

# COURSE SYLLABUS

**Course:** American History

**Instructor:** William (Bill) Covin

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**Course Overview:** This course will explore the overarching themes, trends, and concepts of our nation's history, including the development and evolution of the American system of government, the patterns and impact of migration and immigration, cultural development through the arts and technological innovations, relationships with foreign nations, and the role of both the individual and diverse groups in building the American story. Students in this course will be asked to investigate major turning points in American History to develop an understanding of multiple causation, to determine patterns of change and continuity, and to be able to compare multiple perspectives of the past. Rooted in Inquiry-based skills, students will trace American development while learning to craft compelling questions, synthesize and evaluate evidence, develop claims, communicate ideas, and take informed action.

## Course Evaluation

A final course grade will be determined using the following formula:

|                                                                                |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1) <u>Daily Coursework</u> (classwork, homework, and quizzes)                  | 55%        |
| 2) <u>Application of Mastered Concepts</u><br>(course projects)                | 10%        |
| 3) <u>Tests and Final Exam</u>                                                 | <u>35%</u> |
| *Per local policy, the final exam accounts for 25% of a student's course grade | 100%       |

## Complete and Submit Coursework Promptly

All assigned coursework should be submitted the day of or, if assigned at the end of class, by the beginning of the following regularly scheduled class session unless otherwise noted.

## Maintaining an Organized Notebook

All students are strongly encouraged to obtain a 3-ring binder in order to organize all notes, handouts, and graded papers.

## Attendance

Attendance will be taken daily for all class periods. As per the student handbook, students with greater than six (6) absences but less than ten (10) will need to complete make-up time for absences 7, 8, and 9. Students with ten (10) or more absences (excused or unexcused) must file a formal appeal to the Attendance Appeals Committee to request course credit in addition to completing make-up time for absences 7, 8, and 9.

## Make-up Policy

Students with an excused absence are eligible for make-up work. Per the student handbook, eligible students shall have two (2) school days per absence to complete any missing assignments. Students out for three (3) or more days should consult with me to form an individualized make-up plan. The student handbook continues: "A maximum of ten (10) days will be allowed for students to complete all missed work. Long-term assignments are exempt from the make-up consideration and are due as assigned. Students who are absent from school can request their work from their teacher(s) via email or through Google Classroom...All schoolwork missed due to [a code 6] absence must be made up within two (2) days following the school related absence..."

\*\*\*Please note that I reserve the right to make adjustments to this said syllabus including the formula for final course grade when deemed necessary. - Mr. Covin

Rev. Aug 28, 2025