

Syllabus-8th Grade American History (2007-2008)

Instructor: Mr. Leo Martinez

Location: Room 207

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Text: Holt: Call To Freedom. Holt, Rinehart & Winston 2004

Class supplies: Pen, pencil, paper, binder, American History CD-Rom (\$25.00, paid at the beginning of the course).

- Rules:**
1. Students will be in their seat when the bell rings.
 2. Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
 3. Bring all books and materials to class.
 4. Sit on your assigned seat daily.
 5. Follow instructions the first time they are given.

Grading policy: Tests 60%
Quizzes 25%
Assignments 15%

Class activities: Discussion
Assignments
Quizzes
Tests

Late assignments: Late assignments will be accepted one day late only. It will have a 10 point deduction if it is late.

Syllabus: The following is a list of the subject matter to be covered this year.

First 9 Weeks

- I. The World Before The Opening of the Atlantic
 - a. The Earliest Americans
 - b. Cultural Areas in North America
 - c. Europe During the Middle Ages
 - d. Trade Across Continents

- II. New Empires in the Americas
 - a. Early Voyages of Exploration
 - b. Europe Looks to Americas
 - c. The Spanish in America
 - d. The Race for Empires

- III. The English colonies
 - a. The Virginia Colony
 - b. The New England Colonies
 - c. The Southern and Middle Colonies

- IV. Life in the English Colonies
 - a. Forms of Government
 - b. The Growth of Trade
 - c. The Colonial economy
 - d. American Culture

- V. Conflicts in the Colonies
 - a. Consequences of the French
 - b. Trouble over Colonists' Rights
 - c. New Taxes and Tensions

Second Nine Weeks

- VI. The American Revolution
 - a. The Revolution Begins
 - b. Declaring Independence
 - c. The Patriots Gain New Hope
 - d. Independence!

- VII. Forming a Government
 - a. The Articles of Confederation
 - b. The Constitution
 - c. Ratification of the Constitution

- VIII. Citizenship and the Constitution
 - a. Understanding the Constitution
 - b. The bill of Rights
 - c. Rights and Responsibilities

Third Nine Weeks

- IX. The Expanding Nation
 - a. Jefferson as President
 - b. The Louisiana Purchase
 - c. The War of 1812

- X. A New National Identity
 - a. The Rise of Nationalism
 - b. Expansion and Improvements
 - c. The Age of Jackson
 - d. Indian Removal
 - e. American Culture

- XI. The North and the South
 - a. Revolutions in Industry
 - b. The South and King Cotton
 - c. The Slave System

- XII. New Movements in America
 - a. Immigrants and Cities
 - b. Reforming Society
 - c. The Movement to end Slavery
 - d. Women's Rights

Fourth Nine Weeks

- XIII. Westward Expansion and War
 - a. Texas Wins its Independence
 - b. The Far West
 - c. The Mexican War
 - d. The Growth of the West

- XIV. A Divided Nation
 - a. The Debate over Slavery
 - b. Secession

- XV. The Civil War
 - a. The War Begins
 - b. The War in the East
 - c. The War in the West
 - d. Life During the War
 - e. The Tide of the War Turns

- XVI. Reconstruction
 - a. Rebuilding the South
 - b. The Fight Over Reconstruction
 - c. Reconstruction in the South
 - d. The New South

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