**United States and Virginia History Syllabus 2019-2020**

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2019-2020 Syllabus Room 3008

***Course Description***

Welcome to United States and Virginia History (US/VA)! Students will learn how to navigate and make important insights into history to help them evaluate the past, present, and make predictions for the future. Development of analytical skills and an understanding of factual knowledge will provide the basis for critical evaluation of a variety of issues in United States history. In addition, students in this course will learn to assess historical materials, with regards to relevance, perspective, and reliability, while gaining a broader understanding of the American past.

In this course, the teacher will support students in developing the skills and traits of a historian, including: chronological reasoning (historical causation, patterns, and periodization; comparison and contextualization), crafting historical arguments from appropriate, historical evidence, and historical interpretation and synthesis, in which students will express a deep understanding of United States history through written and oral expression.

Our studies are aligned with the Virginia Standards of Learning for Virginia and US History as well as the Arlington County Curriculum guide. We will approach our US/VA History studies in a variety of ways including learning modules, class discussions, projects, video clips, and special focus activities.

**This course will help to explore the main idea of United States and Virginia History:**

* To understand the democratization of the American political system
* To understand the impact of American national destiny on global interactions
* To analyze the concerns of diverse groups seeking the “American Dream”
* To explore how geography, immigration, economics and politics impact development of American culture
* To develop an understanding of the U.S. free enterprise system and our role in world economies

***We will cover the following content***

**1st Quarter:**

* Pre-Columbian Societies
* Transatlantic Encounters and Colonial Beginnings
* Colonial North America
* The American Revolutionary Era
* The Early Republic

**2nd Quarter:**

* The Transformation of the Economy, Politics, and Society in Antebellum America
* Religion, Reform, and Renaissance in Antebellum America
* Territorial Expansion, Manifest Destiny
* The Crisis of the Union
* Civil War
* Reconstruction
* The Origins of the New South
* Development of the West in the Late Nineteenth Century
* Industrial America in the Late Nineteenth Century

**3rd Quarter:**

* Urban Society in the Late Nineteenth Century
* Populism and Progressivism
* The Emergence of America as a World Power
* The New Era: 1920s
* The Great Depression and the New Deal

**4th Quarter:**

* The Second World War
* The Home Front during the War
* The United States and the Early Cold War
* The Vietnam War
* The Civil Rights Movement
* Politics, Society, Culture, and Economics at the End of the Twentieth Century
* The United States in the Post-Cold War World

***Student Expectations:***

1. Be respectful. (of peers, teachers and yourself)
2. Do your work.
3. Be present in class. (participating in class discussions, sharing your opinion and ideas respectfully)
4. Be proactive. (communicating needs to teachers and planning ahead)

“*We take pride in our work and celebrate our accomplishments.*”

(portion of Washington-Liberty Vision statement)

***Cell Phone Policy:***

* Cell phones or headphones are not to be out during class time unless otherwise instructed.
  + Yes: to do simple research or participate in an online activity
  + No: cell phones or headphones during teacher instruction, class discussions or presentations

***What should I bring to class?***

*Each day, students MUST bring the following, unless otherwise posted:*

* 3-ring binder for this class only
* School issued laptop
* Small amount of college-ruled paper
* Tab Dividers (optional but helpful for organization)
* Pencils or pens
* Optional but appreciated: Box of tissues

***What materials will be used in this course?***

Textbook:

The basic text for this course is ***United States and Virginia History*** published byMcGraw Hill

* The text can be accessed through Canvas using an internet browser at school or at home. Books are available in the classroom for group use or individual study before and after school, during GP, or during second lunch.

Canvas:

* All course details and documents will be posted through Canvas. You and your parents may use your login to access Canvas at any time. Rubrics and due dates for major projects and papers will be posted. I post all assignments online in addition to in class. Please let me know if you do not have Internet access so other arrangements can be made.

***How is the class structured?***

**Classwork:**

* Assignments will be collected on their due date for full credit. If absent, half credit will be offered for late work turned in within ONE class period after the due date. The only exception to this policy is a cleared absence, in which case the assignment will be made up promptly.
* Students are expected to be active participants in all class discussions. Participation makes up a large part of your grade so you need to be on topic and on-task.

***How will I be graded?***

Grading Policy: “Student grades reflect student achievement and not student behavior”

(W-L Faculty Handbook)

Students are expected to act honorably in class (and in school) at all times.  There is a complete description of Washington-Liberty’s Honor Code and policies available in the Student Handbook and through the counseling department. This means that students do not *give* or *receive* unauthorized assistance on any assignment.  The penalty for cheating will be a zero on the assignment.  The penalty for plagiarism (a specific form of cheating) will be a zero on the assignment.

The following grading scale will be used for course work:

When calculating marking period and final examination grades, teachers round up when a percentage yields a decimal of .5 or higher.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Grade*** | ***Percentages*** | ***Quality Points*** |
| A | 90-100 | 4.0 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 3.5 |
| B | 80-86 | 3.0 |
| C+ | 77-79 | 2.5 |
| C | 70-76 | 2.0 |
| D+ | 67-69 | 1.5 |
| D | 60-66 | 1.0 |
| E | 0-59 | 0.0 |

**Grading Breakdown: A variety of summative and formative assessments will both be used throughout the year.**

Classwork 30% Tests & Quizzes 20% Participation 15%

Homework 5% Projects 30%

**Final Exam:**

Students who have an A average for the year will be exempt from taking the final exam in USVA History. All other students will be required to take the exam, no exceptions. Students are allowed only one B during the first semester in order to qualify for exemption. For students taking the final exam, **final grade** will be calculated by averaging the 4 quarters and the final exam.

***What if I miss a class?***

* *Chronic absences and tardies will be subject to the school’s attendance and disciplinary policy, found in the Student Handbook.*
* If you miss a day, please check Canvas under the “Miss Class” page for any missed assignments or contact me through e-mail.
* I am available during General’s Period (with a pass) and by appointment.
* If there is an emergency closing, please check Canvas for any important announcements.

**Contacting Ms. Robbins or Ms. Michaud:**

We look forward to this school year with you all. Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions or concerns at: emily.robbins2@apsva.us **/** kyrie.michaud@apsva.usor by calling the main office at 703-228-6200 and ask to speak with either of us.

**US/VA History Syllabus, Ms. Robbins and Ms. Michaud, 2019-20**

Your first homework assignment is to share this with your parents or guardians. Please sign /date this page and turn it in at the beginning of the NEXT CLASS. Keep the syllabus in your binder as a reference.

Student Name (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s) (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best parent contact email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best parent contact phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any questions or concerns?: