



US History Syllabus – School Year: 2026-2027

Instructor: L. Jaimes

Course: US History

Room #: 517

School Phone: 361-584-2547

TEA Course Description: In this course United States History Studies Since 1877, students study the history of the United States from 1877 to the present. The course content is based on the founding documents of the U.S. government, which provide a framework for its heritage. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to industrialization and urbanization, major wars, domestic and foreign policies, and reform movements, including civil rights. Students examine the impact of geographic factors on major events and eras and analyze their causes and effects. Students examine the impact of constitutional issues on American society, evaluate the dynamic relationship of the three branches of the federal government, and analyze efforts to expand the democratic process. Students describe the relationship between the arts and popular culture and the times during which they were created. Students analyze the impact of technological innovations on the American life. Students use critical-thinking skills and a variety of primary and secondary source material to explain and apply different methods that historians use to understand and interpret the past, including multiple points of view and historical context.

Major Topics – U.S. History TEKS (Texas)

1. **Reconstruction and the Post-Civil War Era**
 - Reconstruction and its impact
 - Constitutional amendments and civil rights
 - Development of the American West
2. **Industrialization and the Gilded Age**
 - Growth of industry and big business
 - Labor movements and working conditions
 - Urbanization and technological innovation
 - Immigration and changing demographics
3. **The Progressive Era**
 - Progressive reforms
 - Political, economic, and social changes
 - Women's suffrage and reform movements
 - Government regulation and consumer protection
4. **American Expansion and Imperialism**
 - Spanish-American War
 - U.S. territorial expansion
 - Growth of American influence abroad
 - Changing U.S. foreign policy
5. **World War I**
 - Causes and U.S. involvement
 - The home front
 - Effects of the war
 - Treaty of Versailles and League of Nation

6. **The 1920s**
 - Economic growth and consumer culture
 - Harlem Renaissance
 - Changing roles of women
 - Immigration and nativism
 - Social and cultural conflicts
7. **The Great Depression and New Deal**
 - Causes and effects of the Great Depression
 - Dust Bowl and migration
 - Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal
 - Changing role of the federal government
8. **World War II**
 - Causes and U.S. entry into the war
 - Major events and turning points
 - The American home front
 - Japanese American internment
 - The Holocaust
 - Development and use of the atomic bomb
9. **The Cold War**
 - Containment and the Truman Doctrine
 - Korean and Vietnam Wars
 - Nuclear arms race and space race
 - Communism and Cold War tensions
 - Impact of the Cold War on American society
10. **Civil Rights and Social Change**
 - Civil Rights Movement
 - Major leaders, organizations, and events
 - Civil rights legislation
 - Women's rights and other social movements
 - Expansion of political and social participation
11. **The United States from the 1970s to the Present**
 - Political and economic changes
 - Domestic and foreign policy challenges
 - End of the Cold War
 - Globalization
 - Terrorism and September 11, 2001
 - Contemporary issues and developments
12. **Government, Economics, Geography, and Citizenship**
 - Constitutional principles and democratic institutions
 - Roles of local, state, and federal government
 - Free enterprise and economic development
 - Geographic factors affecting U.S. development
 - Rights and responsibilities of citizens
 - Civic participation and American identity
13. **Historical Thinking and Research Skills**
 - Primary and secondary source analysis
 - Chronology and historical context
 - Cause and effect
 - Comparison and interpretation
 - Evaluating bias, point of view, and credibility
 - Using evidence to support historical conclusions

Required Materials:

BHS issued laptop (charged)	US History Binder	Pens – blue or black and red
Highlighters – at least 2 colors	1 pocket folder	US History Since 1877 (online textbook, access through Classlink)

Grading: Grades will be determined on a percentage-based system where each category will be worth a certain percentage towards the nine weeks average. The following list shows each category and its weight toward your grade:

Tests	40%	includes: Unit tests, Projects with major components, etc.
Daily Work	40%	includes: Vocab & Skill averages, Note Check averages, Power Point Reviews, reading & questions, online activities, Homework assignments, etc.
Quizzes	20%	includes: Unit Quizzes, Power Point Reviews, etc.

Classroom Rules:

1. Respect all people, materials and possessions.
2. Be prepared and responsible with all supplies and your learning and behavior.
3. Complete all assignments.
4. Participate and cooperate during class activities.
5. Follow class directions & procedures and BHS/BCISD rules, policies and other Administration decisions.

****Additional information concerning BCISD and BHS policies and procedures can be found in the Student Handbook including actions concerning Plagiarism and cheating.****

HB 1481: Students abide by state law and BCISD policy concerning cell phones and other electronic devices. Cell phone, smart watches, earbuds, headphones, meta glasses, and any other electronic device is stored in backpack. In US History class, the backpack is placed along the front of the classroom interior wall. (Access to the backpack will be returned to the student prior to the dismissal bell – ie: no student access to the backpack during class time.)

Note: 1 Backpack per student in the classroom. This supports safety in the classroom. Additional backpacks can be stored in gym lockers or hallway locker

Classroom Expectations for Participation and Preparedness:

- Follow all school-wide rules, including the daily requirement of no cell phones, smart watches, earbuds and headphones in use by students during class time. Every day, cell phones and all other electronic devices go into the student backpacks at the beginning of the class period – this supports HB 1481 and BCISD policy.
- Follow school-wide guidelines for BHS laptop – follow good digital citizenship behavior.
- Join classroom Remind and Google Classroom.
- Acquire access to the Ascender Student portal and monitor grades along with absences.
- Be in your assigned seat with all necessary materials on your desk and working on the Warmup before the tardy bell rings. Each day: check the back dry-erase board for materials needed.
- Use blue or black ink pens to complete all assignments including Homework and other tasks while in class.
- Complete HOMEWORK by due date/time – Homework of any kind will not be accepted late.
- Use and return class materials as needed – remember the next class period will also be using the materials.
- Use the restroom during passing periods. The restroom passes will be limited. The first 10 minutes and last 10 minutes are ‘no restroom visit times’ as well as during class time when teacher is sharing note, during Tests, etc.
- Depart class at the end of the class period when the teacher dismisses you.

Absences: Before or after an absence, please visit with teacher about class work missed. Remember: Students are allowed 1 day to return work for every 1 day they are absent.

Late Work: Assignments are due at the beginning of the class. Late work will be penalized by a loss of 20 points each the assignment is not turned in. After 3 days, Late Work will no longer be excepted. If you are absent and an assignment was due on that day, you must turn it in the day after you return to school or it will begin being penalized for being late.

Example of Late Work received and graded:

- 1 day late (-20 pts) – top grade with all correct answers: 80
- 2 days late (-40 pts) – top grade with all correct answers: 60
- 3 days late (-60s pts) – top grade with all correct answers: 40

NOTE: If necessary or needed, additional information or changes will be shared through Parent and Student contact.