

United States History and Government

Ms. Schwint

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"History is a guide to navigation in perilous times. History is who we are and why we are the way we are."

"You can't be a full participant in our democracy if you don't know our history."

— David McCullough

"You have to know the past to understand the present."

— Dr. Carl Sagan

Course Description

This one-year course is designed to provide students with a culminating survey of their national heritage and understanding of their nation today. The two-year United States History course in grades 7-8, which emphasizes the early development of the United States, provides a foundation for this course. This course, while reviewing U.S. history from colonial times to the present, will begin with an analysis of the Constitution during the early years of our history with an emphasis on the development of the United States from the Civil War to the present. Major themes include constitutional and legal issues, civic values in a democracy, the development of the American economic system, and global interaction. Students will be required to take the U.S. History and Government Regents Examination at the end of this course.

Materials

A three-ring binder with loose leaf paper

A folder

A pen or pencil

Homework

Homework assignments will vary from reading, writing, analyzing, etc. The assignments may be used to review material learned that day, or to introduce concepts for the next class. Homework dittos will be shared on Google Classroom and my website every Monday. Homework must be completed in Google Classroom unless otherwise instructed. Late assignments will only be accepted for half credit.

Class Participation

Class participation is an important part of a student's grade. Class participation includes raising your hand to participate in a class discussion, contributing and taking part in group work and assignments, and listening to the teacher or other students when the teacher or students are talking during class discussions. Students are encouraged to participate daily and to complete all class work. Group work and activities will also count towards your class participation grade.

Classroom Rules

The DPHS code of conduct is to be followed at all times, NO EXCEPTIONS. Be respectful of yourself, classmates, and teachers.

Raise your hand if you wish to speak.

Use appropriate language.

All cell phones and electronic devices must be put away!

Extra Help

Extra help will be available every week. Days of extra help sessions will vary. You will be notified on your homework ditto (every Monday) when extra help sessions will be for that week.

Grading Policy

Tests/Essays - 45%

Quizzes/Projects - 25%

Homework - 20%

Participation - 10%

Late Work Policy

Graded assignments that are submitted late will receive a 10 point penalty for each day late. Late homework assignments will only receive half credit.

ALL IMPORTANT CLASS INFORMATION INCLUDING HOMEWORK CAN BE FOUND ON MY WEBSITE WWW.MSSCHWINT.COM

Excused Absence Grading Procedures for Deer Park High School

If you are legally absent, you are responsible for making up missed assignments within two weeks of your return to school (quiz, test, homework or a project). **Assignments that are not made up within this time frame will result in a score of zero being factored into your average.** If you are absent the day before a test, you will be required to take the test at the regularly scheduled time. If you are absent the day of the test, you are responsible to make up the test the day you return. Please see me to make arrangements. **If you are illegally absent from class you will receive a zero as a grade on any missed assignments.**

The Code of Conduct States:

Students are eligible to make-up work that is missed during an **excused absence** only. It is the student's responsibility to meet with the teacher to make up work. Any work that has not been made up will result in a score of zero for that assignment.

It is the teacher's responsibility to provide the student with the opportunity to make up missed work.

Students must meet with the teacher immediately upon return to school to make arrangements to make up work.

Please sign below to indicate that you read and understand the USHG syllabus and the absentee policy and expectations.

This form is to be signed and returned no later than **Friday, September 8th**.

Student Name (Please Print) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Contact Information (Please indicate the best method to be contacted.)

Mother/Father's Name (Please Print) _____

Phone Number () _____

E-mail Address _____

If you ever have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.