

ESL US History Course Outline

Materials needed:

History Textbook

Planner, paper and pencil

Colored pencils and black fine-point sharpie for maps

Red pen for grading

Objective: To increase knowledge of US geography and history. The learner will be able to identify the basic geography of N. America. The learner will be able to demonstrate a timeline of major events of the United States history.

Outline:

1st Semester – Students will complete maps of the United States at various stages in its history. The course will begin with the early civilizations of the Americas through the Westward Movement on the Oregon Trail.

2nd Semester – Students will study from the Civil War to Current Events of 2009 in America. Students will be required to write a report about a historic site or scenic attraction each quarter.

Method of Learning:

We will read the American Nation textbook as a class and individually by chapters. Each chapter will have vocabulary words that on which the students will be quizzed. We will do activities and research online and hands-on activities to reinforce comprehension including field trips to a Pioneer Camp, Champoug historical museum, Lelooska Lodge and Fort Vancouver.

Homework should be discussed with the host family and ***signed by the host parent***. Without a host parent signature, it will be considered incomplete. Do not do your homework with another student unless specifically directed by the instructor to do so. Copying together will result in a zero for that assignment in addition to your letter grade being reduced for the semester. While sharing answers in many countries is considered acceptable, at PAA it is strongly discouraged.

Class Expectations:

It is anticipated that students will come to class fully prepared. That includes bringing the textbook, paper and pens. Food and drink should stay outside the classroom. Water bottles are the exception. Do not leave class without a hall pass. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Each assignment should have first and last name, class name and date on it.

Late Work:

Assignments that are not turned in at the beginning of class will be considered late and graded at 50% of the total value. Assignments will not be accepted after the due date and students will receive 0 credit for that assignment, unless they have a written excuse from their host parent. Failure to plan ahead is not an excuse.

If you have been absent, it is your responsibility to contact me or a classmate to get missed work and be prepared for class when you return.

Quizzes and Tests:

There will be impromptu quizzes throughout each quarter. There will be a test following each chapter or unit of study. There will be a cumulative test at the end of each Semester. More information will be given prior to each test.

Written and oral tests and quizzes are given on a regular basis. Students are expected to know the material being tested. Please memorize facts covered in each chapter as we go. Correct pronunciation of vocabulary items is essential. Review vocabulary while riding home and just before going to bed. Say the words out loud in the mirror to remember them. Ask your host family to use the words often.

Method of Evaluation:

40% homework and class activities

25% vocabulary quizzes

20% comprehension tests

15% research report

Please note that points are available for participation in class during class activities. Grades will be assigned based on a straight percentage.

If any questions, please contact me at mbibb@paasda.org or mrsbibb@gmail.com . You may access your grades and assignments at Powerschool.com.

Attendance:

Attendance is a very important part of any class. Please arrive on time and let me know if you will be missing a class so that you can get the work that you'll be missing. There may be current events quizzes that you will not be able to make up so class attendance is imperative to keep up your grade.

Students with perfect attendance or near perfect attendance may receive bonus points at the end of the quarter toward their grade.

Academic Honesty:

It is easy to cut and paste information from the internet to complete a project or paper. All sources must be listed. Plagiarism or copying from another student will result in a zero on that assignment and a drop in one letter grade in the class. If you allow another student to copy your paper, it is impossible for me to determine who wrote the information first, so both papers will receive a zero. A second offense will require a meeting with school administration and parents.

Classroom Decorum:

Hall passes are for emergencies only. You will be allowed only 10 per quarter. It allows you to go three places: bathroom, locker, and drinking fountain. Any other locations require a destination pass signed by the teacher before you leave.

Dress appropriately for school according to the dress code in the handbook.

Cell phones and iPods belong in your locker not in class. I reserve the right to hold it for you for the day if necessary.

You are able to keep track of your grade and class assignments by going online to PowerSchool. Mrs. Rey will have passwords for you and your parents so you may have access 24 hours a day to that information.

Textbooks:

Students are expected to treat their textbooks with care and return them in good condition. If a textbook is not returned, or is damaged, the student will be charged for the replacement cost of that book.

Topics covered:

1st Quarter: Geography of the Americas, The first Americans, Europeans reach America and the 13 English colonies, American Revolution and creating a republic

2nd Quarter: Beginning a new government, growth and expansion to the west, North vs. South and the Civil War

3rd Quarter: Rebuilding our nation, Indian removal, the rise of industry, the western frontier and World War 1.

4th Quarter: the Depression, World War II, the changing societies of the 20th century, current events.