**US History Honors**

**Mr. Champion**

**SY 2016-2017**

**Room: 202**

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**Course Description**

This course is an in-depth study of the development of modern United States history beginning with the Gilded Age period and leading to the early 21st Century. Students will be exposed to the multiple dynamics of US history including economics, geography, politics, and religion/philosophy. Students will study methods of historical inquiry and they will use primary and secondary historical documents to construct reasoned conclusions for historical events. So that students can clearly see the relationship between cause and effect in historical events, there will be a review those fundamental ideas and events from the Revolutionary/Constitutional period.

**Honors** courses offer scaffolded learning opportunities for students to develop the critical skills of analysis, synthesis, and evaluation in a more rigorous and reflective academic setting. Students are empowered to perform at higher levels as they engage in the following: analyzing historical documents and supplementary readings, working in the context of thematically categorized information, becoming proficient in note-taking, participating in Socratic seminars/discussions, emphasizing free-response and document-based writing, contrasting opposing viewpoints, solving problems, etc.

**Objectives**

At the end of the course, the students will be able to:

* + 1. Correctly locate each of the basic features of US geography: continents, oceans, major rivers
    2. Correctly locate the key economic/political units from 1870-1920, from 1920-1945, from 1945 to the present
    3. Define basic economics terms
    4. Identify and describe key cultural and social systems across each time period covered
    5. Describe and explain new social and political ideas within each time period
    6. Discuss various aspect of US Foreign Policy from 1890-1990

**Curriculum Units**

Unit I – Review

* Geography
* Revolutionary Ideas
* Constitution & Bill of Rights

Unit II – The Gilded Age

Chapters 18-20

* Industrial Revolution and the Robber Barons
* Immigration and Urban Life
* Politics

Unit III – Progressivism, Imperialism & WWI

Chapter 21-23

* Roosevelt, Taft, Wilson presidencies
* Reform movements
* Spanish American War
* WWI

Unit IV – The Roaring Twenties & the Great Depression

Chapter 24-26

* Isolationism
* Wall Street, Prohibition, Flappers
* FDR and the New Deal
* WWII pre-US involvement

Unit V – World War II

Chapters 27

* Pearl Harbor and the War abroad
* The war effort at home

Unit VI – The Cold War & the Civil Rights Movement (1945-1968)

Chapters 28-30

* Mid-Century America
* MLK, Malcolm X, Black Panthers
* Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy & Johnson presidencies
* Korean War, Vietnam, Cuba

Unit VII – The Cold War (1968-1992)

Chapters 31-32

* More Vietnam
* Proxy wars
* Recession
* Nixon, Ford, Carter, Reagan

Unit VIII – Post Cold War Era (1992-Present)

Chapter 33

* Bush, Clinton, Bush, Obama

**Materials**

A People and a Nation

Various journal articles taken from history and professional journals in the field of history

Student-supplied Materials

* One three-ring binder with pockets
* Three or four packages of 3x5” note cards for making flashcards.
* A valid e-mail address that will remain valid over the course of the school year.
* **Highlighters**, pencils, black and blue pens, colored pencils
* *Optional* – Flash drive – at least 1 GB, but preferably 4GB for larger files

The class handouts and the notebook will be ***vital*** to your success. All materials must be brought to class ***every day***. You will need to check my website or Twitter regularly for assignments and updates.

(Website and Twitter page will be up and running by next week.)

**Tests** will be given with a minimum of one-week (5 school days) notice unless there are extenuating circumstances. Tests will account for **50%** of your overall average. Make-up tests may be fill-in the blank or essay format. The Mid-Term and Final Exam will account for **20%** of you overall average.

**Quizzes** may be announced or unannounced, and will count for **30%** of your overall grade.

**Homework and class work** will be checked randomly and will count for **20%** of your overall grade. Homework must be turned in on the due date or the day you return to school if you are absent. Late homework is not accepted for a grade. However, should there be an extenuating circumstance, see me immediately, and I will evaluate your situation. Even if you do not receive points for the assignment it must still be completed and in the notebook when notebooks are graded.

**The Notebook** – Due to the variety of important materials students will receive, ALL students must keep a notebook in good order and ALL assignments must be completed. ***Notebooks must be brought to class every day*.** I reserve the right to periodically check notebooks as part of your homework/class work grade.

**The grading scale for this class is as follows:**

**100-93………………A**

**92-85………………..B**

**84-77………………..C**

**70-76………………..D**

**69-0………………..F**

**Extra Credit** – **DO NOT ASK FOR EXTRA CREDIT BECAUSE THE REQUEST WILL BE DENIED**; however, extra credit questions are occasionally given on tests and quizzes.

**Honors Expectations**

**Students will have some type of assignment for this class almost every day, including weekends and non-class days**. It may be working on their notebook, doing some assigned reading, reviewing for a test, or it may be a more formal assignment. As a general rule of thumb, **college classes demand 6-9 hours of work outside class each week. As an honors student preparing for college and possibly Advanced Placement courses, you should expect that your work is going to take about one to two hours a day.**

**Classroom Conduct and Class Participation**

Students are expected to come to class on time, with all necessary materials, and prepared to work. “On time” means that all students are in their seats and ready to begin the day’s work when the bell rings. Please avoid restroom / guidance / clinic requests. Emergencies will undoubtedly occur. Please keep them to an absolute minimum.

You are responsible for knowing and following all rules of conduct for Windham Coast High School. If a seating chart is used, you are to sit in your assigned seats. At all times you are expected to be polite and courteous to each other, the instructor, all guests, and ***especially to substitute teachers***.

Conduct:

1. Come to class prepared - prepared to pay attention and to participate. **You are responsible for your own learning.** Do not do things that will distract you or others from the learning in the class.
2. Maintain a positive attitude, smile ☺ , and try to be happy.
3. Use your time wisely. **If you are given time to work on assignments, do it!**
4. Be honest in all matters in this class, and in your life. Honesty builds trust, and trustworthiness feels good and is worth its weight in gold.
5. **BE RESPECTFUL AT ALL TIMES!**
6. Do not touch anything that is not yours without asking permission first.
7. Cell phones, iPods, etc… are **NOT** to be out during class time unless permission is granted. If this rule is broken the device will be confiscated and turned in to the dean’s office.
8. Treat this classroom, as well as the entire school, like your home because it is your home for a great part of your day. Pick up after yourself, help put things away, and keep it neat and clean. I expect that you will treat the room and its contents with respect. Many of the items for your use are my personal property.

Participation:

* + - 1. Students are expected to **actively** participate in classroom discussions. Discussions provide time for students to think through their ideas and to learn from the ideas of others.
      2. Be courteous to others during all discussions.

**Assignments and Tests**

Assignments:

1. Homework is due at the beginning of class so do not plan to finish it during class. **Late homework will not be accepted unless you have an excused absence.** If you miss class because you are late to school, then it is your responsibility to give it to me before the end of the day. If you miss class because you are being dismissed early, then it is your responsibility to give me the assignment(s) before you leave.
2. Assignment due dates are listed on the unit syllabus when provided. **Late assignments will not be accepted.** You know well in advance when an assignment is due so plan accordingly.
3. Written assignments are to be written, **not typed or done on a word processor**, on white lined paper with your name, date and class period in the upper right corner. Use blue or black ink. Take pride in your work, be sure it is organized and legible.

Tests and Quizzes:

1. Test dates will be given in advance. Quizzes might not be announced. **Plan your studying accordingly**.
2. Make-up tests are given **at a date and time of my choosing, but within one week of the original test date**. This is the ONLY opportunity for a make-up test.
3. You may be excused **by me** from taking a scheduled test **IF** you have been absent two or more consecutive days before the test. Cutting class, late to school, and time spent somewhere else in school do not count as an absence from school. Excused absences from school will be allowed an equal number of days in which to make up any assigned work.

**Student Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Class Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Please sign and return this page acknowledging that you have read and understand the requirements for Advanced Placement U.S. History. A copy of this course syllabus will be in the front of your child’s notebook.

Student signature

Student e-mail address (PRINT)

Parent/Guardian signature

Parent/Guardian e-mail address (PRINT)

Parent/Guardian phone numbers and best times to be reached (Home & Cell Please)

Home Address (PRINT)

Student Activities/Sports/Hobbies/Clubs, etc…

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