

AMERICAN HISTORY B

COURSE SYLLABUS

2014-2015 School Year

Instructor: Jessica Hill

OFFICE HOURS: 3:00-3:30

LIVE SESSIONS: 9:00, 1:00, and 2:00

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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

American History B takes students from the westward movement of the late 1800s to the present. Lessons integrate topics in geography, civics, and economics. Building on the award-winning series *A History of US*, the course guides students through critical episodes in the story of America. Students examine the impact of the settlement of the American West; investigate the social, political, and economic changes that resulted from industrialization; explore the changing role of the U.S. in international affairs from the late 19th century through the end of the Cold War; and trace major events and trends in the United States from the Cold War through the first decade of the twenty-first century.

II. ORGANIZATION

This course has both live on-line components as well as student paced offline components. Students will be expected to be in attendance history class at least 50 minutes per day. They will also be expected to complete nightly reading and homework assignments after school hours which may take up to 1 hour to complete.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES (PA 6th Grade American History Standards)

- Explain the social, political, cultural, and economic contributions of individuals and groups to United States history.
- Explain the importance of significant historical documents, artifacts, and places critical to United States history.
- Explain how continuity and change have impacted U.S. history.
 - Belief systems and religions
 - Commerce and industry
 - Technology
 - Politics and government
 - Physical and human geography
 - Social organizations

- Explain continuity and change over time using sequential order and **context of events**.
- Differentiate between fact and **opinion**, multiple points of view, and **primary** and **secondary sources** to explain historical events.
- Identify a thesis statement using appropriate **primary and secondary sources**. (Reference RWSL Standard 1.8.5 Research)

IV. TEXT AND REQUIRED SUPPLIES

K-12 has provided each student with a computer, printer, scanner, and microphone. The will be utilized throughout the course. If you are missing any piece of technology, you must contact your teacher or your family coach immediately. You will be expected to use this technology on a daily basis in each class. In addition you have been provided with the following mandatory texts for this class:

- A. **A History of US Series** (supplied by Agora)
 - A History of US Volume C by Joy Hakim
 - A History of US Volume D by Joy Hakim
- B. American History B Student Guides: Semesters 1 and 2
- C. American History B Learning Coach Guides: Semesters 1 and 2
- D. * Recommended: History notebook/3 ring binder (for taking notes/ organizing study guides)

V. ATTENDANCE

This course follows the general attendance policy of Agora Cyber Charter School. Attendance is mandatory unless a student is specifically exempted from attendance with an asynchronous plan. Attendance is automatically saved after 15 minutes into the class period. If a student is tardy after attendance is logged, it will count as an absence. Also, leaving class before dismissed may also result in the student being marked absent. **It is essential that students are present for the entire class period to ensure they are not marked absent.** An excuse must be submitted via kmail to the attendance office for all absences. For student illness, please submit a medical excuse. For absences due to technical issues a tech ticket must be submitted. You can obtain a tech ticket by calling the k-12 help desk. (866) 512- 2273

VI. CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT

Students are expected to:

- Work effectively with peers
- Develop a problem solving mentality
- Laugh with anyone, but laugh at no one
- Be responsible for your own learning
- Participate during live lessons
- Come to class and hand in assignments on time
- Not disturb or distract other students during class time
- Have no internet browsers open during class time except when directly prompted by the teacher.

VII. GRADING SCALE

This course follows the general Agora Cyber Charter Grading Scale:

A: 90-100%

B: 80-89%
C: 70-79%
D: 60-69%
F: 59% and Lower

VIII. GRADES

Unit Tests: Unit and Mid Unit tests will be available through my website and on sapphire. The unit assessments on the OLS can be used for a study tool but do not count toward your grade. You may retake a test, however If you need to retake it you will have to contact your teacher. Each Unit Test will be worth 100 points.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be available through my website and on sapphire. The lesson assessments on the OLS can be used for a study tool but do not count toward your grade. You can retake a quiz, however If you need to retake it you will have to contact your teacher. Each Unit Quiz will be worth 50 points.

Projects: Specific project instructions will be given in class, kmailed, and available on my website. Most projects will be turned in via the drop box or kmail. Each project will be worth 100 points. One project will be given each quarter.

Individual Activities: Individual activities will be assigned throughout the year, and will be graded for successful completion. Specific instructions will be given in class, kmailed, and made available on my website, they will include activities such as responding to history blog, some exit tickets, and activities. Each Marking Period a total of 50 points will be allotted for the successful completion of these individual activities, and based on the number of assigned activities, and successful completion.

Chapter Reading Study Guides: Chapter reading study guides are available to accompany each chapter reading, **these will not count as a grade, and do not need turned in.** However, they can be used while taking any test and quizzes, and will be very beneficial for students to complete along with assigned chapter readings.