

DOUGLAS
US HISTORY
ROOM 608

COURSE SYLLABUS

Welcome to Mr. Douglas's U.S. History class! Over the next two semesters we will be exploring the history of our nation from the early colonial period right up to today. Keep this handout in your notebook.

TEXT

American History: Modern Era Since 1865

(Keep at home, there will be a class set to use at school)

UNITS OF STUDY (may change slightly)

SEMESTER ONE

- Unit 1 – Colonial Review
- Unit 2– Civil War and Reconstruction
- Unit 3 – Expansion
- Unit 4 – Society/Urbanization
- Unit 5 – Imperialism
- Unit 6 – Progressives and White House Reformers
- Unit 7 – WWI

SEMESTER TWO

- Unit 8– 1920's and 1930's
- Unit 9 – WWII
- Unit 10 – Cold War and the 1950's
- Unit 11 – Civil Rights
- Unit 12 – 1960's and Vietnam
- Unit 13 – End of Cold War/Age of Terrorism/Iraq & Afghanistan

EXPECTATIONS

- Follow CRHS rules and regulations (refer to handbook)
- Arrive on time
- Be respectful at all times.
 1. To me, to others, to yourself!
 2. Listen
 3. Respect other opinions and positions.
- Come prepared to learn (paper, pen, homework, and other materials).
- Participate. Raise your hand and question, support, share.

GRADING CRITERIA

The grade you earn in the class will be determined by the points generated by homework, quizzes, current events assignments, tests, essays, and your research paper. Extra credit is available from time to time...it will be announced in class and will be related to something we are studying...it will not be available at the end of a grading period. In addition to the earned points, factors such as participation, attendance, tardies, and citizenship can raise or lower your grade by ½ at the discretion of the teacher.

Grades will be based on the following standard scale:

100-93%=A	86-83%=B	76-73%=C	66-60%=D
92-90 %= A-	82-80%=B-	72-70%=C-	59%-below=F
89-87%=B+	79-77%=C+	69-67%=D+	

CONTACT INFO:

I want every student to be successful in class. I am available before and after school everyday. I can also be reached at david.douglas@vansd.org. I check the email several times a day and will respond to messages as soon as possible.

CURRENT EVENTS ASSIGNMENT

History is more than simply the knowledge of what has happened in the past. An understanding of history allows a person to better understand the times they live in. During the course I will encourage students to make comparisons between what they are studying and the present day.

Additionally, students are required to keep themselves informed on what is happening locally, nationally, and internationally through out the course. We will have a current events quiz every Wednesday (unless I inform students in advance that we will not). To prepare for the quizzes students should read the main stories in the *Columbian*, or *Oregonian* (either in print or online) during the week prior to the quiz. The quiz will have 10 questions. It is a pass/fail quiz. A student must get 5 out of 10 correct to earn credit for the quiz. Any correct answers above 5 will be extra credit. If a student does not answer 5 questions correctly, or is absent the day of the quiz, then the student must turn in a *current event review* the following day.

CURRENT EVENT REVIEW

A current event review is a minimum 2 paragraph review of a current event article from an acceptable news source. (see list below)

The article must be

- 1) Current (no more than 5 days old).
- 2) At least three paragraphs in length.
- 3) News that affects a large number of people in a meaningful way.
No sports, accident reports, entertainment, celebrity gossip.

When in doubt ask me!

1st paragraph

A summary of the article. What happened, why? where? and who was affected?

2nd paragraph

Your reaction to the story. Explain why you chose it and your feelings about it. What does it mean? What did you learn from it? **Can you see any connection to what you are studying in history class?**

Reviews must be neatly written (word processed if possible), include the article (stapled to front) the name of the publication or website, the date it was written and the author. If you do not include this information I can not give you credit.

SOURCES

Columbian
Newsweek

Oregonian
Atlantic

USA Today
US News and World Report

Time

Sources linked to Google News (except those that are exempted by rule #3 above)