

United States History Syllabus 2009-2010

Course Title: United States History 11

Prerequisites: Completion of World History

Course Goal:

- To study the major themes of American History from prehistory to the present.
- To develop a greater awareness of the world role of the United States.

Course Objectives:

- Identify major themes and concepts for each period of United States History including economic, political, cultural, foreign relations and social.
- Study and master facts supporting each concept to include individuals, ideas, relationships, groups, conditions and major social forces.
- Understand the cause and effect relationship of major historical events.
- Demonstrate critical thinking skills in analysis, synthesis, evaluation and interpretation of concepts and their supporting facts in essay format.
- Demonstrate an ability to conduct research.
- Evaluate primary documents, historiography, symbolic representations (cartoons, graphs and maps), arts and humanities, and social sciences.

Content Topics:

1. American beginnings to 1783
2. A New Nation, 1781-1850
3. An Era of Growth and Disunion, 1825-1877
4. Migration and Industrialization Change Society, 1876-1917
5. Modern America Emerges, 1890-1920
6. The Twenties and the Great Depression, 1920-1940
7. World War II and Its Aftermath, 1931-1960
8. Living with Great Turmoil, 1954-1975
9. Current Issues in America, 1968-Present

Basic Text: Danzer, Gerald A., et al, *The Americans*, McDougal Littell. 2002.

Course Website: www.mrswilkesclasses.weebly.com

Use the above website to follow assignments and access course handouts and information on a weekly basis. The site will be updated each weekend and will include course information for the upcoming week.

Overall Expectations:

- Keep pace with the required readings.
- Maintain a separate US History notebook.
- Complete the specific reading, homework, projects and research assignments by the due dates.

Evaluation: Grades are weighted to achieve term averages. Items to be evaluated are:

- Homework assignments 15%
- Quizzes, current events, worksheets, etc. 15%
- Tests 40%
- Projects, Papers, and Reports 20%
- Participation 10%
- Exams: Mid Term and End of Term exams will be administered.
 1. Mid Term Exam 20% of the Mid Term grade.
 2. End of Term Exam 20% of the End of Term grade.
 3. Final Course Grade Average of Mid Term and End of Term Grades

Make up work: The criteria in the Student-Parent Handbook will be enforced.

- Work assigned prior to student's absence will be due when the student returns.
- Work assigned during a student's absence will be due on a date agreed upon by the teacher and the student.
- Planned absences will be managed in accordance with Parent-Student Handbook.
- Missed tests and quizzes will be made up after school on the day after the student returns unless otherwise coordinated with the teacher.

Late Policy:

- Major assignments: 69% for days 1 - 7 late; 0% after day 7.
- Minor assignments: Will lose 10% for each day it is turned in late. After three days, students will have seven days to turn in late assignments and can only earn a grade of 69%.
- If a student is in school on any part of the day on which the assignment is due, even if not this class, assignments must be turned in on that day or they will be late.
- Any exception to these policies is at the discretion of the teacher for exceptional situations.

Grading Scale: The Peninsula Catholic grade scale will be used.

Materials required:

- Three-ring binder with pocket folders and dividers
- One composition book
- Loose leaf paper
- Thumb Drive designated for this class only.

Intellectual honesty, integrity and respect: Students are expected to abide by the highest moral and ethical standards of conduct in the preparation and presentation of graded materials and will abide by the **PCHS Honor Code**. Such standards are founded on the basic concepts of honesty, integrity, and respect for self and others.

The **PCHS Honor Code** is based on the premise that PCHS students will not cheat, lie, or steal, nor tolerate those who do. During the course the following will apply. On written assignments and tests the student will hand write "I will abide by the Honor Code."

Violation

of the Honor Code will be referred to the Honor Council.

Test and Quizzes: All work must be performed individually using only the resources specifically authorized by the teacher.

Homework Assignments: Students are expected to complete homework assignments individually, unless otherwise specified by the teacher, as a means to enhance the learning and mastery of critical information. When answering "Main Idea" and/or "Critical Thinking" questions the student will use their own words.

Research assignments and projects: All work must be original to the individual or assigned group. All research assignments will be typed, double-spaced, MLA standard for internal and works cited documentation and in 12 point font. In addition to the paper copy, research papers are to be copied on Thumb Drive and turned in at the time of the paper. All research assignments are subject to review by utilizing [turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com) to ensure the work is original to the student with proper documentation.

Additional Expectations for Honors Credit: Students may also pursue this course for **Honors** credit. This demands a greater expectation in the quantity and quality of the work as additional quality points will apply. The expectations include the following:

- Complete regular assignments and projects on time and in a quality manner
- Complete additional Section questions in each chapter as assigned.
- Complete Critical Thinking question on chapter tests.
- Complete additional assignments such as reports and research.
- Serve as group discussion leaders.

Criteria for Honor's Credit:

- Maintain an 89% or higher average in every graded category (Homework assignments, In-Class assignments: quizzes, notebook, worksheets, etc. Tests, Projects, and a high quality of participation) which will be evaluated at the first Progress Report.
- Students who meet these criteria will be allowed to continue pursuing US History for Honors credit. Students who do not meet the criteria by the first Progress Report will have their grade stand and will no longer receive honors credit.
- Honors students are expected to continue to maintain an overall 89% or better average for the remainder of the course. This will be an advantage for those who intend to qualify for Advanced Placement Government and Politics in 12th grade.