

United States History - Course Syllabus

2017-2018

Northview High School

TEXTBOOK:

The Americans

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COURSE INSTRUCTORS:

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

United States History is a *required* course for graduation. A state mandated **Milestone Test (formerly known as EOCT)** is given towards the end of the Spring Semester.

As required under the *Georgia Standards for Excellence*, this United States History course provides students with a survey of major events and themes in United States history. The course begins with English settlement and concludes with significant developments in the early 21st Century. U.S. History is organized chronologically but also focuses on the themes of the American democratic heritage, growth of the nation, and its global interdependence. In the first semester, connections are made with enduring social, economic, and political issues in the context of exploration and settlement of the land, and the emergence of Constitutional freedoms. Second semester's focus includes the U.S. emergence as a world power and super power. After completing this course, students should be able to better analyze and interpret historical & current events as well as meet content- and skills-based performance standards in the curriculum.

GRADE WEIGHTS:

Tests	35%
Quizzes	15%
Projects	30%
Midterm Exam/Milestones	20%

Fulton County Grading Scale:

A: 100 - 90
B: 89 - 80
C: 79 - 70
F: 69 and below

FALL SEMESTER UNITS OF STUDY:

Unit 1: Colonial Era – 1607 - 1756

Standards: 1, 2

Textbook Correlation: 42-84

Unit 2: American Revolution through Ratification of the Constitution – 1756 - 1788

Standards: 3, 4, 5

Textbook Correlation: 85-149

Unit 3: Antebellum America, Manifest Destiny, and Growing Sectionalism

Standards: 6, 7, 8

Textbook Correlation: 180-333

Unit 4: Civil War & Reconstruction

Standards: 9, 10

Textbook Correlation: 336-401

Unit 5: Gilded Age, Manifest Destiny, and the Progressive Era

Standards: 11, 12, 13

Textbook Correlation: 406-544

SPRING SEMESTER UNITS OF STUDY:

Unit 6: Early American Imperialism and WWI

Standards: 14, 15

Textbook Correlation: 546 – 611

Unit 7: 1920s, Great Depression, and New Deal

Standards: 16, 17, 18

Textbook Correlation: 614-727

Unit 8: WWII and the Administrations of Truman & Eisenhower

Standards: 19, 20

Textbook Correlation: 732-869; 908-910

Unit 9: Administrations of Kennedy through Carter – 1960s and 1970s

Standards: 21, 22

Textbook Correlation: 874-1031

Unit 10: Administrations of Reagan through Obama – 1980s through the present – AND review for the Milestone

Standards: 23

Textbook Correlation: 1034-1095; Epilogue

Link to Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) referenced for each unit:

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Social-Studies-United-States-History-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

UNIT ROUTINES:

Please rely on the following procedures to help keep you organized and prepared.

1. At the beginning of every unit Students will be given a **calendar** and a study guide known as a **KBAT**. The calendar includes due dates of quizzes, tests, projects, and other assignments. Key terms and thematic questions covered on the quizzes and tests are included on the KBAT.
2. The calendar includes suggestions for **textbook pages** that correlate with the material taught each week. The U.S. History textbook is very good—students are encouraged to read it.
3. Different types of course grades are included in every unit—offering a variety of ways to demonstrate student knowledge. Expect to have one test, one quiz, & a project per each unit.
4. Course teachers WILL use a class webpage such as **Google Classroom** or **Edmodo** to post resources, reminders & collect assignments. Make checking this site a part of your academic routine.

TEACHER WEBSITE/LOG-IN INFO (write down here):

EXPECTATION – A SCHOLARLY ATMOSPHERE:

- *Daily Preparation:* bring your textbook, an organized notebook, and writing utensils every day. Bring your Chromebook, fully charged. Write down assignments and due dates
- *Focus on U.S. History:* If doing work for another subject in class, it may be confiscated.
- **CELL PHONE POLICY:** Phones are NOT allowed in class unless the teacher grants specific permission to use it. As soon as class begins, all phones should be OFF YOUR DESK AND OUT OF SIGHT. Each Teacher will explain the specific cell phone policy for their class.
- ON TEST DAYS, phones are not allowed even upon completion of your test. Phones must remain out of view for the entirety of the testing class period. Violations of this policy on test days may result in an Honor Code Violation or other severe consequences.
- **CHROMEBOOK POLICY:** Bring your fully charged Chromebook to class every day. Wait for teacher instructions before opening them up & using them.
- *Headphones:* Headphones are not allowed in class unless the teacher grants specific permission for their use.
- *Being on Task:* You are in class to be an active participant in learning. Commit to thinking and trying to do your best. Challenge yourself and grow as a scholar and a historian.
- *Assigned Seats:* Each teacher will explain the specific attendance policy for their class. This option may be used if students show a lack of maturity and self-control—or are disruptive/unfocused.

- *Plagiarism*: See below for the full policy. As a reminder, unless the teacher explicitly says so, the assumption is that ALL assignments must be done individually and must be written in your own words. It is NOT OK to copy from the textbook or Internet! It is NOT OK to work with other students on assignments unless the teacher gives explicit permission!
- **Reading Time Policy**: Every day at the end of 2nd period we will transition to announcements & about 10 minutes of independent choice reading for all. Bring in a book of your choice to read every day during this allotted time. This is not time to be used for tests, lessons, labs, HW, assigned reading from one of your classes, or cell phones—rather it is a special time to breathe, relax, and enjoy a book!
 - If you need help selecting a book of interest, please ask any teacher, counselor, administrator, or parent for assistance.
 - Disruptive or uncooperative behavior will be handled through the normal disciplinary process.

EXPECTATION – COMMENDABLE PERSONAL CHARACTER:

Here at Northview, we have a high expectation of what it means to be a Titan. In and out of the classroom, a Titan consistently demonstrates these four pillars of citizenship:

- *Integrity*: is honest; follows honor code; is on time; takes pride in one's work; does the right thing
- *Positive Attitude*: speaks/thinks positively; follows directions; sees the value in the class content
- *Compassion*: assume good will on the part of the teacher; be a team player; respect and support others
- *Personal Responsibility*: Use time wisely; be prepared for all class assignments; strive for success; dress appropriately

ATTENDANCE & TARDIES:

- Students are expected to be in class and ready to begin work when the second and final bell sounds. First tardy--written warning. Second tardy--private detention. Third tardy--an administrative referral. Further possible consequences are detailed in your Student Handbook.
- If you are absent, you must obtain an admit slip from the attendance office before going to class. It is your responsibility to show your admit slip to your teacher, get it signed, and ask what you missed.
- Students with an excused absence will be granted an extension to complete all missed assignments equal to the duration of the absence, with no penalty. Students with an unexcused absence may make up missed assignments, but the work may be treated as late work for partial credit.
- If you are absent the day before a quiz or test, you are still expected to take the assessment **on the day you return!** If you are absent on the day of a quiz or test, you are expected to take the assessment on the day you return! This is because quizzes and tests are announced well in advance.
- Teachers reserve the right to give a comparable and fair alternate assessment to any student who is absent during a graded assignment of any kind, including quizzes or tests.

LATE WORK POLICY:

Students are required to submit assignments on the due date. If a student submits an assignment late, the penalty is as follows:

- 10% reduction in the score earned on that assignment PER DAY that the assignment is late
- After an assignment is 5 days late, there will be a 50% reduction in the score earned on that assignment. But, the deduction will never be more than 50%. So you are encouraged to turn in all assignments to still earn at least half-credit.
- **IMPORTANT**: To be eligible for recovery, ALL ASSIGNMENTS from throughout the semester must be turned in. There cannot be any 0s in the gradebook. Teachers will accept late work at any time until 10 days before the end of the semester. Please refer to the handbook for more details on this policy.

RECOVERY POLICY:

1. Recovery is for students who, despite a conscientious effort and communication with their teacher, have failed to demonstrate satisfactory understanding of course standards. It is not for the student who has been failing for many weeks and then wishes to recover during the final days of the course. Opportunities for students to recover from a 74 or below *cumulative* average will be provided when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements. *Students who have not attempted to complete all course requirements are*

not eligible for recovery. At the teacher's discretion, recovery assignments can raise a grade up to a 75, but no higher.

2. Students may initiate recovery on major assessments starting with the second major assessment of the semester as long as they have made a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Unexcused absences may prevent this opportunity.
3. So that students stay focused on the content at hand and don't become overwhelmed and fall too far behind, they must initiate recovery on a major assessment within five school days of being informed of the grade on that assessment. Recovery work must be completed within ten school days prior to the end of the semester. The nature and type of recovery assignment is given at the discretion of the teacher.

***Grading guidelines for recovery assignments will vary by course. It is the responsibility of the student to ASK AND FULLY UNDERSTAND the recovery policy offered by their teacher. This conversation should be had well in advance of the end of the semester.**

HONOR CODE – from the student handbook:

As members of Northview High School, we honor academic and personal integrity. We uphold the values of honesty, integrity, respect, responsibility, and our mission is to instill excellence in academics. Cheating has been defined as *giving or receiving, in any form, information relating to a gradable experience including the use of sources of information other than those specifically approved by the teacher, either during or outside of class.* Examples of cheating include, but are not limited to, visual exchanges (cheat sheets, copying, open books or notes, writing on hands, shoes, or desks, calculators, etc.), and verbal, electronic or coded exchanges. Other examples include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, discussing tests with students who have not taken the test, copying homework assignments, not citing sources, etc.

When a student is found to be cheating, the teacher may issue a grade of zero for the assignment. This assignment may not be made up nor will the student be eligible for recovery. It is the responsibility of each classroom teacher to adhere to this policy. The teacher will complete an Honor Code Violation form; have the student sign, and follow-up with a phone call to a parent/guardian. The office will mail a copy to the parent/guardian and place a copy in the student's disciplinary file. Honor Code violations will be reviewed when considering students for awards and recommendations.

A student who gives his/her original work to copy--in whole or in part--to another student to turn in as an original assignment is guilty of a very serious wrong. Such action constitutes willful participation in a deliberate deception; the student supplying the work should expect to be dealt with accordingly. Upon teacher request, students may be required to submit research papers or other written work to *turnitin.com*. The website checks the submission for plagiarism, provides a receipt for the student to give to the teacher, and reports to the teacher that the student's work was not copied from any source.

The **first offense** of academic dishonesty results in a score of 0 for the assignment, and loss of ability to do any recovery; referral to the administrator, parental notification; & a note in the student's permanent file. Further offenses may include all of the plus further consequences deemed necessary by the administrator.

Examples of honor code violations: copying work or allowing another person to copy; plagiarizing work; cheating during quizzes/tests; discussing quizzes/tests/essays with other students

TEACHER AVAILABILITY:

The easiest way to contact teachers is through email [addresses listed at the top of the syllabus]. Teachers are available by appointment for extra help, study sessions, or make-up work. **Students, please see your teacher if you are confused or concerned so they can help you.** Parents, please feel free to contact the teacher should you have any concerns or questions. *If at any point you want to know what your grade is, please know that you may check HAC (Home Access Center) for the most up-to-date snapshot of your current progress.

DISCLAIMER: *All Fulton County and Northview policies will be enforced within the classroom. Any policy or procedure outlined above may be changed if the teacher deems it in the best interests of the students, and notice of such changes will be provided.*