

African American History Syllabus

General Course Information: **Course Offered:** Spring
Credits: 1/2 credit

Instructor Information: Instructor: Mr. Larson
Email: adam.larson@k12.sd.us
Web page: <http://al014.k12.sd.us>
School Phone: 605-498-2700

Conference Times for Students/Parents:

- 7:30 am - 8:10 am Monday - Friday
- 3:10 pm - 4:00 pm Monday - Friday
- If these times conflict with your schedule, feel free to schedule an appointment.

Texts, Readings, Materials: African-American History, Prentice Hall, Hine, Hine & Harrold

Course Description: African-American History is an elective course designed to examine the human history of African Americans in the United States over the past 400 years. The course will survey political, economic, cultural, intellectual, aesthetic and religious contributions of African Americans and the struggle this race of people had to endure as they fought for racial equality from the time of slavery to present day America. Students will study the major events in African American history, as well as people who have made significant contributions to the development and advancement of the African American race and its culture. Connections across time and place using an African American perspective will be used to answer overarching questions. Throughout the course, the text will not be the only source of information, but additional sources such as maps, music, specific books and movies, the internet will also serve to help deepen students' understanding of African American History.

Course Goals and outline:

1. Examine within historical context of American history and culture, the contribution of African Americans.
2. Evaluate current events and cultural practices using lessons learned from the past.
3. Examine issues of social justice such as racism, classism within the African American race, various moments of civil unrest and poverty throughout

- the history of African Americans and United States History.
4. Reading, writing, critical thinking and study skills.

SIX SIGNIFICANT PERIODS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

1. Becoming African American (6000 BCE-1600)
2. Slavery, Abolition and the Quest for Freedom (1600-1861)
3. The Civil War, Emancipation and Black Reconstruction (1861-1877)
4. Searching for Safe Spaces (1877-1929)
5. The Great Depression and World War II (1929-1948)
6. The Black Revolution (1948-Present)

Student Expectations:

Attendance is expected! Copying and cheating will be severely punished. While the free flow of ideas and information is essential to an education, the exchange of assignments and materials cannot be. Cheating takes many forms and any attempt to list all the forms of cheating would be incomplete. Do not copy files from other students. The student handbook contains the complete policy. The deadlines for assignments should be followed. Failure to turn assignments in on the due date can result in a 0 for that assignment. Exceptions may be granted in special situations, but this should be the exception rather than the rule. When using the computer lab, students are to be using the computers for educational purposes. This does **not** include games.

Method of Assessment:

Pop Quizzes, Tests, Projects, and Homework will be the basis of grading. Your six weeks grade will be based on a percentage of points you have accumulated and the number of total points possible. By definition the methods of assessments are:

Pop Quizzes – Short multiple-choice, matching, or true/false questions from your reading. Pop quizzes will not be announced and will cover items from your book. Pop quizzes are generally 5-15 questions worth 2 points each.

Tests – Longer multiple-choice, matching, completion, or true/false questions after each chapter in our textbook. Tests usually comprise of 40-60 questions worth 2 points each.

Projects – Are either individual or group covering a region we have covered in class. There will be at least one project each 9 weeks and specific requirements will be discussed further in class.

Homework – Is defined as either work to be completed at home or in

class. All homework questions are worth between one to three points per question. Homework can be defined as: Section Reviews, Chapter Reviews, Unit Reviews, or Various Worksheets.

Grading Scale

Grading will be based according to school district policy, which is the following:

A+	100	B+	92-91	C+	84-83	D+	76-75
A	99-96	B	90-87	C	82-79	D	74-71
A-	95-93	B-	86-85	C-	78-77	D-	70-69

****Note:** I reserve the right to modify this course syllabus as I seem fit. Things are subject to change as the year progresses.