Piedmont High School

american History I Syllabus

Coach Helms

Teacher: Mr. Kevin Helms

Subject: American History I

Teacher Contact Information

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Course Description: The essential standards of American History I: The Founding Principles have been designed to provide a framework for studying political, social, economic, and cultural issues, and for analyzing the impact these issues have had on American society over time. This course goes beyond *memorization of isolated facts* to the *development of higher level thinking skills, encouraging students to make historical assessments and evaluations*.

My goal is to give you the tools you need to excel in the class. However, this requires effort and commitment throughout the semester from you. Please work hard and challenge yourself to go beyond what is required. I will help you, but you need to make the effort.

TOPICS TO BE COVERED:

* Exploration and Settlement
* Colonization of North America
* The Young Republic
* Political Conflict, Industrialization, and Reform
* Manifest Destiny
* A House Divided: The Civil War and Reconstruction

STUDENT RESPONSIBLITIES:

Each student is expected to maintain an up-to-date notebook, bring all necessary materials to class, including computer, textbook, notebook and writing utensils, be an active learner, be punctual to class, have regular attendance and display respectful classroom behavior. All tardies will result in a lockout.

GRADING POLICY:

The grading system for this course will be averaged based on total points possible. Every home-work, class work, quiz, test, notebook, project, etc. will be assigned a point value. Remember that a C is the average expected grade. To earn an A or a B you must consistently do work that exceeds the average.

90-100 A 89-80 B 79-70 C 69-60 D 59-0 F

Class Rules and Guidelines:

1. All students are to be in their assigned seats and ready to begin work when the bell rings.
2. Eating and personal grooming are not permitted in class. Students may drink drinks with a screw on lid to prevent spills.
3. Cell phones are not allowed to be used during class discussions or lectures. Additionally, students are not allowed to have their phones on their desk during class time.
4. Please help keep the room clean and orderly. Please do not write on the desks, walls or displays. Straighten the desks and pick up your trash before leaving class.
5. Students will be allowed *three* passes out of class per grading period. Passes will not be given out during the first ten or last ten minutes of class or during tests. (Emergencies are an exception.)
6. Cheating/coping in this class will NOT be tolerated and will result in a zero on the grade for all parties involved. This includes class assignments, homework, and test/quizzes.
7. Please respect yourself, your classmates, your teacher and any visitors in class. Listen without interrupting, raise your hand before calling out and wait to be called on. **Refrain from profanity of any kind.** Remember that the teacher’s desk, chair, computer and other things are off limits without permission.
8. Class participation is crucial and includes asking relevant questions, actively sharing and listening during class discussions, completing assignments, and preparing for tests. Attendance, punctuality, behavior and responsibility all count toward this goal.
9. Please follow the UCPS and Piedmont High School dress code at all times.
10. Students should not leave their seats without permission.
11. I will dismiss the class, do not stand up or line up at the door before I dismiss the class.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TURNING IN COMPLETED ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Place your name, date and assignment in the upper right hand corner of the first page. Your assignment will drop a letter grade if you do not put your name on the paper! These instructions are the same for digital assignments. Names must be on papers!
2. Always put the number of the question and then answer it in full sentence form or in some cases detailed bullet points.
3. Make-up work will be accepted according to PDHS policy.
4. Late work is not accepted. Turn assignments in on time in order to receive credit.

TEST AND QUIZZES:

1. Students can expect both announced and unannounced quizzes.
2. Students can expect that all test will be announced prior to the test date.
3. If a student is absent on the day of an announced test/quiz, he/she will take it the next class.
4. If a student is absent for an extended period, test/quiz will be made up according to PDHS guidelines. REMEMBER IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSBILITY to make arrangements.

STUDENT’S SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PRINT NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT’S SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ PRINT NAME\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_