



United States History B

Course Syllabus

Course Description

This course is a requirement for graduation and usually is taken during the sophomore year. The course will examine the discipline of History and major U.S. historical events from the 1960s and the Vietnam War to the present. Students will be involved in a variety of activities which will allow them to examine historical topics using the process of historical inquiry.

There are regular reading assignments for this course so that students are prepared for classroom discussion and activities. It is of *vital* importance that students come prepared for class with these readings completed.

Course Outcomes

Students will gain understanding of American Social, Political and Economic History during the 20th century. Some of the themes that will be explored: War and Conflict, America in the World, the American Dream, Science and Technology, Economic Opportunity, Immigration and Migration, Women in America, the Civil Rights Issues, Constitutional Concerns, Cultural Diversity and Democracy in America.

While investigating historical themes, students will gain an understanding of and practice the following skills: Document analysis, clarifying/summarizing, analyzing motives, analyzing and recognizing causes and effects, comparing and contrasting, developing a historical perspective, using primary and secondary sources, interpreting maps, charts and graphs.

Apply historical knowledge to current issues.

Instructor Contact Information and Availability

Mr. Zelenak
Room 271
763.391.8500 Voicemail 32271
zelenak@district279.org

Office Hours for Extra Help:
7:00-7:30 and 2:00-2:30

Guided Study (Open invitation to all students):
Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:20 – 9:45

On occasion, other responsibilities such as meetings, extra curricular duties and other business may conflict with these hours. It is recommended that you check with the instructor for availability.

Unit Structure and Topics

The Vietnam War

- Origins of Vietnam
- The War Expands
- Protest and Division

Protest, Change and Activism

- Counterculture
- The "Rights Revolution"
- The Environment

The 1970s

- The Nixon Administration and Watergate
- The Ford and Carter Years

The 80s and the Rise of Conservatism

- The Conservative Movement
- The Reagan Revolution
- The Cold War Ends
- The Bush Years and Desert Storm

Towards a New Century

- The Technology Boom
- The Clinton Presidency
- Globalization

The 21st Century Begins

- The 2000 Election and the Bush Presidency
- 9/11 and Terrorism
- War: Afghanistan and Iraq

Course Text

United States History: Modern America
Lapsansky-Werner, Roberts, Levy and Taylor
Pearson-Prentice Hall, Boston, MA 2008

Class Website

With time at a premium, a website has been created to improve home and school communication and assist students and parents keep up with classroom activities, resources, assignments and due dates. In addition the website contains downloadable and printable assignments, handouts and other materials that may be helpful to students. This site can be found on the web at:

www.mrzsneighborhood.com



Class Rules, Procedures and Policies.

Find our site on the web at: www.mrzsneighborhood.com

Mr. Z's Rules...

Present means...

You are in class each day.

- For each absence (whatever the reason), you will owe me 55 minutes of worktime. This may mean time after school, time spent at a public library, working at home, or a combination thereof to make up everything you missed.
- You are responsible for any work missed.

Prompt means...

You are on time to class. Tardy means not being in class when the bell **stops ringing**.

- You must have a pass if you come in late to not be counted as tardy.

Prepared means...

Come to class prepared and ready to learn. This includes, but is not restricted to:

- Bringing necessary materials: Books, paper, pens and pencils.
- Have assignments and homework completed.
- Have all assigned reading completed. Classroom discussion and your performance depend on it.
- Have your binders open, prepared to take notes and prepared to participate in class activities when class begins.

Participate means...

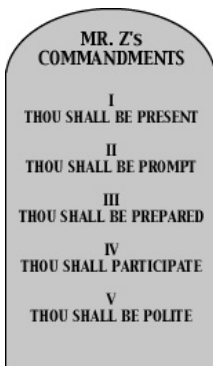
Get involved in all class activities.

- Class discussion, speeches, simulations, debates and presentations and others.
- Read and follow instructions.
- Use class time effectively and efficiently.

Polite means...

Demonstrate respectful behavior and avoid disrupting class.

- Manners are required here.
- Only one person speaks at a time. Do not interrupt others.
- Clean up after yourself and leave this room as you found it.



Assignment Deadlines and Late Work

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the given due date. Act responsibly and turn them in on time. See below for credit scale

- on time.....no penalty
- one day or more.....maximum of 50%

The deadline for **all** late/absentee work is one week prior to the end of the trimester. **No work will be accepted after this date.**

That date is: _____

Absences and Make-Up Procedure

It is **your** responsibility to get missed notes and assignments.

1. If you have an extended absence (3 or more days), see me for assistance.
2. Check www.mrzsneighborhood.com under the **Daily Activity Calendar** link. You may use the computer in the back of the classroom or check from home or in the media center.
3. Complete and attach an **absentee report** to your work, failure to do so will result in a partial grade for late work.
4. Turn in all late/absent work to the **Hourly Work** baskets!
5. Pick up all assignments and handouts on the shelves marked **Daily Assignments and Handouts** (so simple, yet...) or download/print them at home or in the media center.
6. All tests and quizzes must be made-up **before or after** school or during **guided study**. See me to schedule a time. If your absence was unexcused, you can receive a maximum of 70% credit. All tests and quizzes must be made up within 5 days of the absence.

Tardiness and Passes

Students that come to class late without a gold pass will be considered tardy. There is a 5 minute passing time and no warning bells. No locker passes will be issued in this course. Come prepared to class with all required materials and assignments.

Work Space

When class begins each day, you should have a notebook/paper out on your table (for note taking purposes, reaction statements, etc.). No other items (other than social studies materials) should be out. *Store all backpacks, bags and purses underneath your chairs/tables and keep them out of the aisles.* Assignments/work from other classes will be confiscated.

Retesting and Revision

Students may retake or revise **summative assessments** for additional credit. In order to be eligible for retesting/revision, students must meet specific requirements listed on the entrance pass form. These passes require teacher approval and can be found in the student work area.

Extra Credit

There is an opportunity to earn extra credit by doing an extra credit primary research project. The instructions and proposal form can be found at www.mrzsneighborhood.com under the "Resources" link. This project is due **TWO WEEKS** before the end of any given trimester and will only be approved and graded if the student has all of their work completed for the trimester.

Grading Scale

Your grades will be based on the following scale.

92-100% = A	80% = B-	68% = D+
90% = A-	78% = C+	62% = D
88% = B+	72% = C	60% = D-
82% = B	70% = C-	Below 60% = F

70% of student's grades are based on summative (final assessments) and 30% are based on formative (diagnostic) assessments.

Failure to accumulate 60% of the total possible points will result in a failing grade for the trimester and the student will not receive credit for the course. Students that fail required courses will need to retake the course.

Required Materials

Bring these to class EVERY DAY.

- Pen and #2 Pencil.
- Notebook/Paper
- Folder or 3 ring binder for notes and assignments. Keep all assignments in case of any data entry errors and use them as study guides. Throw away at your own risk.