

U.S. History B

Trimester Two, 2023-2024

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Full Course Description

This high school course in United States History offers a comprehensive exploration of the nation's development from the aftermath of the Civil War through the events leading up to the end of the Cold War. Through a combination of historical analysis, critical thinking exercises, and primary source examination, students will gain a nuanced understanding of the social, political, and economic changes that shaped the United States during this crucial period.

Learning Outcomes

Course Description:

Key Topics and Learning Objectives:

1. Reconstruction and the Aftermath of the Civil War:

- Analyze the challenges faced by the nation during the Reconstruction era.
- Examine the social, political, and economic changes in the aftermath of the Civil War.

2. Industrialization and the Gilded Age:

- Investigate the rapid industrialization and urbanization of the late 19th century.
- Explore the impact of technological advancements, immigration, and social reform movements.

3. Progressivism and the Roaring Twenties:

- Examine the progressive era's social and political reforms.
- Analyze the cultural and economic transformations of the Roaring Twenties.

4. The Great Depression and the New Deal:

- Explore the causes and effects of the Great Depression.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal policies.

5. World War II and the Postwar Era:

- Analyze the causes and consequences of World War II.
- Examine the global and domestic impact of the war on American society.

6. World War I and its Impact:

Investigate the causes and consequences of World War I.

Analyze the impact of the war on the global and domestic landscape, including the U.S. entry into the conflict.

7. The Civil Rights Movement:

- Investigate the struggle for civil rights and social justice.
- Analyze key events and figures, such as Brown v. Board of Education, Martin Luther King Jr., and the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

9. The End of the Cold War and Globalization:

- Examine the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War.
- Analyze the impact of globalization on the U.S. economy and culture.

Course Assignments and Grading

Activities

Students will participate in a myriad of activities such as vocabulary practice, trivia, learning games, classwide review, and much more. Activities given in class will not be homework, and will be completed during class time. Grading of these activities will be derived from the completion of activities as well as the participation in the activities.

Assessment and Evaluation:

Assessment methods will include exams, research projects, class discussions, and analysis of primary sources. Students will be expected to critically engage with historical events, connect them to broader themes, and understand their relevance to the present day. This course aims to foster a deep appreciation for the complexity of American history and its enduring influence on contemporary society.

Grades

All grades will be posted on Powerschool. You are strongly encouraged to check your scores in Powerschool regularly. A final grade will be assigned at the end of the course in accordance with your total points earned.

Your final grade will be weighted as follows:

Assessment 30% Skills Practice= 60% Work Ethic= 10%
(timeliness, participation, etc.)

Late Work

Students will be allowed to turn in late work with no point deductions up until one week after the original due date. After the week-long window, late assignments will receive a 10% deduction for every week they are late.

Course Policies and Procedures

Privileges

Food and Drink: Small, clean snacks and appropriate drinks are allowed in class as long as they do not become a distraction or a mess.

Phones: Students will place their phones in a storage box/area during class time where they will be safely stowed away. Students will be allowed to ask to use phones if absolutely necessary.

Any and all of these privileges can be revoked if students disrespect the given rules and abuse freedoms.

Attendance Policy

When students miss class, they miss important information. If students are absent, they will be permitted to make up coursework or complete an equivalent assignment agreed upon with me. When absent, students must email me to receive an outline of what they must complete in order to stay on track in this class.

Academic Integrity

It is important that any assignment submission is a pure reflection of a student's work and understanding. Students are expected to practice the highest possible standards of academic integrity. Any deviation from this expectation will result in a minimum academic penalty of failing the assignment, and will result in additional disciplinary measures as needed. This includes improper citation of sources, using another student's work, using Chat GPT, using AI, and any other form of academic misrepresentation.

Mental Health

If stress is impacting you or getting in the way of your ability to do your schoolwork, maintain relationships, eat, sleep, or enjoy yourself, please reach out to me or any of our staff to get you connected with our counselors and wellness team.

Course Schedule

This course is designed to follow a schedule of 10 week long units which are as follows:

1. Industry
2. Immigration
3. Imperialism

4. Progressivism
5. World War One
6. Roaring Twenties
7. The Great Depression
8. World War Two
9. Civil Rights Movement
10. Cold War and Globalization