the student handbook *when necessary*.

Required Course Materials

- **Notebook:** 3-ring binder (1 ½ inch would be best) with loose-leaf notebook paper OR spiral notebook with pockets!
- **Writing utensils** (pens or pencils – you decide)
- **Loose leaf paper**
- **Note cards/index cards**
- **Hi-liter**

Course Requirements:

- All classwork & HW should be completed on time; late work will be accepted up to 3 days late with a loss of 11 pts. taken off each day. After 3 days late, work *MAY* be accepted but the highest possible score is a 50!
- All students should be ready to participate in all class activities
- All students will be expected to use appropriate classroom etiquette

Important to Know:

- Plan on having Current Events & Notecards **DUE EVERY FRIDAY!** Each will count as a Silver (**QUIZ**) Grade.
- Other HW, besides preparing for tests and quizzes, is pretty rare.

WE agree! Let's do this! : sign here/below for a 105 HW/CW grade.

Student: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Enthusiasm
Action
Good



Personal
Responsibility
Integrity

Leadership
Excellence

Determination
Every day!!