

FAME Public Charter School
Course Description
United States History

Course Description:

This course will include the study of United States history from the colonial Period up to and including 21st century America. The events surrounding the American Revolution, growth of a nation through the Civil War, the ideological origins of the Civil War, Exploration of the Progressive Era, the Jazz Age, World War I and II causes and consequences for the U.S., the Civil Rights movement, and exploration of contemporary issues in present day America will be covered. Emphasis will be focused on the political, social, economic, geographic and cultural factors that have shaped the above course of events. Pre-requisite: World History or World Studies. This course is typically taken in the 10th or 11th grade.

Learning Objectives:

Students will work towards mastering the California State History-social Science Content Standards. Student understanding of the standards will be measured by teachers, working collaboratively, to consider a multifaceted view of what constitutes a mature understanding of concepts. Students will demonstrate understanding by being able to:

- *Understand the ideological origins which led to the formation of a new nation and the subsequent growth into an industrial power
- *Identify the guiding principles of the Constitution and Bill of Rights and how these have shaped American society and government
- *Identify the cultural influences that have shaped American society
- *Understand the consequences and implications of the surge in immigration and nationwide industrialization on American society
- *Identify the various reform movements and understand how those have effected the role of government
- *Understand the role of the United States in major world conflicts and the implications and consequences for the U.S.

Key Assignments:

In addition to chapter readings, assignments, quizzes, and tests, students will complete the following major assignments.

Directions:

- All written assignments are to be typed or legibly written in ink.
- The final paper/project, together with all drafts, will be submitted and the final product will be graded. The teacher or a colleague of the teacher will complete the assessment. The evaluator will consider spelling, grammar, vocabulary, depth of understanding, insight, and other qualities of good writing and whether or not the project meets the scope of the assignment. School

approved guidelines for grading, commonly called rubrics, will be followed by the teachers in the grading of student writing assignments.

1. Students will complete a research project each semester on a topic of choice related to the thematic units. The project may take variety of formats according to the interests of the student: a formal written report, a series of book reports on one topic, a historical fiction story, a series of letters, etc. The teacher must approve the topic and format of the project. Each report must have a least three resources and include an outline and bibliography. One of the resources should be electronic (i.e. CD-Rom, Internet, course-specific software).

2. Using and understanding the significance of “Primary Sources” is a basic requirement for historians. Students will be expected to identify, select, study, and comment on at least three primary sources, also called documents. In the comment phase of this study, students will prepare an outline of the three selected documents. Each outline is to capture the essence of each document so that the teacher is able to determine that the student has correctly and adequately understood each document. Examples of primary source documents include: the Declaration of Independence, the United States Constitution, the “I Have A Dream” speech of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Gettysburg Address of Abraham Lincoln, the Inaugural Speech of John F. Kennedy or other presidents, Chief Joseph’s speech, etc. Documents may be selected from one particular thematic unit or across units.

Curriculum:

May be selected from the following:

- *Textbook, Holt, The American Nation, Complete Edition,
- *Textbook, Prentice Hall, A History of the United States,
- *North Dakota Independent Study, United States History, HSS 1021/1022
- *Oak Meadow, U.S. History
- *University of Nebraska-Lincoln, American History, Course 033/034
- *Laurel Springs, American History, online or text
- *BYU I.S.H.S., United States History, Course #Hist 41/43

Methods of Assessment:

A variety of assessment tools will be used. Written work, as described above, will be corrected in collaboration between the student, teacher, and parent. Assessment tools include but are not limited to:

- *Standardized tests, including STAR
- *Criterion based tests
- *Portfolio assessments
- *Student Journals
- *Teacher observation
- *Performance assessments using cameras and recorders
- *Student self-evaluation
- *Surveys and questionnaires

*Written work, quizzes, and final exams must be completed at 75% accuracy rate to receive credit

Course Grading Scale:

Weekly Chapter Assignments: 20%

Chapter Review Tests: 40%

Papers/Oral Presentation: 20%

Final Exam: 20%

This is a one-year course, 5 credits each semester will be awarded with a passing grade.

Revised: 10/06/06