

Modern American History 1900-Present
Syllabus 2012-2013



Instructor: Mrs. Christine Sisko

Room: 204

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Meeting Time: 2:30-? PM (appointments welcomed but not needed)

Course Overview:

Modern American History is a survey course that explores the political, social, and economical developments of American history since the beginning of the twentieth century. Topics of study will include WWI, Great Depression, WWII and the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, the rise and fall of the Soviet Empire, the Eighties and Nineties, along with the role terrorism has played in the beginning of the twenty-first century. An emphasis will be placed on WWI, WWII and the Cold War because of its dominance on the history of America and the world during this century. Instructional methods will be varied to meet the needs of the class. *This is a required course for sophomores.*

Materials Needed:

1. A notebook- This can be either a notebook or a three-ringed binder. I recommend the binder with a pocket. If you do not choose the binder, you are required to have a folder.
2. Pen or Pencil: DO NOT COME TO CLASS WITHOUT A WRITING UTENSIL!! See class rules.

Textbook

American History Book: "America: Pathways to the Present – Modern American History". Pearson/Prentice Hall: New Jersey, 2005.

***TEXTBOOK MUST BE COVERED.....NO EXCEPTIONS!!!**

Standards

Students/Parents can view the PA Academic Standards for this course by visiting the Pennsylvania Department of Education's web site at the following address:

<http://www.pde.state.pa.us>.

Units of Study

American History 1900-Present

This class will begin with Chapter 10 Becoming a World Power (1890-1915) and conclude with Chapter 27 Entering a New Era (1992-Present)

Grading

Tests: All tests will be announced at least three days in advance. Tests format will be at least 10% essay and may include multiple choice, true and false, short answer and matching. The final and midterm will each count for 10% of your grade.

Quizzes: All quizzes will be announced. Quiz format is similar to test format.

Homework: Students are expected to complete all homework in a timely and consistent fashion. Homework will be regularly checked with assignments being collected periodically for a quiz grade. Homework will either be checked for completion or accuracy

Projects: Students will be expected to complete an assigned project on selected units that are covered. All projects must be handed in on time or there will be a deduction of points for everyday a project is late. *note lateness policy

Written Assignments: Written assignments such as essays, journal writings, free response essays, etc. will be assigned periodically throughout the course.

Oral Presentations: Students will be expected to complete at least 1 oral presentation during the course.

Reading, Quizzes & Outlines: Students will be required to complete chapter readings with quizzes. Each section of the textbook that is covered will be assigned and students are expected to read and outline key concepts of the textbook.

Grades are calculated based on a point system. Ex. If there are 500 total points in a quarter and you earned 450 points. Your grade would be $450/500=.90*100=90\%$

Lateness Policy: 5 Points will be deducted from an assignment for each day it is late. After the 10th day late the assignment becomes a zero.

QUALITY WORK

1. Assignments should be turned in without FRIZZLED edges. Anything that you hand in should be on nice, clean edged paper.
2. Assignments should be turned in, in **PRESTINE** condition. Don't give me something looks like it was pulled out of the garbage!!!
3. Assignments should be turned in on a WHOLE sheet of paper, not a half or quarter sheet.
4. Assignments should be written legibly. If you can't write well – TYPE IT!!

If these requirements are not fulfilled it is a zero or a deduction!!

PLAGIARISM/CHEATING

Plagiarism and cheating are serious matters that will not be tolerated in my classroom. Any student caught cheating on an assignment will automatically receive a failing grade for the work.