**United States & Virginia History, Part I**

2019-2020 Syllabus

**Ms. Emily Robbins**

Washington-Liberty High School, Room 3008

Email: [emily.robbins2@apsva.us](mailto:emily.robbins2@apsva.us)

Canvas course: https://apsva.instructure.com/courses/36183

**Welcome Students and Parents/Guardians!**

United States & Virginia History focuses on the important people, places, and events in United States history (1492-Present) and how Virginia has played a role in the country’s development. Our course is organized around the theme of *community* and *perspectives*, so we will explore history from many points of view: continuities and changes in the American geography and environment, politics and governance, business and industry, globalization, and culture.

The course offers students an opportunity to develop their analytical abilities and critical thinking skills in order to understand historical and geographical context, make comparisons, use primary and secondary source documents, and recognize and discuss different interpretations and historical frameworks. This course is modified and differentiated to meet the needs of the students.

We will be covering the following topics during the entirety of the course:

|  |
| --- |
| **PARTUSVA Part I (to 1865)**   * Introduction to U.S. History & skills * European exploration and settlement in the “New World” * The Revolutionary Era * The Constitutional Period * The New Republic * Jacksonian America & Reform * Civil War & Reconstruction |

***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 Ms. Robbins 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 40% Tests & Quizzes 20% Participation 15%

Homework 5% Projects 20%

**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:**

I look forward to this school year with you all. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions or concerns at: emily.robbins2@apsva.usor by calling the main office at 703-228-6200 and ask to speak with me.

**US/VA History Part 1 Syllabus, Ms. Robbins, 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?: