

Alvin C. York Institute

Home of the Dragons

“To Prepare and Excel”

Course: United States History (1877-Present)

Instructor: Coach Russell Tays

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****THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE****

Course Description: Students will examine the causes and consequences of the Industrial Revolution and America’s growing role in world diplomatic relations, including the Spanish-American War and World War I. Students will study the goals and accomplishments of the Progressive movement and the New Deal. Students will also learn about the various factors that led to America’s entry into World War II, as well as its consequences for American life. Students will explore the causes and course of the Cold War. Students will study the important social, cultural, economic, and political changes resulting from the Civil Rights Movement, the Cold War, and recent events and trends that have shaped modern-day America. Additionally, students will learn the causes and consequences of contemporary issues impacting their world today. Students will continue to use skills for historical and geographical analysis as they examine American history since Reconstruction with special attention to Tennessee connections in history, geography, politics, and people. Students will continue to learn fundamental concepts in civics, economics, and geography within the context of United States history. The reading of primary source documents is a key feature of United States history standards. Finally, students will focus on current human and physical geographic issues important in contemporary America and the global society.

Course Standards: Standards for this course can be found at the Tennessee State Department of Education website:
http://www.tennessee.gov/education/cte/bt/prof_curr/doc/bt_perfinance_profstu.doc.

- Unit 1: The Rise of Industrial America 1877-1914**
- Unit 2: The Progressive Era 1890-1920**
- Unit 3: The 1920s**
- Unit 4: The Great Depression**
- Unit 5: Between the Wars and World War II (1921-1947)**
- Unit 6: Cold War (1945-1975)**
- Unit 7: Modern United States 1945-1979**
- Unit 8: Contemporary United States 1980 – Today**



Course Objectives:

Upon completion the student should have completed the following outcomes:

1. Students analyze the various causes of the Industrial Revolution, the transformation of the American economy, and the changing social and political conditions in the United States in response to the Industrial Revolution. Students will also examine the relationship among the rise of industrialization, large-scale rural-to-urban migration, and massive immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe and Asia.
2. Students analyze the changing landscape, including the growth of cities and the demand for political, economic, and social reforms. Students trace the rise of the United States to its role as a world power in the twentieth century.
3. Describe how the battle between traditionalism and modernism manifested itself in the major historical trends and events after World War I and throughout the 1920s.
4. Students analyze the causes and effects of the Great Depression and how the New Deal fundamentally changed the role of the federal government.
5. Students analyze the inter-war years and America’s participation in World War II.
6. Students analyze the response of the United States to communism after World War II.
7. Students analyze the economic boom and social transformation of post–World War II America. Students examine the origins, goals, key events, and accomplishments of Civil Rights movement in the United States, and important events and trends in the 1960s and 1970s.
8. Students describe important events and trends since 1980. Students analyze the important foreign policies of and events that took place during the administrations of Presidents Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush, and Barack Obama.

Materials Needed: Spiral bound notebook or **three ring binder** for the purpose of organizing lecture notes, assignments, and other class materials. 1 pack **College Rule Loose Leaf Paper**. **2-3 Highlighters** for highlighting notes. Box of coloring pens or pencils with sharpener (optional). Writing utensils (pencil, blue or black pen).

To Parents: As the instructor, I will do my best to provide a structured, orderly and disciplined classroom environment in which all students will have an equal opportunity to succeed; however, please understand the vital role you play in the success of your child in this class or in any other class. Your watchful eye and your concern for their success, beyond any doubt, will have the greatest impact on them. **When you care, they care!** There are three areas that we ask your support and encouragement in so as to help them achieve to their full potential:

1. **Attendance** - Do not miss school unless it is absolutely necessary. Establishing good attendance habits that will benefit you for the rest of their lives. Attend to all personal needs before coming to class. Restroom breaks during class time will not be allowed unless an emergency arises. A lot of material is covered in a 70 minute class period and any time missed can be detrimental to you doing well. If you have a medical condition that requires you to leave or miss classes, please attach doctors release form.
2. **Responsible Work Habits** - Come to class each day ready to get involved in the class, to work hard, be prepared, and to Take pride in your work; completing and turning in all assignments. (90% of all failures are due to poor work habits and irresponsibility.) You must come to realize that the burden of success or failure rests on **Your Shoulders!** We will expect your best effort, and nothing less.
3. **Be Respectful** - Be respectful to all instructors by doing all that they ask. You will be amazed at how cooperative, understanding, and forgiving instructors can be when you show respect to them. Be respectful also of your classmates, they will return the kindness to you.

**** The best way for parents to make contact with me is via the e-mail address located at the top of this syllabus. You may contact the school, 879-8101, leave a message, and I will return your call as soon as possible.****

Other Classroom Expectations:

1. Arrive to class on time.
2. Always be prepared for class.
3. Treat others as you would have others treat you.
4. Raise hand before speaking out in class or before leaving your seat.
5. Yes Sir, No Sir,-- Please, and Thank You. (a suggested courtesy, not demanded)
6. Be Accountable and Accept Responsibility for yourself.
7. No cell phone use during class. Refer to school policies regarding cell phone use.
8. No Food/Candy



Discipline Plan:

1. Initial warning upon presentation of classroom policies,
2. Second warning (teacher discretion)
3. Writing assignment for infractions, Push-Ups and or parent contact.
4. Referral to administration.

Grading Summary:

For 1st 9 weeks:

Tests	= 32.5%
Daily Grade	= 42.5%
Quizzes	= 10 %
Mid-Term/Final Exam	= 15%
Total	= 100%

For 2nd 9wks:

Tests	= 32.5%
Daily Grades	= 42.5%
Quizzes	= 10 %
Final Exam	= 15%
Total	= 100%

For Semester:

1 st 9wks	= 50%
2 nd 9wks	= 50%
Total	= 100%

Make-Up Policy

- It is the students responsibility to get all assignments turned in promptly and to make-up any missed assignments.
- Any assignment may be made-up with full credit **IF** they have an excused absence and have made arrangements with the teacher to complete missed work within **3 Days** of the excused absence.
- Students may turn in any missed assignments late and receive a grade of 50 for that assignment. (Unexcused or beyond the 3 day grace period.)
- Students may make up any missed Unit Exam if they have an approved excused absence from the front office. (Within the 3 day grace period) Students may retake all Unit Exams 1 time. (Must arrange a time to do so with instructor)
- Quizzes over daily lecture notes may not be made up and will not be counted against the student if they have an approved excused absence from the front office. If unexcused, student will be assigned a zero.
- Quizzes over Homework or other daily assignments may be made up if the student has an approved excused absence from the front office. Full credit.

What is “End of Course Testing”?

The U.S. History course has a state End of Course Test (EOCT) that all students are required to take. The test consists of two parts. The First being a standardized multiple choice section which will require students to read excerpts from Historical Documents and/or refer to visuals. The Second section of the test will require students to write an essay/s based upon prompts given. We will be working to prepare students for this test as we go through the semester. However, class hours are limited and it is suggested that students begin preparing themselves outside of class as we get closer to the exam date - TBA . The EOCT will count as 15% of the final course grade. My best advice is to **KEEP EVERYTHING FROM THIS CLASS - DON'T THROW ANYTHING AWAY UNTIL AFTER THE EOCT!** You'll find out that reviewing is MUCH easier if you've retained your notes, old study guides, and other items that pertain to this course.

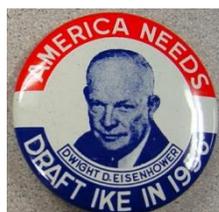
Academic Integrity:

As an educator at York Institute, I believe that the best academic environment is one that holds personal integrity and responsibility in the highest regard. While in Mr. Tays' class, students are expected to exhibit honest, responsible and ethical behavior at all times. Students will take credit only for ideas and efforts that are their own. By signing below, you acknowledge the existence of a Student Honor Code in this class. You understand that the Student Honor Code supports and environment that values integrity, honesty, and ethical conduct for all students participating in this class. Any issues with academic honesty will be dealt with according to York Institute Policies and Procedures.

Student



Date



Parent Signature

