

Syllabus

Course Description:

Welcome! This course will focus on U.S. History from pre-colonization through modern times. Strands of government and economics (as well as archaeology and anthropology) are woven into the tapestry of America's history to achieve a more holistic understanding of our rich and multi-cultural heritage. The standards required by the state of Arizona Department of Education are embedded in a rigorous curriculum that also includes Common Core Standard Practices. We will be reviewing some material presented at earlier grades as well as learning new material. We will be analyzing events and their impact on both the past and present. You will have the opportunity to work in a variety of learning situations—individually, in small groups, and as a large classroom. Emphasis is placed on reading, writing and critical thinking skills, such as decision making, problem solving, and cause and effect. Students will, therefore, make presentations, write papers—both research papers and literature reviews—and take essay based tests. In order to be successful, you must take responsibility for your learning.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the year, students will be expected to have gained the requisite skills and control of content to do the following:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of historical data and use that to support an argument or position.
2. Apply chronological and spatial thinking to understand the meaning, implications, and importance of historical and current events.
3. Use geographic skills, and perspectives to explain the past, present, and future issues.
4. Demonstrate study skills, group skills, organizational, and problem solving skills.
5. Practice interpersonal and communication skills for success in the “real world.”

Course Reading Materials:

Brinkley American History 11

Various handouts of primary and secondary sources, articles, and other texts.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to do their own work; free of plagiarism, copying, cheating, cutting and pasting from another document or any other form of dishonesty. A student who has failed to maintain integrity will receive a zero on all related tests/assignments and face possible discipline with NPA administration.

Attendance

Regular attendance is beneficial and necessary for success in this class. If students are to be absent for a prolonged amount of time due to illness or family matters, the student must contact the teacher at school so arrangements can be made for homework, exams and missed classroom experiences. Students must be in class on time and unexcused tardiness will not be accepted.

Grading

Most assignments, participation efforts and essays, exams and projects will be given a possible point total. The points earned will be added and then divided by the total possible point amount. The determination of a letter grade will be based on the following scale:

100 - 90 = A
89.9 - 80 = B
79.9 - 70 = C
69.9 - 60 = D
Below 60 = F

Grades will be posted throughout the year. Students are responsible for staying informed about their missing work and their grade progression.

Classroom Conduct

Cell Phones, pagers, ipods, ipads or any other electronic devices that may be considered distracting to class are not permitted. Any such misconduct will result in confiscation of the item.

Food and Drink are allowed in my classroom so long as it does not become a mess or distraction. At any point throughout the year this right may be revoked by executive decision.

All Northland Preparatory Academy rules will be enforced – NO exceptions. Any problems within this classroom will be dealt with quickly and effectively. The overall goal is to make this class as enjoyable and effective as possible for every student.

Participate! The best way to enjoy history is to delve in and discuss, listen and experience history. Please do this while in class.