

St. Augustine High School
American History 1865 to Present

SYLLABUS

Teacher: Ms. Rosa Clara Salazar

Room: 206

Credit 1 hour

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this course, which is the second part of a two-year study of U.S. history that begins in Grade 8, students study the history of the United States since Reconstruction to the present. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to industrialization and urbanization, major wars, domestic and foreign policies of the Cold War and post-Cold War eras, and reform movements including civil rights. Students examine the impact of geographic factors on major events and analyze causes and effects of the Great Depression. 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 the times during which they were created. Students analyze the impact of technological innovations on the American labor movement. Students use critical-thinking skills, including explaining and applying different methods, that historians use to interpret the past, including points of view and historical context.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

History: Students understand U.S. History from 1877 to the present including political, economic and social changes; the emergence of the United States as a world power; the effects of reform and social movements on society; the events of the 1920s, World War II and the Cold War; and the influence of the Civil Rights Movement

Economics: Students understand domestic and foreign issues related to U.S. economic growth from the 1870s to 1920; the significant developments between World War I and World War II; and the economic effects of World War II, the Cold War and increased worldwide competition on contemporary society

Government and Citizenship: Students understand changes in the role of government over time; the changing relationships among the three branches of the federal government; and the impact of constitutional issues on American society in the 20th century. Students also understand efforts to expand the democratic process and the importance of effective leadership in a democratic society.

Culture: Students understand the relationship between the arts and the times during which they were created and how people from various groups, including racial, ethnic and religious groups, adapted to life in the United States and contributed to our national identity.

Science, Technology, and Society: Students understand the impact of science and technology on the economic development of the United States and how scientific discoveries and technological innovations influence daily life in the United States.

Social Studies Skills: Students apply critical thinking skills to organize and use information and use problem-solving and decision-making skills.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Stuckey, Salvuci, K. (2003). *Call to Freedom*. Holt, Rinehart & Winston. (CD-ROM) 2” binder, pens, paper, and a pen drive

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

(As per student handbook)

The School day begins promptly at 7:55 A.M., and ends at 3:10 P.M. The school year consists of 180 instructional days.

When a student is absent from school, a parent should call the office by 8:00 AM each day of the absence.

TEACHERS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO GIVE MAKE-UP TESTS OR ASSIGNMENTS FOR ABSENCES DUE TO VACATIONS. NO ASSIGNMENT WILL BE GIVEN IN ANTICIPATION OF THE VACATION.

COURSE ABSENCES:

Excessive absence (7 for semester courses and 15 for full year courses) or the equivalent of 7/15 days including tardies can be cause for a student to be retained in the current grade. Students may appeal the loss of credit with proper documentation.

GRADING POLICY:

Tests.....60%
Quizzes, presentations/current events scrapbook, political cartoon analysis25%
Classwork, binder checks, homework, participation15%

NOTEBOOK:

A three-ring notebook is required exclusively for this course. Each student will be required to keep the following materials for each SEMESTER in their notebook: 1) syllabus; 2) notes; and 3) handouts – study guides, vocabulary, readings, maps, and homework assignments. Each student will need to organize his or her notebook by unit.

CURRENT EVENTS:

Students are required to keep a scrapbook of current events and are strongly encouraged to get into the habit of reading a daily newspaper and/or weekly news magazine. Each student will write a summary and rationale for the inclusion of each article. Scrapbooks will be checked weekly.

POLITICAL CARTOONS:

Everyday in newspaper and magazine opinion sections across America (and the world), artists draw cartoons about current events. During the week, you will be responsible for obtaining one political cartoon (national or international) and analyzing it. You will use a Political Cartoon Analysis Sheet

http://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/worksheets/cartoon_analysis_worksheet.pdf

to identify or explain: the source (which newspaper did you find it in); the issue and/or person the artist is drawing about; the message the artist is trying to convey (usually negative); and whether or not you agree with the artist's interpretation of the issue.

PARTICIPATION:

Participation is an important part of any class. In this class, participation will consist of the following factors:

- Asking/responding to questions
- Participating in class discussions
- Participating and staying on task during group work
- Attentive Listening
- Completion of all assigned work in a timely manner
- Attendance! You cannot participate if you are not here.
- Punctuality

WRITTEN WORK:

All written work will be graded for both content and format.

PRESENTATIONS:

Students will be graded on presentation skills (volume, clarity, presence), content, and format. Students will be assessed by both the instructor and their peers. All presentations will be followed by a question and answer period where the presenter will be subject to peer review.

QUIZZES AND TESTS:

Quizzes may be announced or unannounced. This is a good way to make sure that students are doing their assigned reading.

Tests will always be announced and will be on our testing date (as much as possible as we can adhere to this schedule). Students will only be able to make up one test at 100% if they are absent on a testing date. After a student has spent this option, all other make up tests will be graded starting at 80%. This is to encourage that student absenteeism on test day is minimal.

MAKE-UP WORK:

Students who are absent will get the number of days absent to make up their work. Athletes who miss due to school competitions will receive three days to turn in missed work at full credit. After this allotted time, athletes will be subject to the late work policy. It is the responsibility of all students to come before or after school to get their missed work.

All work that is turned in after the tardy bell will be considered late and in turn the student will be deducted 20 points automatically and will not have the opportunity to turn in homework in the tray. Homework then must be given directly to the teacher with a written explanation of the reason for the tardiness

EXTRA CREDIT:

You may earn two extra points for reading a novel suitable to American history and presenting a project about it to the class, which I will add to your final grade at the end of the semester. You may earn a total of four extra points per semester. Please see me about a bibliography. It must be a novel you have never read before.

PLAGIARISM:

The following information is taken from the student handbook:

Cheating results in an automatic zero grade with no possibility for make-up work and removal from class or club office. If the Student is a member of the National Honor Society or National Junior Honor Society they will be required to appear before the Faculty Council who will determine if he/she is removed from the organization.

COURSE CALENDAR

Ch. 4: Reconstruction
Ch. 5: The West
Ch. 6: An Industrial Nation
Ch. 7: Immigrants and Cities
Ch. 8: The Spirit of Reform
Ch. 9: The Progressive Presidents
Ch. 10: America as a World Power
Ch. 11: World War I
Ch. 12: 1920s: An unsettled Decade
Ch. 13: The Roaring Twenties
Ch. 14/15: The Great Depression
Ch. 16: World War II
Ch. 17: The Cold War
Ch. 18: Peace and Prosperity
Ch. 19: The Sixties
Ch. 20: The Search for Equal Rights
Ch. 21: The War in Vietnam
Unit 8: Modern America

BECAUSE THIS IS A HISTORY COURSE, HERE ARE SOME QUOTES TO KEEP IN MIND...

“The past does not repeat itself, but it rhymes.”

Mark Twain

“History is a myth that men agree to believe.”

Napoleon

“To be ignorant of what happened before you were born is to be ever a child.”

Cicero

“Those who know the past control the future.”

Public Enemy, rap group, 1990

“History is simply a piece of paper covered with print: the main thing is still to make history, not write it.”

Otto von Bismarck

“History is bunk.”

Henry Ford