

UNITED STATES HISTORY



- I. Economic and Geographic Expansion and the Social and Political Response (1877-1920)
- II. The Great War and a New Economic Order (1912-1932)
- III. The Expanding Power of the U.S. government at Home and Abroad (1932-1953)
- IV. The Transformation of Modern America (1950-Present)

(A detailed scope and sequence can be found at this link: <http://www.howadk12.md.us/>)

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CLASSROOM PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

I am looking forward to a stimulating year of exploring U.S. History. My goal is to help each student achieve his/her highest potential. I have found that the following guidelines help attain that goal.

ATTENDANCE:

- **UNAPPROVED ABSENCE:** If a student is absent from class without approval by the classroom teacher or another school official, that student is not given credit for any work missed during that class period. Late homework will not be accepted.
- **APPROVED ABSENCE:** Students are allowed a period of time equal to the time of their approved absence to make up missed work. This does not apply to absences due to field trips or athletic events. It is **the student's** responsibility to pick up all work missed during his/her absence. Get the telephone numbers of two classmates to call for assignments and topics covered during the missed class. Most assignments are listed on my website.

If a student is aware of an upcoming absence (field trip, athletic event), s(he) must see me to get his/her work before s(he) misses the class. Some assignments/tests will be due prior to the absence.

If a student is in attendance at River Hill High School for any part of the day that an assignment is due, s(he) is considered to be "at school" and his/her assignment is due that day, regardless of whether s(he) attends my class.

- **LATE POLICY:** At the ringing of the late bell, students will be in their seats working on the warm-up activity. Any student not working when the bell rings will be considered late and will receive a grade of zero for the warm-up, unless the student has a valid pass from a faculty member or administrator.

ASSIGNMENTS – Take pride in the work you produce:

- All assignments completed at home **must be typed** (follow typing guidelines) and **proofread**.
- Assignments must be ready to be turned in when students enter the classroom. Assignments must have the student's full name, due date, class period on the paper, and must be STAPLED (if necessary) **PRIOR** to entering the classroom
- Scholarly writing and excellence is expected for all homework assignments and projects. Write clearly. There is no excuse for misspelled words in homework assignments or projects where the use of a dictionary or spellchecker is available. Misspelled words will detract from the quality of your work and will be reflected in your grade. Papers exhibiting poor or sloppy penmanship **will not** be graded
- Homework, which may be a formally written assignment or a review of material, is assigned every night.
- All work must have your name and period written on the front. If papers are received without names, they will be discarded ungraded if not claimed within a reasonable period of time.

- Correct citations, following MLA style format, is EXPECTED for all assignments in which ANY source is consulted outside of the assigned text. **Plagiarism, as well as other Academic Integrity violations are serious offenses and will be dealt with according to policy published in your student handbook.**

GRADING POLICY

- Grades will be posted weekly (using student numbers) on my website
- A grading program will be used to compute all averages, based on the following categories.
 - Exams: Always announced, based on text and handouts 25%
 - Quizzes: Usually random! Based on in-class objectives and homework 25%
 - Projects (selected writing assignments and research projects) 25%
 - Homework/Classwork (including participation) 25%

MATERIALS – points will be deducted in the Classwork category if required materials are not brought to class every day. Points will be deducted from exams and quizzes if the student does not have appropriate supplies (NOTEBOOK paper – not spiral, a pen, a pencil).

- An ample supply of loose leaf notebook paper (NO WORK COMPLETED ON **ANY TYPE OF SPIRAL NOTEBOOK PAPER WILL BE ACCEPTED**)
- light colored highlighter
- stapler (for use at home)
- 3-ring binder
- 3 different colored pens (one must be black or dark blue)
- pencils

TYPING GUIDELINES

- Use a “12” font.
- Do not use *fancy fonts* (fancy fonts). Do not write in all UPPER CASE. Do not write all words in **bold** or *italics* (except for headings).
- All assignments, except for homework from the textbook, should be double spaced. Homework should be single spaced, with an extra line between questions.
- Margins should never be greater than one inch.

Absolutely NO food, drink (except water), or candy will be allowed in class.

U.S. History
STUDENT/PARENT
CONTRACT

I have read and understand the U.S.
History procedures, policies, and
grading guidelines.

STUDENT NAME (print)

STUDENT SIGNATURE

PARENT SIGNATURE

GROUP E-MAIL FOR PARENTS

In order to keep the lines of communication open between my class and your home, I will be setting up a U.S. History e-mail "list serve." This means that periodically I will send out an e-mail informing parents of upcoming homework, projects and tests. If you wish to be placed on this list, write your e-mail address below.

Please make sure to **PRINT** your e-mail address twice. Thank you!

C. Schnaar
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