

United States History Syllabus

About U.S. History

As Michigan students study United States History and Geography, they will learn about the American experience over time and space. They will encounter powerful, and sometimes conflicting, ideas while learning about people and events in different places and times. They will investigate diverse and common

traditions, and work to understand the complex interactions among various environmental, human, and social forces that have influenced, and continues to influence, America and Americans. Studying United States History and Geography connects us to people and events across time and space, illuminating the range and depth of the human experience on grand, as well as local, scales. It involves an analytical study of the nation's political ideals and places where people or events challenged, violated, or expanded those ideas.

This offers Michigan teachers and students both rewards and challenges. We should harbor no illusions about the challenges awaiting teachers and students engaged in such study. Historical and geographic literacy demands that students learn to read critically, analyze, and evaluate arguments, and decide which positions, given the evidence, are more or less plausible. While learning about the facts, events, and significant developments, historical and geographic study asks students to consider what they know, how they know it, and how confidently or tentatively they are "entitled" to hold their views.



Mrs. VanZegeren

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Participation on Instagram is optional; please contact me if you have questions



Course Map



This course will follow the chronological history of the United States. We will cover five eras of history broken down into five different units:

Review: American Foundations: The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution

Unit 1: Industrial Age and the 20th Century (1877-1917)

Unit 2: Modern America: Progressive Era/WWI (1890-1920)

Unit 3: Boom to Bust: 1920s and the Great Depression (1919-1940)

Unit 4: World War II and Its Aftermath (1931-1960)

Unit 5: Living with Great Turmoil (1954-1975)



Course Outcomes

By the end of this course, U.S. History students will be able to:

- Review foundational United States History to 1877, including political and intellectual transformations and geographic, economic, social, and demographic trends.
- Analyze the causes and consequences – both positive and negative – of major world events and turning points in history (Industrial Revolution, Civil War, World Wars, etc) and their effects on the United States politically, socially, culturally, and economically.
- Evaluate major public and social issues emerging from the changes in industrial, urban, and global America; analyze the solutions or resolutions developed by Americans, and their consequences (positive/negative – anticipated/unanticipated).
- Identify, analyze, and explain the causes, conditions, and impact of the Cold War Era on the United States.
- Examine, analyze, and explain demographic changes, domestic policies, conflicts, and tensions in Post- WWII America.
- Explain the impact of globalization on the United States' economy, politics, society and role in the world.

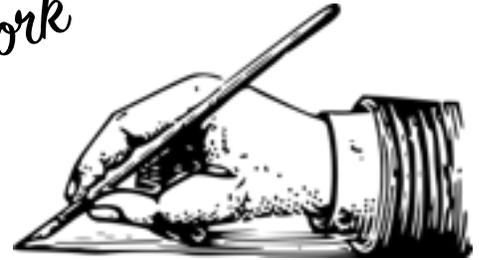
We will be using Holt McDougal High School: The Americans Reconstruction to the 21st Century.

We will also supplement our study with a wide range of literature including primary sources, articles, film, artwork, and music.



Textbook

Coursework



Students will be provided with multiple opportunities to demonstrate the mastery of course content. Students be graded on the following assignments:

- reading and lecture notes
- in-class activities and participation
- formal writing assignments and projects
- chapter tests/quizzes
- cumulative final exam (worth 20% of overall semester grade)



Grades



Students will earn a final grade each semester based on mastery of the course learning outcomes. The cumulative semester course work, assessments, and projects will comprise 80% of the final semester grade. A cumulative semester exam will comprise

20% of the final semester grade. The final semester grade will be used in determining a student's grade point average (GPA).

West Michigan Aviation Academy Grading Scale		
Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point
A	95-100%	4.0
A-	90-94%	3.7
B+	87-89%	3.3
B	83-86%	3.0
B-	80-82%	2.7
C+	77-79%	2.3
C	73-76%	2.0
C-	70-72%	1.7
F	0-69%	0.0
INC	Incomplete Coursework	N/A

A note on missing work: If coursework is not turned in on time, a zero will be recorded in the grade book until the work is submitted, at which time a score no greater than 80% will be possible. This zero will be accompanied in the grade book with a "missing" marker so that the reason for the zero is evident. If the allowable time period to make up the work has passed, the zero will become a permanent grade.

Character Grades

Additionally, students will be evaluated on their character choices for each course. The character evaluation will reflect student mastery of WMAA's critical character expectations: be respectful, be responsible, and do your personal best.



- 3- Exceeding Expectations
- 2- Meeting Expectation
- 1- Not Meeting Expectations



Powerschool

Academic and character grades can be checked at anytime through Powerschool:

<http://ps.westmichiganaviation.org/public/>

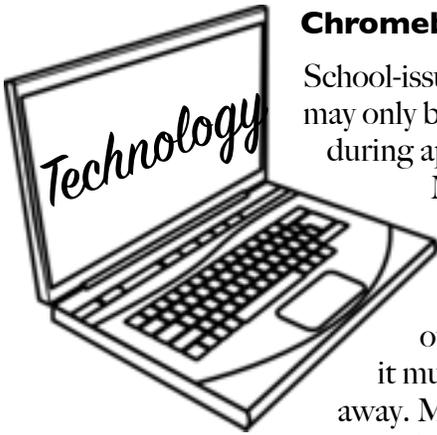
Attendance and Tardy Policy

It's simple...

BE HERE ON TIME!



In the case of an excused absence, communicate with Mrs. VanZegeren ahead of time, if possible. Check the Week in Preview and remember, you are **always** responsible for the material you've missed.



School-Issued Chromebooks:

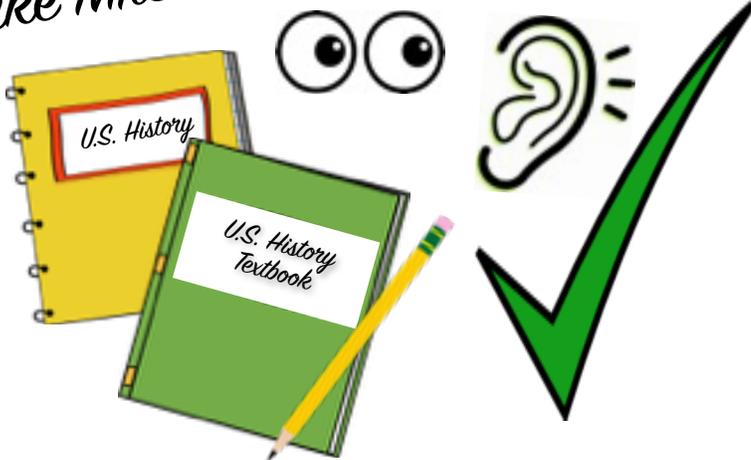
School-issued Chromebooks may only be out and in use during approved class times. If Mrs. VanZegeren has not given permission or instructed you to get out your Chromebook, it must be closed and put away. Mrs. VanZegeren reserves the right to confiscate

school-issued Chromebooks that are being misused. The first offense will result in the Chromebook being taken away until the end of the class period. Should further offenses arise, you will pick up your Chromebook at the end of the day from Mr. Fisher.

Personal Technology:

Personal technology is not allowed in Mrs. VanZegeren's classroom at any time. Personal technology includes, but is not limited to, cellphones, headphones, earbuds, and personal tablets or computers. All personal technology must be stowed away and out of sight at the start of each class period. The first offense will result in the technology being taken away until the end of the class period. Should further offenses arise, you will pick up your technology at the end of the day from Mr. Fisher.

Make Mrs. VanZegeren Happy!



Academic Integrity

Citizens of a free and democratic nation must strive to live their lives with honesty and integrity. Authors have worked hard for the material they create. All should be your own and when necessary, sources should be cited. Students involved in cheating or plagiarism will redo the assignment, and other appropriate actions will be determined at the time of the offense.



Mrs. Mutner liked to go over a few of her rules on the first day of school.

