

American Cultures Course Outline

Welcome to American Cultures II. This is, without a doubt, my favorite course to teach. This course covers the time period of your great-great grandparents (approximately 1890) to yourself today. The great thing about this course is that you not only will be studying it, you will be living it. Everything you do in your life right now from the clothes you wear to the music you listen to is a part of American cultures that future generations will study. As we proceed through this course, I encourage you to ask questions to those people in your life who have lived through this time period. You will learn so much more than any textbook or I could ever teach you!

Topics to be Covered

- I. Age of Imperialism, 1890-1920
- II. The Progressive Era, 1890-1920
- III. World War I Era, 1914-1919
- IV. The Roaring '20's
- V. The Great Depression (1929-1941)
- VI. The New Deal
- VII. World War II Era (1939-1945), Military and Home Front
- VIII. The Cold War
- IX. Happy Days (The '50's)
- X. The JFK & LBJ Years (1960-1968)
- XI. The Civil Rights Movement (1947-1970)
- XII. The Vietnam War Era (1960-1975)
- XIII. The Nixon Era (1968-1974)
- XIV. The Conservative Revolution (1974-1992)
- XV. The Clinton Years (1992-2000)
- XVI. The Modern Era (2001-Present)

Grading

1. Tests count as 50% of your grade. Tests are given approximately once a week. Research papers and Major projects (oral history) will count as tests.
2. Quizzes count as 30% of your grade. Quizzes are usually given the day before the test. Debates and creative projects will also count as quiz grades
3. Homework counts as 20% of your grade. One major assignment is usually given each week with several days given to complete it. Journal entries also will count as homework grades. Although weighted less, this area is extremely important!
4. Extra Credit will only be given if you have done your regular assignments first and only if one is in danger of failing.

Make-up Work

1. You are expected to turn in your assignments the day you return to school.
2. Quizzes must be made up upon return to school.
3. You have three days upon return to school to make-up your test.
4. If you fail to turn in an assignment when it is due, you can still get half credit if you turn it in the following school day. Two school days late is a zero.

Rules

1. Be on time. Students arriving late will be sent to the office for a late pass.
2. Bring a writing utensil (pen or pencil), your textbook, and journal every day unless I tell you not to. Please keep your book covered since these are brand new textbooks.
3. Be respectful of your classmates and teacher. Disrespect will not be tolerated.
4. No foul language or racial slurs. Detention or ISS will be assigned. This includes what vacuum cleaners do!
5. No sleeping in class, no matter how boring I am. Detentions will be assigned.
6. Limit your bathroom breaks until after I am done with my lesson and don't make it a daily occurrence!
7. Don't leave your seat at the end of the period until the bell rings or if I give you permission. DON'T CROWD THE DOOR!

I look forward to our time together and in the words of Bill Cosby at the beginning of every Fat Albert show, "If you're not careful, you just might learn something."

Mr. Over