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## United States History

**Course Description:** This course is a survey of United States history; it is an interdisciplinary and multicultural study of the evolution of U.S. history, culture, and society from the British colonies through the Era of Social Change. The class will integrate literature from the various time periods in order to further enhance the curriculum. This course is a chronological and thematic survey of our nation's past, with emphasis placed on 20th century America, special emphasis is placed on historical cause and effect and events, movements, and people who have established/ impacted the American past. The course promotes an appreciation and awareness of the richness of our history and institutions.

### Required Text:

Boyer, Paul S. Holt American Nation. Austin: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 2003. Print.

### General Education Core Objectives:

- ❑ Critical Thinking: the ability to think using analysis, synthesis, evaluation, problem solving, judgment, and the creative process.
- ❑ Communication: the ability to develop, support, and appropriately communicate ideas through speech, writing, performance, or visual media.
- ❑ Information Literacy: the ability to locate, understand, assess, and synthesize information in a technological driven society.
- ❑ Personal Responsibility: the ability to understand and manage self, to function effectively in social and professional environments and to make reasoned judgments based on an understanding of the diversity of the world community.

**Outcome Assessment:** This class is a portfolio based class. The challenge with this format is that there is very little graded daily work. It is the responsibility of the student to complete assignments not finished in class into this portfolio. There is only 1 grade for all unit work. Grades will be determined based on portfolios, tests/quizzes, and projects.

### Competencies:

- ❑ Students will complete unit portfolios with an average of 70% or better throughout the course.
- ❑ Students will create a visual presentation on one of the units covered within the first semester.
- ❑ Students will create a newspaper/timeline/visual/audio presentation covering the Holocaust.
- ❑ Students will research and write a 3+ page paper on a historical topic of their choosing and prepare a 4-6 minute presentation on their topic during the second semester. (events must be within the time period we are learning about). Proposals must be

submitted to the teacher, followed by a short meeting to discuss the significance of this event in relation to our class.

**Policies:** All MTCHS policies and procedures will be followed for attendance, absent, or late work.

**Expectations and Procedures:**

1. Make-up work--Check moodle, talk to another student or see me outside of class time. Do not ask me what we did two minutes before class. Schedule a time to meet with me if you need assistance. In order to teach responsibility students must contact the teacher when they will be gone to see what they need to make up. ***If a student is absent the day of a test, presentation, or project, it is up to them to speak with the teacher to find out how to make up the required work.***
2. Any work submitted beyond **THREE** days will not be accepted, unless prior arrangements were made between the student and teacher. Some projects may not be turned in late per teacher discretion.
3. You will need to take notes and participate in class discussions. I have high expectations for you and in order for you to succeed and to enjoy our time together you need to be present and accountable for the information.
4. No cell phones. I will not budge on this. If there is an opportunity for personal devices I will let you know, otherwise you don't bring them out in our classroom. If I see them you will get one warning, the second time it will go on my desk, and the third you will be directed to the office. If you have an emergency, let me know and we will work something out.
5. I have a zero tolerance rule about gaming within my classroom.

**Exams & Quizzes----60% of total grade**

**Portfolios & Projects-----30% of total grade**

**Classroom Participation-----10% of total grade**

**Late Work:** Late work follows the MTCHS late work policy as stated in the MTCHS handbook

**LATE WORK:** Students may receive no more than 70% for any late assignment. Late work policies are defined by individual instructors in course syllabi. No late work will be accepted after the end of grading terms such as quarter and semester. Any late or missing assignments will be scored based on original scoring. If the student earns a 70% or higher, then the student will receive a 70% on the assignment. If the student earns less than a 70%, he/she will earn that percentage. Extenuating circumstances will be dealt with by individual teachers.

**Plagiarism Statement:** All work submitted by a student must represent his/her own ideas, concepts, and current understanding. All material found during research must be correctly documented to avoid plagiarism. Cheating or plagiarism in any form is unacceptable and

violations may result in disciplinary action ranging from failure of the assignment to failure of the course. Repeated acts of academic dishonesty may have more severe ramifications.