



Phone: 713-688-1361

Website: www.houstonisd.org/waltrip

United States History - 1877-Present Course Syllabus 2020-21

Instructor: Matthew Tomlinson

Email: Mtomlins@Houstonisd.org

Room: 1105

Office Hours: Monday (3:25pm-4:10pm) & Tues-Fri (1:50pm-2:35 pm)

Monday MS Teams Link: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Tuesday – Friday: The links will be found on the HUB

Conference: 6th & 7th period

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

US History 1877 to Present is a required course for juniors. It is a survey of American political, economic, and cultural trends from 1877 to the present. Emphasis is given to major historical trends such as: industrialization, progressive political movements, growth of economic influence, social and cultural development, and America's role in a global setting. The course strives to help students develop critical thinking skills through the analysis of challenges faced by the U.S. in both foreign and domestic policies. Students also develop research and writing skills through periodic research projects.

By the end of this course, students will be able to examine the impact of constitutional issues on American society, evaluate the dynamic relationship of the three branches of the federal government, and analyze efforts to expand the democratic process. Students will also appreciate the basic democratic values of our state and nation. Students also understand that a constitutional republic is a representative form of government whose representatives derive their authority from the consent of the governed, serve for an established tenure, and are sworn to uphold the constitution.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

In order to achieve our goal of mastering the essential knowledge and skills of this course, students in this course are expected to be present, be prompt, be prepared, be polite, and be productive. Each student will be held accountable for classwork, homework and tests.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

Computer and internet connection
Paper and a pen.

HOMEWORK REQUIREMENTS:

Homework will be regularly assigned. Consistent failure to complete homework assignments will result in slower learning, below level mastery of objectives, poor grades and parent/teacher/student conferences.

GRADING SCALE:

Test/Performance Assessment = 35%
Class Work = 30%
Quizzes = 20%
Participation = 15%

ABSENCE AND MAKE-UP LEARNING POLICY:

If you are absent, you are required to make up the **learning** that you miss. There is no way to recover the time lost when a student is not class. In an effort to keep your learning on track when returning from an absence, I may require one or both of the following: time in my classroom after school, work/reading to be done at home. These measures are the sole responsibility of the students to initiate and must be completed within one week of the absence(s).

LATE WORK:

Assignments are late if they are not turned at the time requested. Grade penalties and the amount of time allowed to complete the assignment are as follows:

Late Work related to an absence:

3 days to turn in the assignment no points deducted full credit eligible

Late Work NOT related to an absence: Business days

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| 1 day late | -10 points | max 90 |
| 2 days late | -20 points | max 80 |
| 3 days late | -30 points | max 70 |
| 4 days late | -40 points | max 60 |
| 5 days or later | zero assigned to the grade book | |

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Except during designated group work, you are expected to complete homework, class work, and tests on your own. If you use someone else’s work—even a phrase—in an essay or assignment, or talk during a NO TALKING assignment, such as a quiz or test, you will receive a ZERO and your parents will be notified. If you copy or otherwise cheat, you will receive a ZERO and your parents will be notified. Cheating is unacceptable and will not be tolerated, but more importantly, cheating does not prepare you to make it on your own.

CELL PHONE POLICY:

Generally, the use of cell phones during class is a distraction and impedes the learning process. Therefore, cell phone use is prohibited during class, unless specifically stated otherwise. On occasion, I may collect cell phones from students at the beginning of class and return at the end. If a student is asked to surrender their cell phone and fails to comply, the disciplinary action prescribed by school policy and procedures will apply.

COMMUNICATION:

I try to communicate with students and families in several different ways. You can always send me an email to my school email address Mtomlins@Houstonisd.org. I post the syllabus and assignments on the HUB. I also post announcements on the HUB.

Course Outline:

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| <p>Semester One:</p> <p>Background to American History Industrialization and the “Gilded Age” Imperialism and Reform: The Progressive Era America in WWI Economics and Politics of the 1920’s and 1930’s</p> | <p>Semester Two:</p> <p>The Rise of Dictators and WWII The Cold War Civil Rights Constitutional Issues and Changes Change Over Time: Trends in US History The Late 20th Century: Contemporary Issues Foundations of America: Thought Toward a More Perfect Union</p> |
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U.S. History Syllabus Acknowledgement

Please read, sign, date, and return this page.

****This signed syllabus is a homework grade.***

We have received and reviewed the US History Course Syllabus. We understand what is expected of us as listed in the syllabus.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

****This signed syllabus is a homework grade.***