

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

US History

Mr. Sorensen, Ms. Swigert, Mr. Williams

COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description:

United States History is a one-year survey of the significant political, economic social, cultural and diplomatic developments in American history from The Encounter to 1945. Students will use primary and secondary course document analysis to address major themes, including the changing nature of U.S. Democracy, the changing face of American society, and the United States' changing role in the world. The course meets U.S. and Illinois Constitution Test requirements. Note: This is a required course.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand the reasons for the European colonization of the Americas
- Understand how the 13 colonies and Britain grew apart
- Analyze the causes and effects of the American Revolution as well as the role played by significant individuals during the conflict
- Understand the ins and outs of both our federal and state constitutions
- Recognize the causes and effects of the Second Great Awakening and understand various social and labor movements in our country's history
- Describe the causes and consequences of westward expansion
- Understand the military strategy, political struggle, outcome, and legacy of the Civil War and its major players
- Understand the political struggle, accomplishments, and failures of Reconstruction in the years following the Civil War
- Analyze the economic, social, and political effects of immigration and industrialization
- Analyze significant turn-of-the-20th century trends in areas such as technology, education, race relations, and mass culture
- Explain how the progressive movement affected the power of government and individuals
- Understand the causes and consequences of World War One
- Understand issues such as Prohibition, the changing role of women, and the influence of the Harlem Renaissance
- Analyze the Great Depression and FDR's New Deal
- Understand the causes and consequences of World War Two, with an emphasis on the Holocaust

Required Class Materials: (may vary by teacher)

- Binder for notes
- Notebook Paper (preferably loose leaf)
- Pen or Pencil
- Student Tracker
- 2 pocket folder

Text:

Danzer, G.A., Klor de Alva, J.J., Krieger, L., Wilson, L. & Woloch N. (2005). The Americans. Evanston, IL: McDougal Littell.

Course Outline: (subject to change due to time constraints)

- Ch 2 & 3 (Colonization)
- Ch. 4 & 5 (American Revolution)
- Constitution (Federal & State test – graduation requirement)
- Ch. 6, 7, & 8 (New Nation & Reforms)
- Ch. 9 & 10 (Westward Expansion & Slavery)
- Ch. 11 (Civil War)
- Ch. 12 & 13.1 (Reconstruction)
- Ch. 14 & 15 (Immigrants, Urbanization, & Industrialization)
- Ch. 17, & 18 (Turn of the 20th century & Progressive Era)
- Ch. 19 (World War One)
- Ch. 20, 21, & 22 (Roaring Twenties & Great Depression)
- Ch. 23 (New Deal)
- Ch. 24 & 25 (World War Two)

Major Assignments: (Subject to change due to time constraints and teacher's choice)

- Colonial Courtships
- Researching Signers of the Declaration of Independence
- Civil War Political Cartoons or Civil War Medicine
- Food, Drugs, & Muckrakers
- Imperialism Rally
- Sacco & Vanzetti Trial
- 1920's Slang Dictionary
- Decoding a Speech or Creating a Radio Broadcast
- Letters home in WWII

Grading:

- Grades are based on an accumulation of points throughout the semester.
- The point value for assignments will vary.
- Grading Scale – as stated in the handbook: 92-100 A, 85-91 B, 77-84 C, 70-76 D, below 70 F.
- The semester breakdown is that 85% of your final grade is your quarter grade and 15% of your final grade is your exam grade.
- Grades are updated at least once a week. Parents and students can monitor grades via Skyward.

Class Policies & Procedures:

- Because each teacher's class is slightly different, class policies and procedures will be discussed on the first day of class.

Miscellaneous:

US History is a year long, required course for graduation.

Instructor Contact:

- The best way to get a hold of one of us is through email (rswigert@cusd4.org, twilliams@cusd4.org, bsorensen@cusd4.org) as we check it multiple times throughout the day.
 - Mr. Sorensen's Prep Periods:
 - A Days: 4th hour, B Days: 5th hour
 - Ms. Swigert's Prep Periods:
 - A Days: 2nd hour, B Days: 7th hour
 - Mr. Williams' Prep Periods:
 - A Days: 3rd hour, B Days: 8th hour