

MR. DAVIS

AMERICAN HISTORY

1

Student Reference for Rules, Guidelines and Procedures

Welcome to American History at Monarch High School. I look forward to making this semester enlightening, informative, thought-provoking and fun! This reference guide contains information on class rules, guidelines, procedures and other information to make this a successful semester. Each page needs to be read and signed by you as well as by your parent/guardian. This packet will help to answer many questions you may have throughout this course.

Website: [Http://monarchknights.com/teachers/davis.html](http://monarchknights.com/teachers/davis.html)

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Important Dates to Remember:

- : FCATs
- : Midterm Exams
- : Spring Break
- : Report Cards
- : Final Exams

2

Course Syllabus

Course Overview:

Welcome to American History. The objective of this course is to help you understand the world that we live in today by looking at American's present as well as our past. We will explore influential people, cultures, conflicts, and inventions that have helped to shape the United States.

General Course Goals:

- To help students understand and appreciate the nature of American culture and to see important aspects of this culture that have developed over time.
- To impress the fact that American culture is pluralistic--many groups have contributed to our culture in the past and continue to do so in the present.
- To provide students with an understanding of change as a condition of human society. Societies rise and fall; value systems improve or deteriorate and the tempo of change varies within cultures and periods of history.
- To explore how the United States, once a primarily rural, agrarian society, became a large, highly industrialized country in which most people live in urban areas.
- To describe the important problems Americans have faced in the past and the solutions they arrived at to deal with these problems as well as exploring the roots of problems facing the country today in hopes of finding solutions for these problems in the future.
- To provide help in the development of the critical thinking, study skills, and techniques required for success in a challenging and highly competitive global society.

Suggested Materials:

The materials suggested for successful organization in this class are:

- Organization folder (A 3-ringed Binder or an Accordion Folder)
- Notebook Paper
- Composition book for "Vocabulary Notebook" project
- Pens, Pencils, Highlighters (most other materials used will be provided)

Grading Policy:

- Your grade will be determined by the number of points you received during the semester divided by the total points possible.
- Grades are available online and are updated regularly.
- Please keep all of your assignments during the semester. If I have made a mistake in recording your scores and you have the scored work, I will gladly correct my mistake.
- I will notify parents if grades or conduct become unsatisfactory.

Grades and Values:

Grade Percentage

A 100-90

B+ 89-87 B 86-80

C+ 79-77 C 76-70

D+ 69-67 D 66-60

F 59-0 I Incomplete

Classroom Rules

1. Have respect for yourself, your teacher, AND your classmates
2. Have your ID badges on when you enter the room
3. Phones and Mp3/Music players must be put away and turned off
4. Backpacks are to be on the floor, not on your lap
5. Treat computers and other school property with care

Academic honesty is very important in and out of my classroom- PLAGERISM & CHEATING WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC ZERO AND A REFERRAL!!!

3

Quiz/Test Rules:

- Absolutely no talking during test period! Violating this rule will result in appropriate disciplinary action. If cheating does occur, parents/guardians will be notified immediately. A zero on an evaluation may dramatically affect a students' overall grade point average.
- Everything must be cleared off of your desk and lap (except for a writing instrument and test/quiz papers).
- **THERE ARE NO RESTROOM PASSES DURING A TEST/QUIZ.** Until I have every single test in my hand, there are no restroom passes.

Homework/Papers/Projects/Make-up Work

- If any work (homework, projects, current events, etc...) is forgotten on the day it is due, students have the second day to turn it in for half credit. This is worth more than a zero so please turn it in.
- There are only 2 days for every day that a student is absent to make up the work for a grade. If there are certain circumstances that would prevent this from being possible, please talk with me about it. It is to every students benefit to complete all missed assignments in preparation for any quizzes/tests/project.

Guidelines for Success! *Following these guidelines will lead to a successful semester in my classroom:*

1. **Always be Respectful!** Respect all of the school property and belongings of your classmates. Though you don't have to agree with, always be respect of the views and opinions of others. Be considerate of others.

2. **Be Responsible!** Always take responsibility for your actions and the resulting consequences that will follow.
3. **Be Prepared For Class!** Have your notebook on your desk when the bell rings. Please see syllabus and/or supply suggestion list for more information on notebooks. Please also have a pen (or two), highlighter, and any other writing materials ready for use.
4. **Be Prompt!** Students must be in their seats and ready to start when the tardy bell rings.
5. **Follow all schools rules!** Rules set forth in the student code of conduct and rules that are school-wide, are expected to be followed at all times.

Classroom Expectations

I hope not only to teach the value of American History, but to also teach lessons to make students successful outside of the classroom. I have very high expectations for my students and believe in everyone's potential to succeed. Self-control, hard work, integrity, honesty and respect are expected of you at all times! Failure to comply with these expectations will result in the appropriate consequence of the action.

- Students shall conduct themselves in a disciplined, courteous and mature manner at all times.
- Students shall listen, take notes as necessary, participate and respond when called upon throughout the duration of the class period.
- Students are responsible for completing their own assignments and homework. Cheating or plagiarizing will promptly be dealt with in the appropriate manner as stated by Monarch High School.
- Students are expected to work on assignments given by me and may not work on any other subject during my class time.
- Students are encouraged to state their opinions on the subject matter being discussed as long as they respect other students' opinions.
- Students who borrow items from the teacher will return them to the appropriate place.
- Students should take pride in their classroom and keep it looking clean.

4

Keys to Success

Courtesy Responsibility Discipline Team Effort Cooperation
Organization Persistence Goal Setting Compromises Hard Work
Time Management Respect Loyalty Thoughtfulness Creativity

Words Used by Successful People

Please Thank You You're Welcome I'm Sorry Excuse Me

Classroom Procedures

1. **Entering the Classroom:** Proceed to your assigned seat and take out all necessary materials (notebook, pens, books, etc.). You must be in your assigned seat when the bell rings. Backpacks are to be placed on the floor (not on your lap).
2. **Beginning Daily Assignment:** On the front board, in the same place every day will be a daily assignment (i.e., vocabulary, "This Day in History", articles, etc.). Please begin working on this at the tardy bell.
3. **Agenda:** Everyday your assignments for the class period, as well as homework, will be written on the board along with the date. Please do not ask "What are we doing today?" until you have read the agenda. It is recommended that you copy the agenda down in your notebook or planner, but it is not a requirement.
4. **Handing in Papers:** All papers will either be passed to the front or placed in the correct box, as directed by the teacher.
5. **Homework:** The day homework is due it must be out on your desk and ready to be turned in

when the tardy bell rings. If the homework is not turned in when it is asked for, it is considered late.

6. Noise Control: Teacher talking signifies everyone to stop talking at once. During group assignments, you may talk in a normal tone of voice (no shouting). If it gets too loud, I will ask that you speak quietly. There is absolutely no talking allowed during tests/quizzes.

7. Testing: All tests require your own sheet of paper. **DO NOT WRITE ON THE TESTS!** Make sure your name, date, class period and test title is on the top of your paper. Extra credit is given on tests. Make sure to label your extra credit answers so I will notice them. **NO PASSES ARE GIVEN DURING TESTING UNTIL I HAVE EVERY TEST!**

8. Handing in Tests/Quizzes: Bring your paper and the test paper to the teacher. You may not go into your backpack once the test is handed in. You are allowed to read or work on assignments once the test is handed in. Make sure to have your materials under your desk but out of your backpack.

9. Passes: Passes will not be given for any reason during the first and last 10 minutes of class. You may use a restroom pass once you have received permission from me. Please sign out on the appropriate sheet and sign back in. If restroom passes are being abused, I will limit them.

10. Grading: Grades are given on a point basis. Every assignment will have a certain point value. The total points you have earned will be divided by the total points possible to receive your percentage grade (See Percentage Scale above). Keep all graded work that is handed back in the event that there is a recording error. Grades are available on the internet. If you have any questions regarding your grade, please feel free to ask!

5

11. Computers: You will be assigned a computer number. I will call students up by rows and hand them their computer. You are not to open the computer until you have returned to your desk. If you are found to be using websites that are not conducive to your assignment or you are mistreating the equipment, your computer privileges will be taken away, the technology department will be notified of the problem, and a zero for the current assignment will be given. You will be assigned alternate assignments instead of computer assignments. You can earn back the right to use a computer after 2 alternate assignments are turned in. Computers need to be logged out and closed before you are called up to the computer cart. You will hand your computer to the teacher, and return to your seat.

12. Saving and Submitting Computer Assignments: Students will save their assignment to several places before submitting. You may save assignments to the server, keys, and email attachments. To submit assignments, place in teacher drop box.

13. Tardy Policy: Enter classroom, hand pass to teacher and continue to your seat. No disruption is the teacher will address the tardy during class time.

14. Make-up Work: Assignments are always posted on the website. There will also be an agenda notebook for your reference. Always make sure to double check with me about work that you have missed. You have 2 days for every 1 day you were absent, to make up the work. If you are making up a test (no make-ups allowed if you are absent the day BEFORE a test), it is your responsibility to schedule a make-up exam time with me.

15. Late Work: Work is accepted one day past due for half credit. Work handed in after one day late will not be accepted for credit.

16. Cell Phones/Head Phones: These items are not allowed to be visible or audible during class. If I see them, they will be taken away.

17. Class Participation: It is encouraged that students participate in class discussions and ask questions. Class participation will be taken into account at the end of the grading periods. Questions pertaining to the lecture are welcome. Be sure to raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged. If the question does not pertain to the lecture, please be courteous and wait

until the lecture is over.

18. Notebook: All work assigned is to be kept and organized in your notebook, as outlined in the notebook guidelines. Notebook will be graded periodically and points will be deducted for incomplete or missing assignments and lack of organization.

19. Group Work: Teacher will assign groups unless otherwise specified. Each student must contribute to the group in a positive way. Group grades are given instead of individual grades. If students are not participating as seen by teacher or reported by other group members, the student will promptly be taken out of the group.

20. Assistance: Students who need assistance should raise their hand and wait to be recognized. If teacher is busy, please wait patiently and you will be attended to at the next available moment.

21. Getting out of your Seat: Students may get out of their seats for assignment related tasks. Students are not allowed out of their seat to talk with friends.

22. Fire Drill: Students will proceed to the appropriate area and remain with the class. Teacher will take attendance once everyone is outside. No wandering to find your friends! As soon as the bell rings to come back inside, go straight to the classroom. Attendance will be taken again.

23. Visitors or Substitutes in Classroom: Normal procedures are to be followed.

24. Finishing Early: Students who have completed their work prior to the end of class can choose an activity from the "time down" activity packet OR the "supplemental readings" packet in the front of the room. Students are not allowed to sit and do nothing in class. Sleeping is considered doing nothing in class!

25. Dismissal: The bell does not dismiss you, the teacher does. Students are to remain in their seats until the teacher dismisses them.

6

Current Events Weekly Assignment

DUE EVERY FRIDAY

(Unless otherwise noted)

Purpose: A true understanding of history is demonstrated by one's ability to connect events across time and the ability to relate the events of today with yesterday's history.

Assignment: Find and read an article in the newspapers/news magazines/computer website from an approved source list, to discover current events that are affecting the American people today. This can cover government, foreign relations, scientific discoveries, presidential policies, elections, and debates. The news source can be digital or print.

Step 1: You are to read and cut out/print the article from your source.

Step 2: HIGHLIGHT the most important points (main ideas) of the article.

Step 3: In your OWN WORDS, summarize the article in the first paragraph. Second paragraph will explain why this article is important and who it impacts.

A form will be provided on my website to either print and write on or copy onto your own sheet of paper that provides the correct format.

Grading: This will be worth 10 points each. There will be no late work accepted on current events. Full points will be rewarded if the article is relevant, the assignment is in the correct format, and it is turned in on time. Make sure that when you get your assignment back, that you place it in the correct part of your binder/notebook/folder. Extra credit may be offered for additional current events.

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7

