

United States History A Syllabus

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ACHS

Course Description: United States History Part A focuses on the political, social, and economic history of the United States from 1492 to 1920. In this class, students will become historians as they will be asked to examine multiple perspectives and analyze the major events that led to our country today.

Brief Course Outline:

Unit One: Colonialism, Constitution, 1800s America

Unit Two: Civil War and Reconstruction

Unit Three: Gilded Age and Progressivism

Unit Four: Imperialism and WWI

Required Materials:

1) Textbook: This trimester we will work with a **class set** of textbooks. These may be used when you are in the classroom, but may **NEVER** leave the room *without my permission*. We will use the textbook as an additional resource, and when time allows, you can use this textbook to complete your unit vocabulary for extra credit!

2) 3 Ring Binder: You **MUST** have a 3-ring binder for this class and this class alone. Organization is key to being a successful student and a binder is the first step in accomplishing that task. I will complete binder checks before every test. You must have the following 4 divisions in your binder:

- Unit 1
- Unit 2
- Unit 3
- Unit 4

3) Writing Utensils: Please, please, please, I beg of you, please bring a writing utensil to class EVERYDAY. You can not participate in class without it.

Grading: Students will gain a grade in this course from several means, all of which provide ample opportunity for student success if completed and turned in on time.

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| Binder Checks/ Participation | 10% |
| Daily Work (In-class, Homework, etc) | 40% |
| Tests/Quizzes/Projects | 50% |

- *Binder Checks*: Students are responsible for keeping a well-organized binder (I promise, it will make you more successful.) These binders are to be brought to class **everyday**. At the end of each unit, students will turn in their binders for a binder check. Students will be made aware of what materials will need to be in the binder at the beginning of each unit in the form of a unit plan that must be kept in the binder. Take these seriously; they are worth 10% of your grade in the class!!

- *Course Assessments:* There will be a variety of assessment tools used in this course. These will include in class work, daily exit slips, quizzes, projects, and unit exams. There will be a unit test at the end of each unit. These will include multiple choice questions and a constructed response. The majority of the questions on the quizzes will follow the daily “I Can” statements and bell ringers. This will allow students to self-assess how well they mastered each day’s “I Can”. We will also end class most days with an exit slip that will include multiple choice mastery questions and thesis practice.
- *Homework:* The majority of homework assigned will be homework work that was not completed or finished in class. We will have several projects in this course that will require you to work some at home.
- *Extra Credit:* Extra Credit can be earned through participation in Review Games. Take advantage of this opportunity as this extra credit can be added onto your tests!

Make-Up Work and Late Work Policy:

- If you are absent from class and it is excused, you will have **3 days** to turn in any missed assignments as per the ACHS Student Handbook. If work is received after the 3 days OR the absence is unexcused, you will receive a zero. You are responsible for ALL work missed because of an absence. It is your responsibility to find out what you missed, complete it, and turn it in! Students will find Make Up Work in their class period “Make-Up” file!
- To find out what was missed after an absence, look in the absent folders found in your class period’s paper file. You will find a copy of all work missed that day with your name on it. Complete on your own time and turn in to the turn in slot.
- You will have ONE day after the due date to turn in late work. After that one day extension, the assignment will only receive half-credit.
- Missed tests and quizzes may be made up before or after school (come talk to me to set up a time!)

Cheating and Plagiarism: Cheating in any form will NOT be tolerated in this class. You will be tested on the material learned in this class on the End of Course Assessment. If you cheat, you will not learn the material. So do not do it. If found cheating or cheating can be proven, students will receive a permanent zero for the assignment. No exceptions. This also applies to plagiarizing the work of another student or individual or copying from the internet without proper citing.

Tutoring: If you feel you need extra help, PLEASE do not be afraid to come talk to me! I am willing and able to come in before school or stay after school to help students study or tutor them.

I will also utilize Remind 101 to keep you (and your parents) up to date on class announcements, Study Island snow day assignments, and due date reminders. I will go through this process with students in class. In conclusion, I want this class to be fun, enjoyable, and informative. To allow me to make the class in this way, students must come to class everyday prepared and ready to learn! Lets have a great trimester and learn history!

Your Rules:

Alright guys. I know you are upper-classman and you have heard this time and time again. So I'll shorten it for you: In order to behave...follow the 5 P's.

Prompt: Be on time! I will be counting tardiness as a behavior problem that can lead to a referral.

Prepared: Bring your binder EVERYDAY, a pencil, and notebook paper. Bring all assignments that are due that day on time and completed.

Productive: Use class time responsibly. Stay on task when doing group or individual work.

Polite: Be respectful to all classmates and the teacher. Inappropriate language (cursing) is an automatic referral. Do not talk when I or other classmates are talking. Keep "group work" talking to a low level.

Patient: Learning takes time! I am a new teacher and you all have never learned this content before! It will all be new and exciting, and hopefully enjoyable for all of us!

If expectations are not met:

First Offense: I will give you a verbal warning. Behavior is to be corrected immediately.

Second Offense: I will call home.

Third Offense: No behavior should reach this point. If it does, a referral will be sent to the office.

Daily Procedures:

- Be on time to class, every day. If you are tardy, a tardy referral will be written. Remember, you only get one freebie by the administration!
- If you are in first period or fifth period, I expect silence during morning and afternoon announcements.
- Come to class with all class materials. Yes, that means a writing utensil. If for some odd reason that you have lost your one and only writing utensil please ask your classmates if you can borrow one. If everyone is without, you may approach me for a loan. It is expected that loans are returned at the end of that class period!
- As soon as you enter class, get out your class notebook and begin on the daily bell ringer. It will be posted when you enter.
- Some days we will take notes. It is crucial to take appropriate and accurate notes. You can not take the textbooks home so these notes will be your resource when homework is given. These will also be checked during notebook checks for a grade!
- Group work will be common during this course. You will likely not be in a group of your choosing. This is part of learning how to interact with others in the real world. ALL students must participate in the group.
- When doing independent work, students are expected to remain in their desks to complete the work. All independent work will be collected at one time (unless stated differently). If you finish earlier than others in the room, find something to occupy your time. This may include working on your unit vocabulary, reading your book, catching up on notes or other missed assignments, completing work for another class, etc. This **may not** include talking and distracting others, playing games on an electronic device, or sleeping.
- When the bell rings, you may leave. In exchange for me letting you go on time every day, you must show me you will work until the end of the period. **Do not pack up, do not line up at the door.** If you do, I may choose to keep you past the bell.

Miscellaneous Behavior Procedures:

- **Cell Phones:** I love my phone, you love your phone, we all love our phones. You WILL get the opportunity to use your phone in this class. *However, that is only when I specify.* If you are seen texting/facebooking/instagramming/snapchatting/googling etc. during class without my permission, your phone will be confiscated and placed in “Phone Jail” until the end of class period. If this problem continues, I will confiscate the phone until the end of the day and write a referral. HERE IS THE UPSIDE: You may charge your phone at any time in my class on the power-strip behind my desk.

I, (print name) _____, agree to the above syllabus and will try my best, behave my best, perform my best in Mrs. Koeller’s class!

Student Name (sign): _____

Class Period: _____

Parent/Guardian:

Please read through the syllabus. By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read and accept the above Syllabus.

_____ (parent/guardian signature)

What is the best way to contact you? I like to call home for positive feedback as well as for behavior/grade issues. Please provide your information below.

Phone _____

Email _____