

American History Syllabus

Mr. Rhodes

rrhodes@iwest.k12.il.us

www.iwrhodes.weebly.com

<http://classroom.google.com>

Juniors
1 Credit

Course Description

United States history is required for graduation. The course will be an overview of history from the age of exploration and colonization to the present. Emphasis is placed on the growth and development of political, social, economic and cultural institutions. An attempt will be made to tie events of the past to events of today. We will use a variety of primary source documents to help us understand past experiences. Students will be expected to investigate reasons for past events as they relate to the understanding of our heritage. The ultimate purpose of this course will be to prepare students to make judgments in the future based on the events of the past. Students will be asked to write essays and create projects and presentations about the events and problems throughout American history.

Class participation and test scores make up the majority of the course grade. Students may access my presentations and other supplemental resources from my class website. Some documents or announcements will be shared to the student's google classroom. No textbook will be used for this class. Teacher presentations, online content, and a variety of primary and secondary sources will serve as the subject resources. Individual unit content will be posted online as needed.

Grading

A	90%
B	80%
C	70%
D	60%

Semester Grade

1 st Quarter	40%
2 nd Quarter	40%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>20%</u>
Grade	100%

Grades

- Tests
- Quizzes
- Class or Group Work
- Participation
- Homework

Assignments

- All assignments have a due date.
- Assignments will be turned in at the beginning of the class unless otherwise stated.
- Any assignment turned in after initially collected is considered late.
 - End of class or day -10% / next morning -20% / zero

Attendance / Homework & Tests

- If you are absent, homework will be placed in the back of the classroom with your name. If nothing is there for you, double check with me.
- Check with me to arrange a makeup date for homework
- Tests will be modified for students who do not attend class on Test dates ... expect Essays ☺
 - Class party (week of winter break) for the class with the best attendance on test days?
 - Four American History Classes ... everyone in class must be in to participate.

Cell Phones

- Adhere to school usage policies
- Off and placed in the center of the table

Computer Usage

- Adhere to district usage policies
- Students caught working on other assignments or browsing topics unrelated to class will be given:
 - 1st Offense – 0 points for the day (daily participation, classwork, homework)
 - 2nd Offense – 0 points for the day plus referral

Tardies

- Be in your seat when the bell rings or you are tardy

Behavior

- You're Juniors and I will treat you like young adults until you change my mind
- Treat others as you would like to be treated
- Be respectful to your peers and teacher
- Raise your hand so others have a chance to answer
- Bullying ... no one person or group is above anyone else
- Stupid questions ... there is such a thing.
- Sleeping ... you can sit outside in the hot hallway then receive your referral ... before going to the AC.

Food & Drinks

- No drinks in class
- Food ... NOPE
- Gum ... I don't care as long as it ends up in the trash can
- Candy ... don't be disruptive (i.e. slow opening a wrapper doesn't make it quieter)
- Skittles ... 5 Skittle Teacher Tax (for student to eat in class; otherwise put them away)
 - If you skimp on the Teacher Tax and smuggle them from pocket to mouth, the Teacher gets all of them to pass out ... or the entire class loses all candy privileges.

Learn & Have Fun!