

Clairemont High School

United States History

Course Description

Instructor: Mrs. Erika Spillane

Email: eholstedt@sandi.net

Phone: (858) 273-0201 ext. 4111

Textbook: *The Americans: Reconstruction to the 21st Century*, McDougal Littell.

Course Description:

United States History is a two-semester course that allows students to analyze the events and individuals that have shaped the history of the United States. Major themes and traditions that make America exceptional will be explored in great detail. The course is designed to acquaint students with core characteristics and values found throughout the history of the United States and its people. By the end of this course, students will have completed the following course objectives:

1. Students will have an understanding of the institutional, cultural and social forces that have shaped the people of this nation from the early Eighteenth Century to the present day.
2. Students will have the ability to locate American cities and states whose particular histories have contributed to the development of the United States.
3. Students will be able to analyze the roles of various important and influential individuals, especially women and minorities, which have contributed to American history.
4. Students will have a framework for understanding modern day issues and problems based on their respective histories.
5. Students will examine the forces and issues that currently dominate the American political arena and the historical relevance of current events and issues.

Course Themes:

- 1) Philosophy of American Government
- 2) Industrial Revolution and Immigration
- 3) Role of Religion in America
- 4) US Imperialism: Becoming a world power
- 5) Developments of the 1920s
- 6) The Great Depression and the New Deal
- 7) America in WWII
- 8) The Social Transformation of Post WWII America

Class Policies:

- 1) BE ACCOUNTABLE
- 2) BE RESPECTFUL
- 3) No iPods or Mp3 players will be seen or heard in the classroom. If so, they will be confiscated and given to the office.
- 4) No cell phones should be used at any time during class. If so, they will be confiscated and kept until the end of the school day. If students are found to be using their phone on another occasion the phone will be confiscated and turned over to an administrator until a parent comes to the school to collect the phone.
- 5) No hats are allowed on campus. They will be confiscated and given to the office.
- 6) Any student not following the dress code will be sent to a VP to change clothing.
- 7) No food, candy, or drink (other than water) is allowed in the classroom.

Grading/Assessment:

All students will be graded on a point system. Points will be earned by completing homework, journals, essays, projects, tests, book reports and a final exam. Extra credit will be awarded to students for positive class participation in class.

Tutoring:

Tutoring is available at lunch and after school.

Homework Policy:

Notebooks, containing daily assignments, will be collected every 3-4 weeks. All students are responsible for making up any work done while he/she was absent. Students may need to come in after school or during lunch to obtain work completed during an absence. **LATE NOTEBOOKS WILL RECEIVE REDUCED CREDIT ONLY.** 10 points will be deducted for every the notebooks are late. Students are responsible for submitting assignments by the specified due date.

Grading System:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 100%-96% = A+ | 79%-77%=C+ |
| 96%-94% = A | 76%-74%=C |
| 93%-89.5% = A- | 73%-69.5%=C- |
| 89%-87% = B+ | 69%-67%=D+ |
| 86%-84% = B | 66%-64%=D |
| 83%-79.5% = B- | 63%-59.5%=D- |
| | 59% or below =F |

Detention Policy:

Detention will be assigned to students for the following reasons:

- Disruptive behavior in class
- Excessive tardiness
 - Students will receive a 15 minute detention after every 3rd tardy.

Detentions must be served on the day they were assigned or on the next school day.

- Detention may be served during lunch or after school.

Failure to serve the first detention will result in the following:

- Another detention will be assigned.
- A phone call home.

Failure to serve a 2nd detention will result in a referral.

- An administrator will determine the appropriate disciplinary measure (Saturday school, suspension, etc)

During detention, students will choose between:

- Studying/completing assignments
- Cleaning duties in the classroom

Recommended Supplies:

- 1) All students will be using a spiral notebook that is just for US History.
- 2) All students will need to come to class prepared with a pencil and paper.
- 3) All students need the textbook.
- 4) Colored pencils or markers, scissors, ruler and glue will be supplied when needed

(Please detach this portion of syllabus and turn in to Mrs. Spillane)

I have read the syllabus for Mrs. Spillane's US History class and I understand the expectations for student work and behavior. I am also aware of Mrs. Spillane's cell phone and detention policies.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Student Name: _____