**American History**

**Course Syllabus**

Instructor: David Gonzales

Room: M216

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I. Course Overview

The goal of this course is to gain knowledge and appreciation of the people, places and events that have shaped the United States as well as our state of Arizona. We will go into detail the specifics on why actions and events took place, and possibly why they didn’t.

II. Course objectives

* Process and methods of historical inquiry
* Relationship between events, people and patterns in history
* Develop an appreciation for the study of Social Studies
* Understanding of human and physical characteristics of the United States
* Develop critical thinking skills that you will be able to utilize as your education and life grows

III. Course Topics

* **Early North America**
* **American Revolution**
* **Constitution**
* **Early Republic- Washington to Jefferson**
* **Reform of the Early 1800’s**
* **Civil War/Reconstruction**
* **Gilded Age Politics**
* **Imperialism**
* **World War One**
* **Roaring 20’s**
* **Great Depression**
* **World War Two**
* **Cold War**
* **Civil Rights Movement**
* **SO. MANY. MORE.**

IV. Course Themes

* Social
* Political
* Ideology
* Religion
* Technology
* Economic

V. Grading

Grades are determined by CHS policy

100% - 90% = A

89% - 80% = B

79% - 70% = C

69% - 60% = D

Below 60% = F

Semester grades will be calculated using the standard formula

1st Quarter 40%

2nd Quarter 40%

Semester Exam 20%

VI. Homework/ Classwork

Class will be devoted to learning about Social Studies. Students participate in a variety of activities to accomplish that goal. Time will be provided in class to complete most assignments and projects; however, at times some work will need to be completed at home. It is the responsibility of the student to manage his or her time appropriately in order to complete all assignments on time. Assignments will vary and can including research projects, oral presentations, essays, and other writing assignments. Homework is due at the beginning of class or it will be marked late.

Plagiarism or cheating will result in a **0** on the assignment, including assessments.

Students are expected to turn in all assignments on time **unless otherwise excused**. Unexcused late assignments will be accepted up to **one week** late but will be reduced in score by **50%**.

If you have trouble printing an assignment at home, explore your alternatives. You can hand write it, e-mail it to the instructor or friend, or go to the library. Be resourceful!

**\*\*\*Important note! We are incorporating all new digital textbooks this year. A physical copy will be available for class use but a digital copy will be primarily used. There will be a learning curve for all of us and we will need to be patient with each other as we navigate our way through this new platform. More to follow on this as we move forward.**

VII. Assessments

Assessments will be given throughout each unit and at the end of the unit. Assessments can be tests, quizzes, projects, written work, discussions, etc. Students will be informed when an assignment is an assessment. Students will receive at least one full school week notice for major tests. It is the student’s responsibility to check the board for this notification. Retakes will be allowed but strict requirements will need to be followed. Please see the retake policy for more information.

VIII. Absent Work

If you are absent (excused) you have as many days as you were gone to make up the missed work. It is the student’s responsibility to get the late work, complete it, and turn it in. All absent work will be made available through the classroom calendar online and in class file system. If the work is not turned in within the number of days missed it will be marked as late. Missed tests and quizzes must be taken as quickly as possible.

IX. Class Expectations

Students are expected to adhere to the Chandler High School Student Handbook. Cell phones should be put away before coming into the classroom and personal business should be taken care of. While I encourage the use of technology for class use, personal use of cell phones and head phones is strictly forbidden during class time. They will be put away and out of sight when class begins unless otherwise allowed by me. I will issue one verbal warning before taking further corrective action per school policy. No food or drink in class. Water is acceptable.

X. Communication

While I welcome parent communication and partnership at any time throughout the students’ experience at CHS, I will always encourage and promote self advocation by the student first. Meaning, if there is a discrepancy or concern about an assignment, test, discipline, etc. I ask that the student come to me first to discuss their position. This is an important lesson and process in the maturation of young adults and will prove to be a powerful skill in life. The best time to schedule a meeting with me is Monday through Thursday from 2:15 to 3:15.

XI. About the Teacher

I am a native from Arizona, I grew up in Mesa and went to Mesa High School.

I am a graduate of Arizona State University with an undergraduate degree in Secondary Education. GO DEVILS. In 2012 I completed my Masters with a degree in Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education. Again, GO DEVILS!

I have been in education as a high school teacher starting in 2004 in the Scottsdale Unified School District and 2019 will be my first year at both Chandler High School and the Chandler Unified School District.

My wife and I have three kids together ages 5, 7, and 9. They are also in the CUSD district and love doing all the things 5, 7, and 9-year old's love to do. My wife and I love traveling to new places, hiking (she is better at hiking then I am), going to new restaurants, and simply being homebodies while the kids play.

Lastly, we are all in this together. I will do everything I can to help and guide you through this class. Let me know if you need anything and we can do this together. I am excited to have this year with you at Chandler High School.

***THIS SYLLABUS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANYTIME AT THE WILL OF THE TEACHER. ANY AND ALL CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED PRIOR TO THEIR IMPLIMENTATION***

American History Student Questionnaire:

1. Please use the space below to share anything you feel I should know about you to help you be a successful learner at CHS.

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**\*I have read and understand the course syllabus. I have reviewed it with my parents and understand what is expected/required in this class.**

Student Name (print)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Class Period\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (print)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Contact phone number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_