**AMERICAN HISTORY 1**

**Fall 2019, Mr. Scruggs**

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**www.coachscruggs.weebly.com**

 **Room 3628**

**Overview**

Welcome to American History 1. I am excited to begin a new semester and looking forward to a rigorous, yet fun-filled semester. Let me say right away that I have the highest expectations of each and every one of you. It should be your goal to earn an A in this class and I am here to do everything I can to help you achieve at the highest level. During the course of the semester please do not hesitate to ask me questions and seek extra help when necessary (SMART LUNCH). Below you will find out how your grades will be calculated this semester and a brief description of grading policies, classroom assignments and expectations.

**Course Description**

* This is a survey course. The course begins with the study of the motivations the West and continues through the present day.
* In North Carolina the study of history no longer supports memorization of unexamined and isolated facts, but emphasizes the thinking skills to detect trends, analyze movements and events and develop a “sense of history.”
* American History is designed to be challenging and requires students to take greater responsibility for their learning by participating in problem seeking and solving, scholarly and creative processes, critical analysis and application, reflective thinking, and the expression and defense of ideas generated through the study of content.
* North Carolina Essential Standards: http://www.ncpublicschools.org/docs/acre/standards/support-tools/unpacking/social-studies/american1.pdf

**PCHS Basic Expectations**

Students are expected to meet the following:

1. Be Present and On Time
2. Be Prepared and Engaged in Learning
3. Be a Person of Character
4. Be Safe and Comply with all PCHS and WCPSS Policies

**Grades**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Nine Weeks Grade – Academic** | **Nine Weeks Grade – Honors** | **Overall Course Grade** |
| * **Major Assignments** – 50%
* **Classwork** – 25%
* **Homework** – 15%
* **Engagement** – 10%
 | * **Major Assignments** – 60%
* **Classwork** – 20%
* **Homework** – 15%
* **Engagement** – 5%
 | * **First nine weeks** – 40%
* **Second nine weeks** – 40%
* **Final Exam** – 20%
 |

**Homework and some classwork assignments will be graded using a 4 point scale:**

**The grades are as follows = 4=100, 3=89, 2=79, 1=69, 0=40**

**Work returned beyond the due date will be penalized one point on the 4 point scale for each day late.**

**Test corrections will be available during the course of the semester on certain tests. Honors students can earn ¼ credit back and Academic students can earn ½ credit back.**

**Classwork/Homework**

Classwork and Homework account for a large portion of your grade. Needless to say these assignments will be very important for you as you begin your work this semester. I expect that homework will be completed to the best of your ability on a nightly basis. The study of history requires due diligence on your part to review material and read for comprehension.

**Make-Up Work**

* It is YOUR responsibility to find out what you have missed.
* Talk to your classmates about what you missed.
* Consult make-up folder for notebook.
* Ask me if you have any questions about missed assignments and/or due dates.
* If you know you are going to be absent in advance, ask me for work ahead of time.
* You will be given a day to make-up work for every day you missed. Students who miss 3 or more consecutive days will work with the teacher to arrange an alternate time table.
* You MUST write “ABSENT” at the top of all make-up work.
* If you are ever absent then you should bring a note from the attendance office to Mr. Scruggs the next time you are in class.

**A Word About Participation**

It is absolutely necessary that each of you come to class prepared to challenge text, ask questions, and voice your opinion on any range of topics. We cannot have a successful classroom without full participation from everyone. I will never force you to speak, but my expectation is that everyone will take an active role in our classroom this semester.

**SMART Lunch:**

SMART Lunch will be available on Mondays (A Half) and Thursdays (B Half).

**Notebooks**

In order to ensure your success in this course I STRONGLY recommend you keep a well-organized three-ring notebook with loose-leaf notebook paper. I suggest that you also include dividers in your notebook to keep better organized. Be sure to include the date on all your assignments as this will help you keep your notebook in good order.

**Materials**

* Writing utensils- Pencils and pens- ***Please use only black or blue ink only***
* Colored Pencils
* 3 Ring binder with notebook paper and dividers (if you choose to organize your notebook this way)

**Textbooks:**

*The Americans*(textbook) - This text will be used as an in-class resource

Online Textbooks: Students will be asked to utilize online, public domain textbooks for home based readings. The websites for these public domain books are below. Each of these links will also be available on the class blackboard page.

* Mintz, S., & McNeil, S. (2013). Digital History. Retrieved (8/19/14 from [http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu](http://www.digitalhistory.uh.edu/)
* <http://www.ushistory.org/us/index.asp>

**Academic Integrity**

Students will be expected to follow the WCPSS Student Honor Code regarding cheating and plagiarism. The Honor Code can be found here: <https://www.wcpss.net/handbook>

**Course Website**

I maintain a course website – [www.coachscruggs.weebly.com](http://www.coachscruggs.weebly.com). This site contains many pieces of vital information about the course including notes presentations, due dates, homework assignments, etc.

**This syllabus is subject to change based on PLT discretion.**