



US History Syllabus

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I. Course Description

The United States History course consists of the following content area strands: United States History, Geography, and Humanities. The primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of United States history from Reconstruction to the present day. Students will be exposed to the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events which influenced the development of the United States and the resulting impact on world history. So that students can clearly see the relationship between cause and effect in historical events, students should have the opportunity to review those fundamental ideas and events which occurred before the end of Reconstruction.

II. Required Materials

A. Textbooks

- 1) Jarrett, Mark, and Robert Yahng. *Gateway to U.S. History: The Bridge to Success on Florida's EOC Test*. Lafayette, CA: Florida Transformative Education, 2015. (Each student will receive a book to take home and their own book for in class)

B. Supplemental Materials

- 1) Newspaper Articles – Supplied by Instructor from sources such as The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and the Washington Post.
- 2) News magazines – Supplied by instructor such as National Geographic, U.S. News, Time Magazine, Newsweek, The Economist, and others.
- 3) Various scholarly journal articles in the fields of history, political science and geography.
- 4) A wide variety of videos and video clips.

C. Student-supplied Materials

- 1) One 1-subject notebook (Or 1 section of a multi subject notebook)
- 2) Pens and Pencils (Blue or Black Ink for turned in assignments)
- 3) 3x5 Index cards for study purposes (For home, at your discretion)
- 4) Highlighters (at least four different colors)
- 5) Folder to keep important handouts and papers in

III. Instructor Availability and Response Times

Please feel free to ask any content related questions during class time. For all other inquiries or questions regarding assignments or other things please either wait till instruction has finished, or after class.

You may also contact me by email which is listed above on this syllabus. Do note that I do not check my email at home or on the weekends, so if you are emailing me do not expect an immediate response. I will answer emails either before school, 6:30am until 7:00am or after school, 2:10pm until 3:00pm Monday through Friday. Unless I have spoken with you personally and approved it, I will not accept any assignment turned in via email. All written assignments must be turned in during class time or on the google classroom.

I may be available after school for additional help, studying, or make-up assignments. Please do not assume that I will be in my classroom after school every afternoon. If you need to meet with me, please email me and set up a specific time. I will try to accommodate you.

IV. Grading

1. Grading Scale

A. **LBHS:** A = 100 – 90, B = 89 – 80, C = 79 – 70, D = 69 – 60, Below 60 = F

B. General Grade Definitions

A = Strong scholarship, work significantly exceeds the requirements of the instructor, and demonstrates independent thought and resourcefulness. Work is neat, organized, and free from spelling errors and on time. Work shows significant increase development of the student, and the work, if shared, enhances the group's learning.

ABOVE and BEYOND AVERAGE

B = Accurate and complete scholarship that goes beyond the requirements of the instructor and demonstrates above-average achievement. Work is neat, organized, and free from spelling errors and on time. Work shows some increased development of the student, and the work, if shared, is beneficial to the group's learning.

BEYOND AVERAGE

C = Scholarship meets the minimum requirements of the instructor and demonstrates little independent thought or may simply parrot the text. Work is neat but may not be well organized and may contain spelling errors and may possibly be late. Work shows little increased development of the student, if any. The work, if shared, is marginally beneficial to the group's learning.

AVERAGE

D = Scholarship does not meet the requirements of the instructor and demonstrates no independent thought and may be copied from another source or paraphrased. Work may or may not be neatly done and well organized. The work may contain spelling errors and may be late. Work

shows no evidence of increasing the development of the student. The work, if shared, has little, or no, benefit for the group's learning.

BELOW AVERAGE

F = Scholarship does not meet the minimum requirements of the instructor or the assignment. The work shows no evidence of independent thought, was copied from another source, or was paraphrased. The work may be late, or not turned in at all. If turned in, the work may not be neat, may contain spelling errors, and may be incomplete. If shared, the work is not beneficial to the group's learning.

SIGNIFICANTLY BELOW AVERAGE

2. Grade Weights

Grades will be weighted in the grade book as follows:

1. Unit Tests = 40% of the quarter grade
2. Homework Assignments = 10% of the quarter grade
3. Content Quizzes = 20% of the quarter grade
4. Study Island Assignments = 30% of the quarter grade

Semester exams:

There will be no midterm or final exam for this course.

Instead the county has a formula for using the score on the EOC assessment as both your midterm test grade and your final exam grade. There will be periodic exams issued by the county or state to make sure students are keeping pace with the curriculum map, however those will not count as exam grades in this course.

NOTE:

1. **Students WILL have some type of assignment for this class each day, Monday - Friday and non-class days.** You will always have some kind of reading assignment or homework. It will always be posted on the whiteboard behind my desk and also in your unit lesson plan that is handed to you before the unit begins.
PARENTS/GUARDIANS: Do not allow your student to tell you that they have nothing to do for my class. They will always have some kind of studying or reading assignment to do. Please ask the student to show you their google classroom regularly to assure they are submitting all of their assigned work.
2. **Late work is not acceptable** and will result in severe consequences including a lowered grade. The only way that a student may receive full credit for late work is through an excused absence/tardy from school. Please see the 2019-2020 CCPS Code of Student Conduct for specifics. Any late work submitted as a result of an unexcused absence will result in an automatic 30% reduction in their overall grade. This includes if a student does not turn in their assignments while in ISS or OSS.

I do not give extra credit in the sense that extra work will raise or lower your final percentage grade in the class. and even exams. At times a student may earn “Watkins Bucks” for exemplary work, submissions on time, or in class games or rewards. Students should not simply expect to be awarded “Watkins Bucks”, rather it is a privilege and can be taken away. Each “Watkins Buck” will have my signature and the students name written on it. Students may save these dollars to exchange for assignments, quizzes and tests throughout the semester. They will not carry over from First semester to Second Semester and may not be used on Midterms or Final Exams. Students must keep their “Watkins Bucks” and write the name of the assignment and date of the assignment on the back of the paper and return it to myself in order to use it on an assignment. The exchange rate for “Watkins Bucks” are as follows...

On a Homework or In-Class Assignment

1 Buck = 1 Point

On a Quiz

1 Buck = ½ Point (2 Bucks = 1 Point)

On a Test

1 Buck = ¼ Point (4 Bucks = 1 Point)

V. Classroom Conduct

Students are expected to come to class on time, with all necessary materials, and prepared to work. “On time” means that all students are in their seats and ready to begin the day’s work when the bell rings. As a standard rule, students are not allowed to leave the classroom during class without a hall pass, and the hall pass is only for emergencies. I expect you to use the toilet facilities, run errands and to see your boyfriend/girlfriend between classes, on your time.

A. Class Rules

- RESPECT. This is the most important rule. When someone is in front of you speaking you will respect their presence and be silent while they are speaking. Rudeness, foul language or foul gestures are never tolerated. Be respectful to each other at all times. If you continuously disrupt the class, you will be sent for discipline with a referral.
- NO Cell Phones or technology in class unless explicitly allowed by the instructor. This includes headphones and all other Bluetooth devices! Remove your earbuds and AirPods before the class begins! You get one warning. The second time I ask you to put your tech away you will be sent for discipline with a referral.
- NO FOOD! You may bring with you a drink during class, but eating is not allowed. Finish your snack before the final bell rings or after you leave the classroom.
- It is not necessary to interrupt the class to ask to go to the restroom. The answer is yes. You MUST however sign out and take the hall pass with you. If someone is already in the restroom you have to wait for them to return. Do not cause a distraction or interrupt the lesson, wait for an appropriate time to leave the room.
The 20/10 Rule is more important now than ever. Bathrooms are being sanitized at the beginning of every period throughout the day, there fore you may not use the facilities during the first 20 minutes of class time. Likewise at

the end of the period you must wait and cannot use the facilities 10 minutes before the bell. NO EXCEPTIONS WITHOUT A 504!

VI. Assignments and Tests

1. Google Classroom

- a. Every Period will have their own Google Classroom that students will be required to log into on a daily basis. All assignments and homework will be submitted through the Google Classroom unless the teacher has told the class otherwise in advance.
- b. The Google Classroom Codes are as follows

Period 1	sltqvto
Period 2	u2wucpi
Period 3	hnpcci5
Period 4	2bro2ke
Period 7	qkwryr6

2. Remind

- a. We will also be utilizing Remind this semester. We will use this only in the event that there is something important that the teacher needs to get out to the class without prior notice. Students may use Remind to contact their teacher outside of class time.
- b. It is important to note that during the school day I will not be checking Remind. Therefore, do not expect a response while we are here at school. I also do not have a planning period, so students will have to wait until after 2:10 to receive an answer via Remind.
- c. These are the class Remind Codes.

Period 1	6fcbk7
Period 2	66ehda
Period 3	fb8c46f
Period 4	3d32gkg
Period 7	gac64b

3. Assignments
 - a. You should be using a planner for this course. Staying organized is a must!
 - b. Written work is due at the beginning of class. Do not plan to finish your work during the lecture or later in the school day. **LATE WORK IS NOT ACCEPTED FOR FULL CREDIT UNLESS YOU HAVE AN EXCUSED ABSENCE!**
 - c. Handwritten assignments should be completed on loose leaf 8.5x11 college ruled paper. Please write in blue or black ink. Your writing must be legible. I cannot grade your work if I cannot read it! Most assignments will be submitted through Google Classroom. Please use proper MLA formatting for your papers and include proper citations. If you do not cite your sources, then you are plagiarizing someone else's work!
 - d. I will not typically accept any assignments via email, however there are some exceptions. You must get approval from me **BEFORE** you submit an assignment via email.
4. Quizzes, Exams and Midterms/Finals
 - a. Quizzes on the reading will not be announced, so plan your studying accordingly. A quiz will always follow the lectures that you should be taking notes on. **You must read in order to expect to do well on the quizzes!**
 - b. Please use blue or black ink on all quizzes and exams that are not scantron. If a scantron test has a written element I will tell you before you begin to have notebook paper and a pen ready for the written portion.
 - c. Make up tests will only be given if the student has an excused absence. You must set up a time with me to come in and make up the test or quiz that you have missed. I will make myself available for anyone with an excused absence, but you must make the effort to make up the work in a reasonable amount of time. Do not expect to be able to make up a quiz or test from the beginning of the semester two weeks before the end of the period.

VII. **Unit Lesson Plan**

Lesson Plans will be handed out to students before each Unit of Study. They will also be available on my Staff Page located at LemonBayHigh.com.