



AUSTIN'S U.S. HISTORY

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Room: 2604

1. Course Purpose

Imagine trying to solve a giant puzzle where every piece tells a different story—stories of wars that redraw borders, define who is the victor and loser, the voice of migrants and blended cultures, inequalities and politics of power, inclusion and exclusion of people and communities. Over the course of the year we will unravel the question: **“Why is history so complex?”**

2. Course Description

This course invites students to investigate the American story through critical inquiry, debate, and analysis of compelling questions. From the first encounters between Native peoples and Europeans to today’s most pressing national issues, students will examine evidence, challenge dominant narratives, and uncover diverse perspectives that have shaped the United States.

3. Units of Study:

Unit 1: American Colonization	What happens when cultures collide?	Unit 5: Civil Rights	How does social change happen?
Unit 2: American Foundations	What principles are worth fighting for?	Unit 6: Immigration	<i>How do you define and achieve success?</i>
Unit 3: American Expansion	How is progress both positive and negative?	Unit 7: Economics	<i>Why should we care about the community?</i>
Unit 4: Civil War	When is conflict unavoidable?	Unit 8: Foreign Policy	<i>Why should we care about the global community?</i>

4. Class Procedure: Lock it in and let’s go!

- Class starts on time and the door is closed!!! - Move desks for activity of the day - Take out materials: We are ready to go - In activity	- Teacher time (10-12 minutes) - Student time: (your time to work) - Evaluate, submit, meet with me - Group clean up and dismissal
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5. Course Expectations:

- Come to class on time
- Come prepared to class (**this includes a charged Chromebook!**)
- Respect your peers
- Have an open mind

6. Grading Policy:

Practice will compromise 20% of your final grade and includes daily activities	Unit Assessments Practice will compromise 65% of your final grade	Final Exam: 15% of your total grade
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Assessments:

An assessment of your knowledge of the material will be given for each unit. Assessments may consist of a multiple choice exam, essay, short answers, socratic seminar or a project.

Re-Takes:

- Students that score 90% or higher may **not** take retakes. You've already mastered it!
- **Max grade for retakes are 90%**
- Must have meaningfully tried. Blank, fail to submit, little effort.
- After returning to the class, the retake must be completed within two weeks and **will be arraigned with the teacher.**
- Required to complete practice activity before retake. **This has to be completed two days before retake.**

Missed work:

You have to be present to grow! If your absence is justified then it is **your responsibility to find out what work you need to make-up** and should be completed the next day or **within one week** of the due date by teacher approval or it will not be accepted.

Grading Scale Breakdown:

A 90%-100%	B 80%-89%	C 70%-79%	D 60%-69%	F 59%-40%
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7. Homework/schoolwork:

The homework policy for **this class** is designed to be fair to both students and teachers, thinking of student workload and activities outside of class, and the large amount of materials required by teachers to evaluate along with school wide responsibilities and family life. **Homework is given when practice is needed**, work is not completed, or when extra work is required such as a project or paper.

If a due date is not stated, it's due the following class. Work should be submitted at the beginning of class or electronically when appropriate. Work should not be emailed.

8. Cell Phones:

Simple. Never, ever, ever, ever. Are hung at the door before class and picked up after. Applies to airpods as well.

9. Safe: Simple, all students are welcome. We practice principles of equality and celebrate diversity and stand against discrimination in any form.

10. A.I Policy: A majority of work is completed on paper. As a rule, A.I should not be used to produce work. When used outside of directive is academic dishonesty. However, some assignments will be viewed as “Green” (Use freely), “Yellow (as directed) or Red (not at all).