

2024-25 American History - 8th Grade

Ms. Clayton

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Students will be studying American History from the late 1500's to the early 1900's. There are 69 Content Standards during this time frame students are required to know. These CA Standards are listed in the textbook or on-line

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/histsocscistnd.pdf>

Grading

There are two categories of grades: Formative and Summative. Summative work are assessments (tests and quizzes) and worth 70% of a student's grade. Formative work is all other work worth 30% of a student's grade. There is more formative work than summative to prepare students for the higher percentage assessment.

Homework

I try not to assign homework. If I do, the District has a policy that allows 1.5 hours of homework Monday through Thursday. History class is one-sixth of a student's total school work per day, so I can assign 15 minutes of homework for the nights mentioned. As I stated, I try not to assign homework, but a student may need to finish an assignment at home, send an assignment to me via Google Classroom, or need to study a bit to be ready for assessments.

Assessments

There are 12 weeks in the trimester. There will likely be a quiz (5 questions - 5 points) every week with the exception of the week we have a test. Likely one test every 4 weeks.

Weekly Schedule/Assignments

There will be bell work each day except Friday. Friday will be a quiz and the remainder of the period will be set aside for completing missed work early in the week. Monday is a minimum day which will often be devoted to vocabulary and gathering materials for the remainder of the week. Tuesday will be devoted to reading, research, and gathering information from multiple resources about an event or individual. Wednesday will be for group discourse where we will discuss issues and key information. Monday through Wednesday will focus on telling the narrative story of the United States. Thursdays we will focus on how the United States is governed through the three branches of government, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. Work will include an emphasis on literacy. On average, students will complete 2-4 formative assignments worth 5-10 points each per week.

Google Classroom

I will post assignments on Google Classroom. I may post the actual document we use in class in Google Classroom as well. Some assignments may be handed out in class, but will still be posted on Google Classroom. Quizzes may also be on Google Classroom or given as a hard copy in class. Any reference to grading in Google Classroom should be ignored. See Aeries for proper grading information.

Aeries

All official grading is in Aeries. Ignore any grading in Google Classroom. If you have a question about any assignment or assessment grade, please send me an email, so I can resolve it immediately. cclayton@jsdtracy.com

Extra Help

Assignments are due prior to the assessment on Friday. Assignments turned in after the assessment will receive partial credit. I will be available to assist students finish late assignments individually in class after the Friday assessment. If students don't complete the assignment by the end of class on Friday, students will have the weekend to finish the assignment for partial credit and must submit the assignment on Monday to adhere to the district's late policy.

Absences

Missed work due to an absence should be obtained as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to make up work in a timely manner - within the number of days the student was absent.

Positive Learning Environment

As for student behavior, the expectation is that s/he will follow our CREED motto. Any student who fails to do so will be removed from the learning environment to discuss their actions with the principal. In order to have a successful learning environment all students should complete their work on time and cooperate within the class with basic courtesy toward one another.

Finally

I look forward to a wonderful year. If you need to contact me - the best way is via email: cclayton@jsdtracy.com