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Ponderosa High School

2019-2020

**United States History**

The history of the United States naturally divides itself into eras, or periods of time made distinctive by key issues and events. The primary emphasis of this course will be on the 20th Century to present day. The class is divided into eight chronological units that include the following topics: ***The Founding of American Ideals & Immigration, Industrialism and Progressive Reform, Emerging World Power & WWI, The Roaring Twenties & Great Depression, WWII - The Pacific, The Cold War and 1950’s, The Civil Rights Movement, The Vietnam war - Present.***

**INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

Each student will need a spiral bound notebook, with at least 70 pages, to be used ONLY for their US History class. The interactive notebook enables students to be creative, independent thinkers and writers. Interactive notebooks will be used for class notes, homework and other activities where students will be asked to express their own ideas and process information presented in this class. This notebook will be a valuable resource in preparing for tests. The notebook is approximately 30% of the student’s entire grade.

**How Will My Interactive Notebook Be Graded?**

Interactive notebooks will be graded at the end of each unit. All class notes and assignments should be included, even for the days you are absent. This includes each being recorded in the table of contents. If a student is absent it is his/her responsibility to obtain notebook assignments from the website or a classmate. Late notebooks will receive a 5 point deduction for each day late beyond due date.

The following **must** be brought to class each day:

* Interactive spiral notebook
* Organized binder to hold all class handouts and assignments (suggested binder tabs: HANDOUTS, HOME/CLASS WORK, TESTS/QUIZZES…keep it simple).
* a pen and/or pencil with an eraser

These additional materials would be helpful:

* a variety of colored pens and/or colored pencils
* a glue stick (used often in class!)
* a small pair of scissors and a small stapler

**GRADING GUIDELINES**

Your grades will be based on points accumulated during the semester. These points will

come from:

Effort and Participation Class / Homework

Multimedia projects Tests and Quizzes

Interactive Student Notebook Short and Formal Papers

Current Events Semester Exam

Letter grades reflect the following:

A = excellent work 90%-100%

B = above average work 80%-89%

C = average work 70%-79%

D = below average work 60%-69%

F = failing grade 0%-59%

**ABSENCE POLICY**:

Students are responsible for checking the POSTED assignment calendar the day they return from an absence to find out what activities and materials were missed. These assignments will also be posted on Mrs. Pfeifer’s website. The STUDENT is then responsible for getting any handouts from the website or assignment table. Per school policy, students have two days for every day of absence to make up work missed. Tests and quizzes will be made up by appointment with the teacher.

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS**

When a student is absent, late assignments are considered make-up work and are accepted as outlined above. An unexcused absence makes a student ineligible for make-up work.

**LATE WORK OPTION:** If you are unable to complete an assignment on time you have the option of turning in the assignment late for HALF CREDIT. The assignments can only be completed from the CURRENT UNIT OF STUDY. Once the unit ends, the window of opportunity for turning in late work for that unit closes**. Students will NOT receive “bail out” extra credit assignments for missed/late work.** The way to be successful in US History is to consistently attend class and complete the assigned work on time.

**STUDENT BEHAVIOR**

In order to assist the class in running more smoothly, I will need your cooperation in the

following areas:

1**. Be Prompt** - arrive on time and leave when dismissed.

2**. Be Prepared** - bring interactive notebook and appropriate materials to class.

3. **Be respectful** of your classroom, your teacher, and your classmates.

Everyone’s opinion matters. Learn how to respectfully disagree with others.

4. **Be Productive** - focus on the work of this class during class time, complete

homework on time, and use the calendar/website to find out what was missed when you were absent.

**CONSEQUENCES;**

FIRST STEP = VERBAL WARNING

SECOND STEP = STUDENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE

THIRD STEP = RED DETENTION NOTIFICATION SLIP (in-class detention)

FOURTH STEP = PARENT PHONE CALL &/OR REFERRAL TO VP

\*Please realize that I will go straight to step four if necessary (i.e., fighting, cheating, etc.)

\*\* If your name is left by a substitute the consequence is an automatic referral and parent phone call

**TARDIES and CELL PHONES:**

The school-wide tardy policy will be followed. Please do not be late to class. In addition, cell phones should be turned off during class time unless I am allowing students to use them for in-class assignments. Students will have the option of storing cell phones in the classroom for extra credit points. I strongly encourage students to participate in this break from their cell phones in order to create a focused classroom environment.

I have read the guidelines established for this class and understand what is expected.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_