**Syllabus – 11th GRADE U.S. HISTORY (2015-2016)**

**(The American Republic Since 1877)**

Instructor: Mr. Cummings

Phone: 361-851-2450

Email: acummings@ssttx.org

Website: <http://sstcummings.weebly.com/>

***The mission of the School of Science and Technology is to create a safe and healthy learning environment that will nurture, motivate, and enable our youth to develop into mindful and responsible people who contribute to their community and the diverse society in which we all live.***

***The primary focus of SST shall be on core knowledge and essential skills so children may achieve the content mastery upon which further learning shall be built upon.***

**Course Description:**

Students will be exploring different people, places, events, and issues in United States History ranging from the early colonial era through the 20th Century. As the second portion of the U.S. History course (8th Grade-Colonial Era through Reconstruction), a small portion will be conducted as a “review,” while in-depth analysis of post-Reconstruction through the 20th Century United States will be the majority of the course. An important and integral part of the junior year course is the EOC exam given late in the year. Passing this exam is essential for all juniors, and review and studying for the exam will also be a part of this course.

**Year at a Glance:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Unit 1**: Foundations of Liberty **Unit 2**: The Crisis of Union**Unit 3**: The Birth of Modern America**Unit 4**: Imperialism and Progressivism | **Unit 5**: Boom and Bust**Unit 6**: Global Struggles**Unit 7**: A Time of Upheaval**Unit 8**: A Changing Society |

**Supplies:**

* Pens or Pencils (You must ALWAYS have something to write with)
* Paper, whether in a spiral notebook or loose-leaf paper in a binder
* Binder
	+ Recommended 2-4 inches or more (MANY NOTE PACKETS!)
* USB Flash Drive

**Grading Criteria:**

A = 90-100 B = 80-89 C = 70-79 F = 69 and below

*Nine-Weeks Grading Scale:*

Homework/Class Work: 20% Tests: 40% Projects/Essays: 20%

Quizzes: 10% Warm-up Activities/Journals: 5% Participation: 5%

Opportunities for extra credit will be provided at times throughout each nine weeks by the instructor. All extra credit assignments/activities will be solely academic. Students may request extra credit assignments at any time BEFORE the last week of the nine week grading period. Students are also welcome and encouraged to attend tutorials to work toward grade improvement.

**Homework Policy:**

Homework is due at the beginning of class on the following day unless otherwise specified. Students will receive a 10 point deduction for every day after the due date.

In the event a student is absent, they have one day for each day they were absent to complete and turn in work. **Students returning from absence(s) are responsible for obtaining their homework and any other assignments.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Days Late | Percent Grade | Example |
| 1 calendar day late  | Max. 10% of actual grade deducted | 100 recorded as 90 |
| 2 calendar days late | Max. 20% of actual grade deducted | 100 recorded as 80 |
| 3 calendar days late  | Max. 30% of actual grade deducted | 100 recorded as a 70 |
| 4 or more calendar days late | In complete- 0% | At this point, the teacher may record an incomplete or a zero grade in the grade book. The student has two weeks to convert the incomplete or zero grade to an earned grade. Maximum earned grade can be 70% of the actual grade. If the student fails to turn after two weeks, a grade of zero is confirmed.  |

**Procedure for turning in work:** All assignments must be turned in to the proper bin/basket on Mr. Cummings’s desk at the beginning of class. Do not turn in assignments to Ms. Moff or Ms. Moreno.

 -*Coursework due in class*: Turn in to the proper bin/basket.

-*Homework*: Due in the bin/basket on the specified due date OR you may email it to Mr. Cummings any time BEFORE the start of class on the due date.

**NO PASS, NO PLAY, NO EXCEPTIONS (Per School Administration)**

This policy will be in full effect this school year. To play a sport is a privilege. All participating students will have to earn it based on their grades in the classroom. Coaches will field decreased rosters or be forced to reschedule/forfeit games if a full squad is unable to take the field/court.

**Tutoring:**

There will be tutoring offered for this course. Please check with Mr. Cummings to plan and schedule a tutoring session (3:30-4:00 p.m.). This will give students the opportunity to further understand, review, make up, or retest course material. Remember, it is the student’s responsibility to attend tutoring. If the student does not attend tutoring for retesting (without a written excuse/phone call/email from a parent/guardian/staff), the grade of that exam will be final.

**Classroom Rules:**

1. Be in your seat when the bell rings.
2. Come to class prepared and ready to participate.
	* Being prepared means having all necessary materials, whether they are used or not.
3. Complete and turn in assignments on time.
4. Respect yourself and others.
5. Follow campus rules and dress code.

**Discipline Policy:**

1st Offense: Verbal Warning

2nd Offense: Student/Teacher Conference

3rd Offense: DPS/Parent Phone Call

4th Offense: Student/Parent meeting with Teacher

5th Offense: Student referral to Assistant Principal

If unacceptable behavior is not met, Discipline Point System (DPS) “points” will be given as consequences. Please refer to the Student Handbook (p. 45) for a description of DPS implementation as well as resulting consequences for point accumulation. The instructor will adhere to this system on a consistent basis throughout the entire school year.

**Rewards for Acceptable Behavior:**

 Verbal Praise, PRS (Positive Reinforcement Points), Call/Email home to inform parent/guardian of behavioral improvement

***\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\****

***This is an overview of the steps normally taken for discipline in my class. HOWEVER, every child responds differently to and deviations (different steps) may be made to this plan according to what is best for the child.***

***Student and Parent/Guardian Agreement – U.S. History***

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(STUDENT PRINTS NAME), have received, reviewed, and understand the syllabus for Mr. Cummings’ 11th Grade U.S. History course.

Student Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Date