

International American School Cancun
US History 11
2013-2014

Mr. Moore
 Room 11
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Course Objective: The goal of the 11th grade US History course is to both further develop the students' understanding of the study of the history of the United States and provide a strong knowledge base in the subject's later eras. This course will cover the history of the US from the Civil War and Reconstruction to the contemporary United States. At the end of the course students should be able to analyze primary and secondary texts, craft historical arguments, and demonstrate reasonably complete and accurate factual knowledge of the time frame covered.

Textbook: This course uses *United States History: Reconstruction to Present*, Emma Lapsansky-Warner, published in 2008 by Prentice Hall.

Course Outline

Unit	Themes
Unit 1: Civil War & Reconstruction (1850-1877)	The causes of the Civil War; the Civil War's course, its character, and its effect on the lives of the American people; the relative success and failure of plans for Reconstruction
Unit 2: The Development of the Industrial United States (1865-1914)	The transformation of the American people by industrialization; the rise of the labor movement and its effect on the relationship between political issues and social and economic changes
Unit 3: The Immigration and Urbanization Movements (1865-1914)	The effect of increased cultural diversity caused by the immigration boom after 1870 on social conflicts and national unity
Unit 4: The West Transformed (1865-1900)	Federal Indian policy and foreign policy in the West after the Civil War
Unit 5: The Progressive Era (1890-1920)	The rise of the Progressives and their ideas for addressing the problems industrial capitalism, urbanization, and political corruption
Unit 6: An Emerging World Power (1890-1917)	The United States' changing role on the world stage; the path to, and course of, the United States' involvement in World War I

Unit 7: World War I (1914-1920)	The United States' involvement in the war and its effect both on the war itself and on United States life and politics
Unit 8: The Roaring Twenties (1919-1929)	The changes and social tensions the United States experienced between the end of World War I and the beginning of the Great Depression
Unit 9: The Great Depression & the New Deal (1928-1941)	The causes and effects on society of the Great Depression; the New Deal transformation of American federalist and the beginning of the welfare state
Unit 10: World War II (1931-1945)	The causes and course of World War II; the war's effect on life at home and abroad; the emergence of a new role for the United States in world affairs
Unit 11: The Cold War (1945-1960)	The influence on domestic and international politics of the Cold War; the role of proxy wars in Korea and Vietnam in the course of the conflict
Unit 12: The Civil Rights Movement (1945-1975)	The rise to prominence of the struggle for racial and gender equalities, as well as the extension of civil liberties
Unit 13: The Contemporary United States (1968-Present)	Recent developments in foreign politics and domestic policy, contemporary developments in the economic, social, and cultural realms

Grading: This course expects a mastery of both the historical concepts in question and the means of expressing those concepts, namely relevant vocabulary, grammatical and syntactical correctness, and proper rhetorical structure. It should go without saying that students are required to complete all homework assignments and participate constructively in class. Grades for the first semester will be distributed as follows:

- Unit Exams **25%**
- Chapter Assessments **10%**
- Reading Responses **15%**
- Homework **10%**
- Classwork & Participation **20%**
- Final Exam **20%**

Late Work: Work (including homework, essays, and projects) may be turned in later; however, a letter grade will be deducted from the student's score for each day the work is late.

Quality of work: All work should be of the highest possible quality. Students are responsible for making sure their work is legible at all times.

Engrade Quizzes: Periodically, the instructor will assign quizzes on Engrade. Individual quizzes may be graded on correctness, completion, or a combination of the two at the instructor's discretion.

Reading Responses: Properly engaging with history means wrestling directly with primary documents. Each week, unless otherwise noted, students will select one of their document readings from the week and compose a cohesive 150-word response about some aspect of the reading they found particularly interesting. Top scoring responses will show analysis as well as comprehension.

Classwork & Participation: Each week students will receive a grade in this category, which represents their performance during that week's classes. While disruptions and disengagement can negatively affect a student's grade in this category, positive contributions in class can help offset these.

Plagiarism: Obviously plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class. Any student plagiarizing on essays, or cheating on an exam or in-class essay will receive a score of zero for the assignment in question.

Cellphones, mp3 players, etc.: Electronic devices are not to be used during class. Students violating this rule may have their devices confiscated in accordance with school policy.

Minimum Expectations: All students should be in their seats and ready to begin class when the bell rings. Class participation includes taking notes, so students should have notebooks and writing implements with them at all times. Students should raise their hands when they wish to speak, and will show respect to their instructor and their classmates.

Disclaimer: While this syllabus outlines the expected parameters of the course, students should recognize that the world is an imperfect place, and thus the course may need to change during the semester to accommodate that flawed reality.

Please detach this section and turn it in to Mr. Moore with your signature and the signature of a parent or guardian by Monday, August 26

Parent's signature _____ Date _____

Student's signature _____ Date _____