Course Overview and Goals

Course Description: US History 133 is a historical survey of American History from 1000 to 1877. Topics included in this course will be: the European Voyages of Discovery, Columbus, the Conquistadores, Native Americans in the Americas, early Dutch and English settlements, the French and Indian War, the Thirteen Colonies, the American Revolution, the Articles of Confederation, the Constitutional Convention, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Early Republic, the Jacksonian Era, Manifest Destiny, Sectionalism, Secession, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. Since this is a survey course, a wide variety of subjects will be covered including Social History, Political History, Military History, as well as major events in science, technology, medicine, industry, and economics.

Course Objectives:

1. To develop critical thinking skills which would include the knowledge, comprehension, analysis, synthesis, and the evaluation of the significant events of United States history.

2. To enable the student to understand the primary elements of cultural heritage and the cultural diversity of the United States.

3. To foster in the student an understanding of the uses of historical knowledge, to show how the past helps to explain the present, and to assist the student in developing a historical perspective in and for one’s personal life.

4. To provide students with a base of historical knowledge and the tools to further their studies in other disciplines and as transfer students to other colleges.

Attendance Policy: Attendance is required per Texas State School Compulsory Attendance Law and taken daily.

Academic and personal integrity: Plagiarism and cheating during an examination is considered intellectual theft. It will result in a zero for the assignment and referral to administrators without any opportunity for making redress; it may result in a failing grade for the course. Plagiarism and cheating refer to the use of unauthorized books, notes, or otherwise securing help on a test, copying tests, assignments, reports, or term papers. Such misconduct may result in the student being placed on disciplinary probation or suspension (dismissal).

Classroom Civility: Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.
Electronic devices:
- Turn off all cell phones and any other electronic devices prior to the beginning of class.
- If a cell phone goes off during class, the student will be asked to leave and will not be allowed to return for the duration of the class period.
- If a student is found to be text messaging or gaming during class they too will be asked to leave for the duration of the class period. Any work missed in class as a result of being asked to leave will result in a zero.

Assignments:
Quizzes:
- There will be twelve (12) quizzes during the semester.
- Quizzes will cover textbook chapters and lectures.
- Each quiz will carry the same weight. Each quiz is worth 10 points.
- The instructor will drop the two lowest quiz grades.
- No makeup quizzes will be given.

Book Reviews:
- You will write a book review over two books you will read this semester.
- Each book review will be worth 50 points.
- You will be provided with topics and guidelines at a later date.
- No late work will be accepted for any reason.

Tests:
- You will take three exams. Each will cover the textbook and class lectures.
- The exams will be in essay format.
- Bring a bluebook and pen to the exam.
- Each exam will be worth 100 points.

Grade Determination:
- Quizzes: 12 per semester, 10 points each, drop lowest two: 100 total points.
- Book Reviews: 2 at 50 points each, 100 total points.
- Tests: 3 at 100 points each, 300 total points.
- 500 total points for the semester.

Letter Grade Assignment:
A- 90-100% 450-500 Points
B- 80-89% 400-449 Points
C- 70-79% 350-399 Points
D- 60-69% 300-349 Points
E- 59% and Below 0-300 points
Make-up Exam Policy: If an exam is missed it will be taken on the day of the final exam. You must provide proper documentation as to why you missed the exam. Notification of missing an exam must be made BEFORE the exam. Make-up tests will be different from the original test. If you are going to miss a scheduled exam because of a school function, arrangements must be made ahead of time to take the exam early.

Extra Credit: Pop Culture Points- You will have the opportunity to earn 10 extra credit points throughout the semester. Anytime you find a reference to U. S. History in the mass media you may either fill out a form outlining what the reference is for one (1) point or copy or download the reference for me to see for two (2) points.

Readings:


Price, David A. Love and Hate in Jamestown: John Smith, Pocahontas, and the Start of a New Nation.


McCullough, David. 1776.

Johnson, Paul E. Sam Patch, the Famous Jumper.

Test Dates:

- Test #1- September 24, 2018- Native Americans, Life in Europe in the 15th Century, the Age of Exploration, European Colonization, the British Empire in North America, Growth and Conflict in Colonial America, The French and Indian War and its Aftermath, Causes of the American Revolution.

- Test #2- October 29, 2018- The American Revolution, The Articles of Confederation and the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, the Early Republic, the Louisiana Purchase, the War of 1812, and the Era of Good Feelings.

- Test #3- December 12, 2018- The Industrial Revolution, Jacksonian America, the Texas Revolution, Manifest Destiny, Westward Expansion and the War with Mexico, Reform Movements, Causes of the Civil War, the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

Paper Due Dates

- Paper #1 – Wednesday, October 17 – 10 points extra credit if turned in by Wednesday, October 10.
- Paper #2 – Wednesday, December 5 – 10 points extra credit if turned in by Wednesday, November 28.

**Note**- Please be reminded that this a **COLLEGE** course and will be treated as such. There will be no late work accepted, no retaking or redoing assignments or tests, no reassessments, and no extra credit (except for Pop Culture points and turning book reviews in early).