

MR. WAGENBERG

HISTORY CLASS EXPECTATIONS

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS:

1. You are to attend class. This means you are to be on time and be prepared. Being prepared means, in part, being properly equipped with the materials required **before** entering the room. It also means that any work to be handed in is ready to turn in before entering class; *staple your work beforehand*.
2. You will be expected to be aware of and reasonably knowledgeable about current events.
3. We will be reading portions of the textbook. Homework, other assignments and tests will draw upon assigned readings — **whether or not we have discussed them in class**. Anything that has been assigned to read, or has been discussed or viewed (including videotapes or films) in class, is class material and therefore “testable.” If you need clarification or explanation it is **your responsibility** to ask for it.

CLASSROOM COURTESY:

1. Everyone in the room will treat others and be treated by others with respect.
2. Words and deeds should not interfere with individual or classroom attention to the lesson. Whispering must not disturb others. The room is to be quiet when classwork starts and when another student is speaking.
3. The language of the class is standard English.
4. Profanity will not be tolerated.
5. Food is not permitted in class. Gum is not permitted in class. No drink except water (spring, tap, or purified - NOT “enhanced” water) is permitted, and only in sealable containers.
6. You are expected to follow classroom directions and instructions.
7. All school policies regarding will be enforced - no proscribed items will be tolerated.

CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION:

1. Be prompt for class: If you should be detained for any reason, you must have a note with time, date, and faculty signature, or an unexcused tardy will be recorded. Board of Ed. policies will be followed.
2. If you leave the classroom, you must sign in and out, writing your first and last names, the date and time, and your destination. You must have a completed salmon-colored pass, signed by me. It is your responsibility to obtain such a pass.
3. If you are asked, you must come in for a conference unless you make special arrangements with me. My practice of being polite does not mean you are permitted to ignore your responsibilities in this or any other matter.
4. Assignments due the day absent are automatically due the day you return unless arrangements have been made in advance. If absent on day of test, you must make an appointment the day you return to make up missed test. At the end of one week, if the test has not been taken, the grade will be zero. Exceptions may be made in special cases.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR HISTORY:

1. Each period you must bring a **blue or black** pen, notebook, and folder or binder. Do not bring your text to class unless instructed.
2. Homework is to be handed in on time - read the Homework Contract carefully.
3. Grades given for general homework or notebook work:

✓+ very good

✓ satisfactory

✓- poor

Inc. incomplete

Remember, your notebooks and homework are tools to aid you in understanding your subject matter. They are MEANINGLESS if copied without thought. Your efforts will be reflected positively in your daily oral and written work, as well as quiz and test grades.

(OVER)

4. Tests will be given at the end of each unit. Tests may be objective (scantron), short answer and/or essay. Written portions must be legible, or they can not be graded. Generally it is preferable they be written in ink - sometimes this will be required.
5. Marks received in history will be based on all facets of class activity and will reflect each pupil's work, progress, and achievement.
 - Tests and projects together are half of the grade. Outside Reading and Current Events together are one quarter of the grade. Homework, classwork, and participation together are one quarter of the grade.
 - Quizzes fall within the Test category. The differences between a Quiz and a Test are:
 - Tests will always be announced beforehand - I try to give at least 4 school days' notice
 - Tests utilize the entire period.
 - Tests are given more weight; generally one test is equivalent to four to five quizzes.
6. Plagiarism - taking anyone else's work as your own - is a serious problem. It is theft. If a student plagiarizes, they will receive a zero for the assignment, and their parents will be informed.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: *Cheating is the way of the coward. Cheating is disrespectful to your teacher, your parents, and fellow students. The freedom of a clean conscience is far better than receiving a grade you do not deserve. If you have been cheating in your high school career thus far, I invite you to take my class as an opportunity to begin again your academic career with integrity. I promise that you will not regret it (not to mention that otherwise, you may very well be discovered). Should you ignore this advice and be caught cheating, you will receive a zero on the assignment and your parents/guardians will be notified.*

GENERAL COURSE APPROACH IN HISTORY:

1. You will be given a Study Guide for each unit. Many of the homework assignments will be based on the Study Guide, but every item may not be assigned. Nevertheless, ***you are responsible for knowing*** the information that is described on the Guides. Keep them, and your answers. There will not be another Study Guide for the midterm or final.
2. You need not be bound to your textbook. Other history sources are available to you.
3. The teacher's job is primarily one of planning, explaining, questioning, adding information helping you to relate facts to general understanding, urging you to document and illustrate your statements, and finally evaluating. In other words, ***my job is not to teach you, but it is to help you learn.***
4. Besides a knowledge of important facts and concepts in United States History, you should gain or perfect the skills of the following (not in order of importance):
 - A. locating and reading information (noting the different selection and interpretation of facts).
 - B. note-taking on reading and classroom material.
 - C. outlining (organizing).
 - D. understanding information presented in many forms - written documents, maps, charts, tables, graphs, etc.
 - E. analyzing the context, content, and perspective of documents.
 - F. illustrating and documenting statements (proving on the basis of reliable printed material).
 - G. Constructing a coherent and persuasive argument.
 - H. Expressing ideas in clear, fluent, writing.
5. Major written assignments and unit tests will be collected and filed for the semester, as well as other materials.
6. Make-up tests may be different from scheduled tests - and the opportunity to make up a test will be limited.
7. There will be some opportunity for students to explore their own interests in special projects which are a required part of the course. There will be one major project each quarter.
8. There will be a mid-term and final examination that each count as 10% of the overall course grade.