

United States History and Government: Rx
Mrs. Longley
Room: 218
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Course Description: This course will focus on American History and the foundations of Government. The main focus will be on the Constitution and Post Civil War History to the present time.

Textbook: *America: Pathways to the Present*

Materials Needed (every day):

- Pen and Pencil
- A 1 ½ inch or 2 inch(or larger) size 3 ring binder with some paper
- Dividers for binder
- Text book
- Your agenda

Final Exams: You will be taking a New York State Regents exam in June. You will also have a portfolio assessment of 4 essays throughout the year. These 4 essays will be averaged for your final exam grade. Your final class grade for the year will be calculated from your 4 quarter grades and your final exam grade. You must pass this course for graduation credit. You must pass the regents exam for graduation credit.

Grading Policy: I grade on the basis of 0-100 points. Grading for each quarter will be as follows:

- 40% Tests
- 30% Quizzes
- 30% Guided Reading/Classwork

Late to Class Policy: 3 Strike Policy: If you are late to class without a pass, the 1st time will result in a warning, 2nd late will result in a detention, the 3rd time and thereafter, will result in a referral. When the bell rings, class starts. Any time you enter class after the official start time of class is considered late to class.

Late Work Policy: Homework assignments are due at the *beginning* of the class it is due. If turned in after:

- Later in the day: -5 points off grade
- Next day: -10 points off grade
- Next class: -20 points off grade
- After beginning of next class: zero (0)

Retakes: I will allow retakes of vocabulary quizzes. All retakes are for the current grading quarter. When the quarter is over, so is the opportunity to retake those quizzes. You will need to stay after school with me to retake quizzes.

Extra Credit: You may earn extra credit in this course in different ways. There is a bonus question (up to 3 points on the test) on every test relating to a political cartoon or a current topic we have covered in class during the unit to be tested. There will also be a School Island assignment for bonus points on the unit test. Any student wishing to improve their grade should also seek extra help during study hall or after school.

Cheating Policy: Remember to do your own work at ALL times! Cheating will result in a zero grade for the work. **Understand that “working together” should result in your own work in your own words.** Please note disciplinary guidelines for cheating in student handbook that will result also.

Office Hours: I am available after school. If you would like to meet with me after school please let me know in advance, if possible, as I do have meetings I need to attend after school sometimes.

Make up Policy: Students who have been absent should get the assignments from me the day you return to school. **Always check the black bin in the front of the room for paperwork that has been passed out and see me to find out what you missed.** Missed work due to absence must be made up. Any work that is not made up within a suitable time frame (within a class or two), will result in a zero. See me the day you return to school to get missed materials and schedule a make-up date.

- If you are found to have skipped class-ANY grades for that day are a ZERO-and cannot be made up-this includes tests.

- If you are absent for more than:

 - 4 days total in the 1st Quarter

 - 7 days total for the year in the 2nd Quarter

 - 11 days total for the year in the 3rd Quarter

 - 14 days total for the year in the 4th Quarter

You will need to stay after school with me for any missed work and any possible opportunities to make up work. If an assignment has already been returned to students, an alternative assignment will be assigned in its place.

- If you are legally absent on a day of a unit test you will be given the opportunity to take a make-up version of the test. You must do this test within one week of your absence. Failure to make up the test within a week will result in a zero on the test. All make up tests and quizzes will be given after school or if you have free time during the day that will fit into my schedule.

- I do not give missed work while I am teaching another class-you will need to see me at a time that I am free, please do not interrupt me while I am teaching a class.

(after school usually works best)

Classroom Conduct:

The ONE rule: In this class we do not cause a problem for ourselves or others. Consequence: The student will be guided through the owning and solving of the problem he/she has just created for himself/herself or others.

There are many classroom procedures that will soon become routine to you. These are designed to make the class as productive as possible.

General consequences are:

Warning/detention/referral to administration

Cell Phones/ipods/MP3 Players/hats/items not needed for my class:

- not allowed in class-should be out of my sight

Late to class without a pass:

- If you are not in the class before the bell rings-you are late to class

Food/Drink in class:

- Drinks and light snacks are allowed as long as having these items are not disrupting
- Make sure garbage ends up in the garbage can

Out of Class Passes:

- If the pass is to go to the bathroom (bathrooms in the gym hall are **NOT** to be used-boys use upstairs bathroom and girls use the downstairs bathroom in the math hall or upstairs in the English hall)- **NO** other destinations allowed.
- You must sign out on the sign out sheet and have my pass or your agenda with my signature with you
- The pass is for 10 minutes -if you think you will need more than 10 minutes please let me know.
- If you are out more than 10 minutes on my pass-you may possibly lose pass privileges
- All passes are at my discretion at all times
- If I find you are going somewhere other than the signed out destination on my pass-pass privileges will be revoked

Band/Chorus Lessons:

- See me first, hand in work before the lesson or it is late work
- You may not be excused for a lesson during a test.
- You will only be excused for a scheduled lesson-NO make-up lessons during my class please.

End of class

- I will let you know when I am finished teaching-
DO NOT pack up your materials until I am finished
DO NOT stand by the door in the "Blue Zone"