

## **Survey of US History I & II**

*“There’s always two sides to every story”*

Welcome to US History! I’m excited to be your guide in exploring and understanding history. Our class has changed format from past years in that we will be treating this class as a survey course that covers American history from 1492 – present. In order to do this, we will be focusing on key events and themes that provide insight into America’s past and how it became what it is today.

History = Boring! Are you in this crowd? No worries, the way we attack history will make it more entertaining and easier for you to relate to the ideas. Expect to use a lot of popular music, primary sources and other cultural items to analyze our course matter. History is often presented in a very one-sided manner, but we will look at events and ideas from different perspectives to obtain a more informed idea of US history.

### **Guiding Questions**

1. In your opinion, what event or theme has been the most central in shaping the US we see today?
2. History textbooks often “heroify” past figures? In your opinion, what figures in US history truly merit such an honor?
3. How is history often misrepresented?

### **Necessary Materials**

Pen/Pencil & Paper  
Textbook  
Notebook  
Any other text we may be working on  
Completed homework  
**YOU!** – Physically & Mentally

### **Expectations**

Arrive prepared and on-time  
Take your seat and be quiet by the start of class  
Listen to and follow instructions  
Participate actively & sincerely  
Take care of class materials  
Be **respectful** and **courteous** towards everyone

### **In-Class Policies**

1. Arrival – Students should arrive to class on time and be seated before the start of class.
2. Homework is due at the beginning of the hour unless noted otherwise
3. Students will have 9 hall passes each trimester to use at their discretion and with my permission. Please read the following restrictions
  - a. Students can not leave the classroom during the first and last 15 minutes of class.
  - b. No hall passes can be used during a test or quiz.
  - c. Once a student has used their hall passes, they can no longer leave the room.
  - d. Hall passes can not be traded or sold.
4. Students arriving late to class will be immediately sent to the office for a permission slip to enter class
5. Cellphones may not be used unless instructed to do so by me.
6. iPods may only be used when permission is granted. Do not ask me! I will let you know when it is appropriate.

**Notebook & Journal:** All students need to keep a notebook (3-ring binder) that is for this class only. We will be using a lot of primary source documents and material outside of the textbook. Notebooks will help keep students organized and aid in studying. Due to the comparative nature of this course, it will also be very important for students to have a resource in which they can find past assignments and projects easily. Each notebook should be divided into the following parts:

1. Daily Notes
2. Current Unit Handouts & Assignments
3. Journal
4. Graded Homework, Projects, and Quizzes (organized by past unit)

**Class Website & Facebook:** You should regularly check the class website, [cojowasocialstudies.blogspot.com](http://cojowasocialstudies.blogspot.com), in order to find information about classwork, links to class documents, and a calendar regarding upcoming and past events. I have created a class page on Facebook, US History with Mr Steadman Rogers, which will be used for some homework assignments. I will regularly ask you to reply to questions on the wall as a form of discussion.

## Grading

<i>Grading Scale</i>		<i>Categories</i>	
90-100	A	Tests & Quizzes	30%
80-89	B	Projects & Presentations	30%
70-79	C	Daily Participation	15%
0-69	F	Homework	15%
		Notebook/Journal	10%

## Grading Notes

1. Homework not turned in at the beginning of the hour will be considered late. Expect to be assigned homework on a daily basis and for your homework to take 15-20 minutes to complete.
2. For excused absences ONLY, students will have one school day for each day absent in order to make-up the missed work.
  - A. Example – Student absent Monday = Monday’s assignment/class work due Wednesday
3. Students should consult the class assignment folder to find information regarding their missed class periods.
4. Students can turn in late work for partial credit up to 1 week after the original due date.
5. Students will be given a Daily Participation grade regarding their engagement in the class. The class structure demands that students take control of their learning and interact actively, sincerely, and positively with their classmates. This category will reflect a student’s participation in discussions, in-class projects, simulations, and debates.
6. Tests will be weighted to be worth more than a quiz.
7. Journals – Students will frequently add journal entries in their notebook, around once a week.
8. Notebooks will be picked up at random dates and graded for their contents. It is very important that notebooks stay up to date!

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understood this document. I, as a student in this class, agree to uphold all standards set forth in this document and understand that these standards could change according to different situations. I also understand that I should contact the teacher with any questions or disputes. (Student name in blank and sign below)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understood this document and agree to hold my child to the standards expressed in this document. I also understand that I should contact the teacher with any questions or disputes. (Parent name in blank and sign below)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to all standards set forth in this document and agree to hold all students to the aforementioned standards in a just and equal manner. (Teacher)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher

Parent Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_