
DUBUQUE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL COURSE SYLLABUS
UNITED STATES HISTORY

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Course Description

This course is intended to develop in students a deep appreciation and awareness of this country's history.

A basic chronological order with thematic infusions will be used to cover the significant events that have shaped the country's development in the Twentieth and Twenty-First Centuries. Units of study will focus on topics such as immigration, Progressivism, the U.S. in World War I, the Jazz Age, the Great Depression and New Deal era, the U.S. in World War II, the 1950s, the 1960s, Vietnam War and from President Carter to President G.W. Bush.

Emphasis in this course will be placed on content mastery, reading skills, conceptualization and critical thinking skills. Students are expected to use organized study skills, note taking and discussion skills in completing the course requirements. The general format of the class will include lecture/discussion, reading assignments including primary sources, audio-visual items, simulations, journals and evaluation instruments.

Alignment to the Iowa Core in History/Social Studies Grades 11-12: Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.

Standards Met: (This is not a complete list of standards met but a summary of key standards met throughout the course)

- 2.1 – Analyze historical events by identifying and using primary sources and other various credible sources of information.
- 2.3 – Analyze patterns of historical change and continuity.
- 4.2 – Analyze the interactions of ethnic, national, or cultural influences on an individual.
- 5.3 – Evaluate situations in which conflict occurs between individuals' beliefs and institutional norms.
- 6.1 – Evaluate issues involving the rights, roles, and status of the individuals in relations to the general welfare and differing conceptions of a just society.
- 7.4 – Evaluate historical events and current events/issues by applying economic concepts.
- 10.5 – Synthesize information from multiple points of view on public issues that lead to the development of government policy.

Units of Study:

- **Becoming a World Power: 1898-1920** (Immigration, Industrialization, Progressive Movement, Spanish-American War, Expansion, and WWI)
- **A Modern Nation: 1919-1940** (The Roaring Twenties, The Great Depression, and The New Deal)
- **A Champion of Democracy: 1939-1960** (WWII, Cold War, and Postwar America)
- **An Nation Facing Challenges: 1954-1975** (New Frontier and Great Society, Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam War, Social Change)
- **Looking Toward the Future: 1968-Present** (A Search for Order, A Conservative Era, Into the 21st Century)

Foundational Texts Used:

- Ayers, Edward L., et al. *American Anthem: Reconstruction to the Present*. Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2009.
 - **Online text:** <http://my.hrw.com> **Username:** history4 **Password:** history
- Various historical documents, essays, short stories, poems, and other texts as selected by the instructors. Students will be given these sources directly or provided with links to electronic versions.

Academic Integrity

This class will adhere to district guidelines as outlined in the student handbook. Cheating in ANY form will not be tolerated. Anyone caught cheating will receive a zero on the assignment and parents or guardians will be contacted. Additional consequences will be based on the severity of the infraction and repeated cases of academic dishonesty.

Course Materials

The following materials are required each day this class meets, and students must bring these materials to class each day to be considered on-time to class. **If you do not bring your materials, you will be sent to your locker to retrieve materials and will be marked tardy.**

- **Pen/Pencil**
- **Highlighter**
- **Three Ring Binder or Folder**
- **Notebook or loose writing paper**
- **Student Planner**
- **Textbook (Preferably Covered)**

Grading

The standard grade scale is used in assessing student performance. Senior High School's grading scale can be found in your student handbook. Grades will be comprised of the following categories:

Projects, Papers, daily work, etc. – 25%
Tests and quizzes – 60%

Final Exam – 15%

Grades are available on PowerSchool and are regularly updated. Check them at your leisure using your log-in and password from the Main Office.

Homework Policy

You are expected to complete all assignments by the date they are due. If you are ill and miss an assignment, you will have comparable time to finish it on your own without penalty. Consult the class calendar for homework, another student, or ask if you are unsure of assignment details.

If you know that you will be absent for whatever reason, please let me know in advance so that I may assist you in staying caught up with your work. **It is your responsibility to find out what work you have missed!**

Assessments

You will be assessed in a wide variety of ways, including but not limited to:

- Oral Presentations
- Parallel Time Charts
- Selected Response Quizzes & Tests
- Socratic Seminars
- Discussion Web Activities
- Weighing Evidence Activities
- Free Response Essays
- R.A.F.T.s (P.O.V. Writing)
- Independent Homework
- Learning Skills & Work Habits

Final Exams

Final exams are designed to measure a student's achievement at the end of a semester. Because this is a yearlong course, you are expected to take exams both semesters to demonstrate your proficiency in the course material. Students who are part of the Renaissance Program, meet the criteria, and register may exempt a final in this class. If you exempt the first semester final exam, you are required to take the second semester final exam!

Attendance and Tardy Policy

School policy will be followed. Consult your Student Handbook for more details.

Class Expectations

I expect respectful, cooperative, and appropriate classroom behavior at all times. Furthermore, you are to be punctual, prepared, and productive in class. No food or drink is allowed in the classroom other than water.

Electronics:

Cell phones **will not be seen or heard in class** unless you are given permission from an instructor. **Using cell phones is strictly prohibited on tests/quizzes and will result in a zero on that exam.** iPods, mp3 players, iPads, and other electronic devices of that variety will not be allowed in class unless authorized by an instructor. If permission is not granted the electronic device **WILL BE CONFISCATED.** If you ever are in doubt as to whether or not it is "okay" to use your device, just ask!

Remind 101:

In addition to announcements made in class, students may choose to receive text message or e-mail messages from the instructors via Remind 101. Remind 101 is a system that allows teachers to communicate with students WITHOUT the exchange of personal information (cell phone numbers). Before subscribing to Remind101 be sure you understand your cell phone plan's settings for text messaging. Remind 101 is a free service, but if you do not have free incoming messages, ***you are responsible for any fees your cell phone plan may incur!*** To subscribe to messages for this course, see the attached information.

Participation:

You are expected to be an active participant in all class activities and must demonstrate that you are prepared and ready to learn on a daily basis. Participation will grant you immediate feedback and guide your understanding. The expectation is that you will take responsibility for your education. Participating on a regular basis is always a win!

Office Hours

If you need to meet with me, I am available before school 7:00-7:30 and after school 2:20-2:30. I am also available during 1st, 5th, and 7th periods in Room B135, but please schedule an appointment if you wish to meet with me during these times, as I will be in meetings periodically.