

COURSE SYLLABUS UNITED STATES HISTORY

Instructor : Mr. Nelson, Room 14
Office Hours : 7:30 – 8:00, Mon – Friday
Contact : jnelson@stmonicahs.net / Web site :
<http://www.stmonicahs.net/~jnelson>



COURSE DESCRIPTION

This United States history course is a survey of events, personalities, and major turning points in the 20th century. Following a brief review of our country's history from the colonies to the Civil War, this course will evaluate the major political, economic, social, and cultural events and challenges of the 20th Century. Students will also study the geography of the country as well as evaluate its role in defining the shape and course of American history.

COURSE MATERIAL

1. Textbook : Cayton, Andrew. *America : Pathways to the Present*. Prentice Hall.
2. Notebook with dividers exclusively for this class.

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. Review Unit : The colonies to Civil War
- II. Industrialization and Empire
- III. The Progressive Era
- IV. World War I
- V. The 1920s
- VI. Depression and the New Deal
- VII. World War II
- VIII. The Cold War
- IX. The Civil Rights Movement
- X. Challenges and issues in contemporary America

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

It is crucial that students complete all assignments in order to succeed in this course. Students finding that they have missed an important concept or that they don't understand something from the readings can see me during my office hours.

Assignment Breakdown

Homework :	25 %
Quizzes and	
Tests :	25 %
Essays :	10 %
Projects :	10 %
Participation :	10 %
Final :	20 %

CLASSROOM POLICIES

- **ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING POLICY.** All assignments must be handed in on the due date at the beginning of class *or they are considered late*. Students may hand in late assignments after that time (by which I mean at some point during that day) but it will receive only ½ credit. Any assignment handed in after the day it is due will receive no credit. Because we are all human, I give students one “my printer wouldn’t work, my computer stopped working, an alien abducted my assignment” excuse per semester. While there is no extra credit in this course, I will offer the entire class “bonus point” opportunities from time to time. Students should be sure to take advantage of these “gifts” – they can really help. It is the policy of the Social Studies Department that students may only make up 1 missed test per semester. Any missed tests after the first will automatically receive a “0” grade. If the student is absent for the test, you have seven days in which to make it up. My grading scale is the same as the St. Monica Grade Scale as provided in the student handbook.
- **MAKE-UP WORK.** All make-up work is the responsibility of the student. If students know that they are going to be absent for a school activity on the date an assignment is due it is still the student’s responsibility to have it handed in on the due date. Students who are absent due to illness or some other legitimate emergency have the number of days they are absent to make up the assignment.
- **BEHAVIOR & PARTICIPATION.** All students are expected to adhere to all proper codes of conduct as outlined in the St. Monica student handbook. Failure to do so will result in lost participation points, a phone calls home, and other disciplinary action depending on the severity of the offense.
- **TIPS FOR SUCCESS.** Just remember that the key to success in any class is personal responsibility. If you are absent, find out what you missed from the instructor. If you miss a test, make sure you schedule a time to make it up. And above all, never be afraid to ask for help – that’s why I’m here.

Please detach and return to Mr. Nelson by **FRIDAY, JANUARY 09, 2008**.

I have read the course syllabus for United States History and agree to all of the policies.

Student Name

Student Signature

Parent Name

Parent Signature