

United States History
Vista Murrieta High School

"Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

George Santayana (1863-1952)

"Just because I don't care doesn't mean I don't understand."

Homer Simpson

Welcome to Mr. Hanson's United States History class. This class will be an intensive 1-year study of U.S. history from colonies to present. In spite of Homer Simpson's wisdom, we will try to achieve greatness in this difficult and challenging course, one that will demand your best effort. What follows are some guidelines and information that I hope will help explain both the course and my requirements for completing it successfully. Feel free to call/email me at anytime if you have any questions or concerns!

School: (951) 894-5750 ext. 6692

Email: jhanson@murrieta.k12.ca.us

Website: <http://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/Page/11142>

TEXT:

Saavas; *US History Interactive: Reconstruction to the Present*

GRADING POLICY:

Your grade in this course will be decided by a combination of assignment and examinations. Examinations will be more heavily weighted than homework assignments. Each test will be a combination of multiple choice and essay. It is imperative that you do all the assignments as you will fall behind and have trouble recovering. The assignments will include ID/SIGS, research, essays, and DBQ's.

GRADING SCALE:

90.0-100% A

80.0-89.9% B

70.0-79.9% C

60.0-69.9% D

59.9% & Below F

GRADING BREAKDOWN:

Assessments: 80%

Includes Reading Quizzes & Unit Exams

Classwork/Homework: 20%

******The instructor reserves the right to alter the above if needed******

EXAMS:

Approximately five major multiple-choice (MC) and essay exams will be given during the first semester. The first semester final is cumulative. Second semester will follow the same pattern. Tests will be rigorous as they are intended to challenge the student in preparation for state testing in May. Frequent exams also insure that students read the textbook and supplementary readings, consistently check for understanding, and take copious notes that are thorough and well organized.

MISSED EXAMS & QUIZZES:

Students who are absent legitimately on a day a test is given must make up the test on the day they return to class. **Being absent on the day before the test does not excuse you from taking the test when scheduled.** Work/tests missed due to an unexcused absence will be recorded as a "0." If a student is absent for an extended period (e.g., more than five days), an appointment for making-up the test will be made. Complete loss of credit for an exam may result if the exam is not completed in a timely fashion

CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK POLICY:

Each student is expected to keep a well-organized notebook of all course-related materials (e.g. quickwrites/focus lessons, lecture notes, state standards, handouts, etc.) A sub-par notebook may result in points being deducted from the “classwork” category. All handouts/classwork will go into this notebook and will be collected and graded at the end of each unit. Each student is expected to have the notebook with them at every class meeting and to keep all assignments organized according to the requirements. In addition to the classroom assignments, homework will be unit ID/SIGS based on readings from the required text.

LATE CLASSWORK/HOMEWORK:

Late assignments will drop in value 5% each day it is late and will be accepted up to **TEN (10) DAYS** after the due date for 50% credit. **No late work will be accepted after 10 days.**

IN-CLASS RULES AND EXPECTATIONS: (WHAT YOU NEED TO DO TO SUCCEED!)

- 1. Come to class on time and prepared --** This means having all assignments completed prior to the beginning of class and being seated and ready to begin when the bell rings. Tardies are unacceptable and will be dealt with according to school policy.
- 2. NO CELL PHONES OR HEADPHONES DURING CLASS TIME—Check them into the Cell Hotel at the start of each class period.**
- 3. RESPECT** each other, your teacher, and school property. Use of inappropriate words/actions will **NOT** be tolerated. Remember, **No question is a "stupid" question!** Professional academic courtesy should always prevail
- 4. Being dismissed from class**—You are not dismissed from class until I verbally dismiss you. Dismissal from class comes from my voice only, not the bell.

EMAILING NETIQUETTE

When sending an email to school staff or classmates:

- Use a descriptive subject line include course, period, and topic (for example: AP US History Period 1 Need FRQ help)
- Use academic/professional language. Avoid slang terms and texting abbreviations such as “u” instead of “you.”
- Remember that all academic communication should have correct spelling and grammar.
- Sign your message with your name and contact information.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM:

Cheating is always unacceptable and will result in zero points for the assignment. Plagiarism robs you of valuable learning, cheats your peers, and would get you kicked out of a university – practice not plagiarizing in my class. See the Student Handbook for more details about the school’s academic honesty policies.

PARTICIPATION:

Students are expected to contribute in-class discussions and effectively participate in class activities. Many of the class sessions will include group activities/simulations/etc and in order for these to work, student preparation and participation is critical. If your student misses a class period it is their responsibility to check Canvas for assignments and also to check with Mr. Hanson the next day. Being absent is not an excuse for not having assignments done!

MOVIE CLIPS TO BE SHOWN IN CLASS:

Periodically I show small sections of a large number of movies in my U.S. History class to aid in the comprehension of the material we are discussing. A few of the movies are rated "R", and contain some adult material, namely language and violence. All of the movies directly relate to the curriculum and I feel that they serve as a powerful aid in helping students understand the material covered in the book and in class. I would like to stress that any nudity in the sections of the movies I show is of an entirely non-sexual nature. If you feel your student should not view the clips, please let me know and I will arrange for them to do an alternate assignment.

Movies include but are not limited to:

Pocahontas-colonization, **Last of the Mohicans**-colonization, **1776**-Revolution, **Patriot**-Revolution, **Amistad**-slave trade, **Jeremiah Johnson**-Mountain Men, **Gettysburg**-Civil War, **Glory**-Civil War, **Gone With the Wind**-Civil War, **Last Waltz**-Reconstruction, **Dances With Wolves**-The West, **Modern Times**-Progressive Era, **Avalon**-Immigration, **An American Tale**-Immigration, **Far and Away**-Immigration/Land Boom, **Citizen Kane**-Spanish-American War, **Legends of the Fall**-WWI, **Razors Edge**-WWI, **The Great Gatsby**-1920's, **Jazz Singer**-1920's, **The Untouchables**-Prohibition, **It's a Wonderful Life**-Depression, **Grapes of Wrath**-Depression, **Night at the Opera**-Depression, **Mi Familia**-Depression, **Sea Biscuit**-Depression, **Cinderella Man**-Depression, **Pearl Harbor**-WWII, **Tora! Tora! Tora!**-WWII, **Saving Private Ryan**-WWII, **Wind Talkers**-WWII, **League of Their Own**-WWII, **Empire of the Sun**-WWII, **Patton**-WWII, **Atomic Café**-Atomic Age, **Tucker**-Post WWII, **M.A.S.H.**-Korean War, **Singin' in the Rain**-50's, **Quiz Show**-50's, **The Right Stuff**-Space Race, **October Sky**-Space Race, **Some Like it Hot**-50's, **Grease**-50's, **Pleasantville**-50's, **The Majestic**-HUAC/Hollywood 10, **13 Days**-Cuban Missile Crisis, **Forrest Gump**-50's/60's/70's/80's, **Good Morning Vietnam**- Vietnam, **We Were Soldiers**-Vietnam, **Full Metal Jacket**-Vietnam, **Letters Home From Vietnam**-Vietnam, **Once Upon a Time We Were Colored**-Civil Rights, **Remember the Titans**-Civil Rights, **Panther**-Civil Rights, **Mississippi Burning**-Civil Rights, **X**- Civil Rights, **American Graffiti**-60's, **JFK**-60's, **Nixon**-70's/Watergate, **All The Presidents Men**-Watergate, **Dick**-Watergate, **Saturday Night Fever**-70's, **Rocky**-70's, **Miracle**-80's, **Wall Street**-80's

*****Instructor reserves the right to make changes as appropriate based on learning environment and pandemic conditions*****

Please complete the Microsoft Acknowledgement Form and return via Canvas

* The Acknowledgement form is under Class Info in Canvas or use the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/r/Mu6VHr2ygf>