US History

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Course Description

Brief Course Description- U.S. History is required both by the State of Indiana and Blackhawk Christian School. It is, typically, the only U.S. history course taken at the High School Level. The course is survey-like, in the sense that there will not be more than roughly 2 weeks spent on any one historical topic or period. A more in-depth and rigorous course, A.P. U.S. History, may be taken in this course's place.

Assessment Philosophy

This course will include a number of different types of assessments. The philosophy of using multiple types of graded work is designed to engage learners with different types of learning styles and to value understanding of material that might not be evident when taking a traditional test.

Pace/Rigor

The number of different types assessments given does make the pace of the course rigorous. Students will have important tests, project, or quizzes due weekly. The reason for this goes back to the philosophy mentioned above. Whether it is college or the workplace, students will have to learn to balance busy schedules with hectic work/school responsibilities. This may be one of the most applicable life skills our students can learn. Mastery of this value now, will serve them well

Grade Breakdown

60%- Tests and Projects

25%- Quizzes

15%- Classwork/Homework

Unit Packets

Each unit of study will have a corresponding classroom Note/Study Guide. This document will have our unit text and space to take notes. It will also include activity pages that will be assigned or completed in class. There will be a periodic checks of Note/Study Guide progress taken for a homework/classwork grade.

Primary Source Readings

In addition to textbook reading, students will be assigned a primary source document to read. There will be a corresponding assignment in the student's Note/Study guide for each document.

Unit Quizzes

For each unit, students will have 2 corresponding quizzes. In an effort to promote class participation and good note taking, these quizzes will be open note.

These are typically the only quiz grades taken.

Unit Tests

At the end of each unit, there will typically be a test. These tests usually include objective questions and essays. The grade is typically made up of half objective questions and half essays.Tests will always be taken on Moodle.

Projects

There will be several projects assigned throughout the course of the year. There will be at least one project assigned per quarter. These projects may be in place of, or in addition to a typical unit test. Project types will vary and may include research and writing, interacting with literature, and/or creating artifacts.

Absence Policy

It is the student's responsibility to find out what material was missed and should be made up in case of an absence.

All absence work needs to be made up by the following Wednesday. Wednesdays in class will be used as a make up work day. Thursdays in class will always be a PS update day.

Late Policy

All Projects must be turned in on the day and time that they are due. For every day that a project is turned in late, a 10% penalty will be applied to the final grade.

Otherwise, missing packet/class work should be made up by the following Wednesday. Missing quizzes or tests MUST be taken by the following Wednesday or the student will receive a 0.

Article of the Week

Each week, you will be assigned to read an article that I post to Moodle. Most weeks, you will read the article and post on the assignment submission screen, "I have read the article." But, if for some reason I have assigned you an extra writing assignment, you will instead write a 400 word summary of the article.

Automatic 400 Word Violations

Gum or Food

Computers not Charged

Computer games

Phone w/o Permission

Earbuds w/o Permission

Writing on Whiteboards

Leaving Class Without Permission