



COURSE OUTLINE

US HISTORY

MR. ARNOLD

WEBSITE: <http://www.coacharnold.com>

EMAIL: bcarnold@hartdistrict.org

This course orientation has been prepared to communicate the expectations, content, requirements, policies, and any other information that any student should need to be successful in my class. I truly want each of my students to have a positive experience in my class, and I want to allow every opportunity to achieve. Please read this carefully and share it with your parents, as it is intended to give you the information necessary to do well in my class. If you do not understand, or have a question about any part of this outline, please see me for clarification.

Course Introduction

This United States History course will provide students an account of the chronological flow of the modern history of the United States from the roots of democracy to the present time.

Topics Covered During the 1st Semester:

- Manifest Destiny, civil War, Reconstruction, and the Development of Industry
- The Progressive Era
- America Develops into a World Power
- WWI and Beyond
- 1920s
- The Great Depression
- The New Deal
- The Coming of WWII
- WWII

Topics Covered During the 2nd Semester:

- The Cold War
- Post WWII and Anxiety
- Civil Rights Movement
- Kennedy and Johnson Years
- The Vietnam War Era
- Protest and Change
- Crisis and Confidence
- The US Today

Course Rules and Expectations

Students are expected to be prepared and act responsibly while in my classroom. My expectations of every student in my classroom are:

- Be respectful of all students and adults at all times
- Keep cell phones **OFF AND OUT OF SIGHT** at all times
- Do not distract from the learning of others
- Bring required materials to class everyday

Text Book

All lost or damaged books will be paid for by the student. Students may be required to bring their textbooks to on certain days for in-class activities. No student books will be stored inside of my classroom. Students will be responsible for any damages that they cause to in-class sets of books.

Notebooks

One aspect of this course that may be unfamiliar to some students is the use of an “Interactive Notebook.” Students will put all class and notes and some class work into this notebook throughout the semester. It is designed to keep notes and assignments organized for the entire semester, encourage pride in work, and help when it comes to review and studying. More information will be discussed in the first week of class.

Homework

Homework will typically be assigned as a homework “sheet” with a week’s worth of assignments that will be collected and graded as a class. This will provide students with busy schedules some flexibility when allocating time for homework assignments. Assignments will be posted on Mr. Arnold’s website on a daily basis.

Movies

Whole movies or clips may periodically be used as a supplement to the other information provided in class. While most will be historical documentaries (like shown on the “History Channel”), some may be theatrical movies. Although some of these may include certain adult language and/or violence, they are a helpful addition to the regular curriculum. The following movies (or similar movies) may be shown in class: Das Boot, Stalin, Schindler’s List, Enemy at the Gates, Band of Brothers (Parts), Gandhi, Somalia, Blackhawk Down, Saving Private Ryan (D-Day scene), Forrest Gump, Animal Farm, 13 Days. If you do not approve of your son or daughter participating in these assignments, please make a note on the signature portion of this course outline and/or email me, and an alternative assignment will be provided.

Make Up Work

It is the STUDENT’S responsibility to ask if an assignment was given on the day of their absence. IT IS NOT THE TEACHER’S RESPONSIBILITY TO REMIND THE STUDENTS OF MISSING WORK DUE TO AN ABSENCE!!! A STUDENT WILL ONLY RECEIVE CREDIT FOR MAKE-UP WORK IF THEIR ABSENCE IS EXCUSED. In the case of an absence, all missed assignments must be turned in the following day labeled “absent” and handed personally to the teacher. If a student misses a lecture due to an absence, they may either get the notes from another student in class, or take notes from the text.

If a student misses an assignment for a reason other than absence they will be allowed to turn that assignment in for HALF CREDIT up to THREE class days after the assignment is due. Late assignments will not be collected after that three day period.

Grades

Grades will be computed on a point basis. Homework, quizzes, tests, and all other assignments will be given an appropriate point value and weight. Some extra credit opportunities will be provided from time to time in class. Grades **WILL NOT** be rounded up.

The following scale will be used to determine grades:

- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F 59% or below

Typical point values are as follows:

- Homework: 10-20 points
- Projects: 100-150 points
- Chapter Test: 100-150 points
- Final Exam: 200-300 points

Students will start the semester with a total of 50 “participation points” which will be added to the students’ grades at the conclusion of the semester. These points will be adjusted throughout the semester based on student behavior. If a student follows directions, is on task, and is not a distraction for the entire semester, they will have the entire 50 points added to their grade at the close of the semester.

Academic Honesty

Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. If a student is caught copying another student’s work, both assignments will be confiscated, and both students will be punished accordingly. If a student is caught cheating on a test, an automatic zero will be given on that assignment, and the appropriate district guidelines regarding disciplinary action will be enforced. Students with cell phones or MP3 players out during tests will receive an automatic zero on the test and a referral to the office.

Attendance Policy

Students’ attendance in class is directly related to their success in this course. School absence and tardy policies will be followed and enforced.

Contact Information

Feel free to contact me at any time if you have anything that I can help you with. I want this semester to be a positive experience for all. The easiest way to contact me is through email (bcarnold@hartdistrict.org) however; you can also reach me at school (661) 294-1188 ext.611

PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION

Please sign and return indicating that you have read and understand the information included on this course orientation. Feel free to contact me any time should you have any questions or concerns.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

WEB: <http://staff.hartdistrict.org/bcarnold>

EMAIL: bcarnold@hartdistrict.org

PHONE: 661-294-1188 ext.611

Student Name (please print): _____

Period: _____

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Daytime Phone Number: _____

Other Information:
