



2023-2024 COURSE SYLLABUS

United States History

Course description :

This course provides juniors with an awareness of our national heritage. Students will develop a better and deeper understanding of how the country became what it is today. Students will continue to develop their reading, writing, thinking, and research skills with the use of primary and secondary sources. California history social science standards for U.S. History can be found here:

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/hs/cf/documents/hssfwchapter16.pdf>

Teacher Name: Ken O'Flaherty

Teacher Email Address: Kenneth-oflaherty@scusd.edu

Teacher Phone Number: 916-395-5090 ext. 506809

Teacher Website /Page: <https://jfk.scusd.edu/profile/kenneth-oflaherty>

Google Classroom Code: **wtbo6by**

Required Materials:

- 8.5 x 11 inch notebook
- Pencils and pens

Grading Policy:

Grades will be based on the total points earned in the following grade categories. Official grades will be posted on Infinite Campus, the Google Classroom gradebook is not official.

- Classwork/Homework (20% of total grade)
 - Includes the quality of responses of students and effort exerted. Quality will be assessed based on students ability to identify and explain cause and effects, change over time, and analysis of primary source documents.
 - Research Papers/Projects (will count as classwork/homework)
 - Quizzes/Exams (60% of total grade)
 - All quizzes and exams will require students to answer multiple choice questions about the unit of study. Some quizzes will be electronic and some will be paper.
 - Participation/Organization (20% of total grade)
 - Participation includes completion of assignments, contributions to class discussions, promptness, professionalism, and adherences to completing assignments in a timely manner.
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- 90-100%= A
 - 80-89%= B
 - 70-79%= C
 - 60-69%= D
 - 50-59%= F (If an "F" is earned, summer school is required.)

Course Objectives

Students will acquire historical thinking skills and content knowledge of various points of view of peoples and individuals that have shaped the U.S. at its founding and since. Major events, people, and movements will be the focus of the course.



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Course Outline

First Semester

- Colonial America*
- Foundations of the U.S.*
- Reforms of the early 19th Century*
- Civil War and Reconstruction*
- Gilded Age
- Progressive Era
- The U.S. and World War I
- U.S. Imperialism

Second Semester

- Roaring 20s
- The Great Depression
- The U.S. and World War II
- Cold War
- The Contemporary World

*Denotes a “review period” of background of historical events from the History Social Science standards from 8th grade.

Academic Expectations

- **Late work is unacceptable and will not be counted.**
- **Writing for Understanding** – writing assignments, which ask you to synthesize information from more than one source, write persuasively in defense of a perspective, or respond to and analyze contemporary and historic events, will be assigned regularly.
- **Study Guides**—Study guides will also be available on Infinite Campus as well as a physical copy will be passed out to each student one week prior to a unit quiz.
- **Attendance** is vital. Should you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you’ve missed. You have the same number of days to turn in work as the number of days for which you had excused absences. *Many activities and experiences cannot be recreated for an individual who misses class. Poor attendance will affect your grade.*
- **Lying, cheating, plagiarism** or any form of dishonesty will not be tolerated and will result in a 0 on that assignment and reported to school administration.

Behavior Expectations

- **Be on time, prepared to learn and work hard everyday**
- **Everyone will be treated with respect at all times**
- **Disrupting the learning environment in any way is unacceptable and there are consequences for it**
- **Follow all school rules**



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Please remove this page and return it to Mr. O'Flaherty via Email OR send me an Email acknowledging that you have reviewed the syllabus.

I have read and understand what is expected of me in United States History.

Student name (please print): _____

Student signature: _____ date: _____

I have read and understand what is expected of my student in United States History.

Parent/Guardian name (please print): _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____

daytime phone: _____ evening phone: _____

To be added to the Google Classroom or access the syllabus, please follow these steps:

1. Send your students name and grade to kenneth-oflaherty@scusd.edu from an Email address you would like to add to the Google Classroom as a guardian.
 - a. I will add you to the Google Classroom

OR

2. I encourage parents to send their Email contact to me so I can add it to Google Classroom if you would like notifications.

A video on how students and parents can use Google Classroom is here:

<https://youtu.be/IgS-hoSljnw>

Please contact me at Kenneth-oflaherty@scusd.edu with any questions.