

**US HISTORY II**  
Fall 2018 - Spring 2019  
Westlake High School  
Room C232

Teacher: Ms. Cathy Miner

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Consultation time: Tuesdays (2:15-2:45)

### Course Description

United States History II addresses the making of modern America, highlighting the events and issues in United States history from the late Industrial Revolution to modern times. Topics include, but are not limited to, the Industrial Revolution, the Progressive movement, imperialism and foreign affairs, the World Wars, the Great Depression, the Cold War, the civil rights movements, the rise of terrorism, and modern social and political history. Students will learn to make connections between the events and ideas of the past and their lives today.

### Civic Preparation

One of the fundamental purposes for public schools is the preparation of young people for participation in America's democratic republic. The future progress of our communities, state, nation, and world rests upon the preparation of young people to collaboratively and deliberatively address problems, to defend their own rights and the rights of others, and to balance personal preferences with the common good. Social studies and history classrooms are the ideal venues to nurture civic virtue, consider current issues, learn how to act civilly toward others, build a civic identity, and nurture global awareness. These skills, habits, and qualities of character will better prepare students to recognize and accept responsibility for preserving and defending their liberties.

To that end, throughout this course, students should have ample opportunities to:

- Engage in deliberative, collaborative, and civil dialogue regarding historical and current issues.
- Apply knowledge of governmental structure, historical concepts, geographic interrelationships, and economic principles to analyze and explain current events.
- Develop and demonstrate the values that sustain America's democratic republic, such as open-mindedness, engagement, honesty, problem-solving, responsibility, diligence, resilience, empathy, self-control, and cooperation.

### Classroom Rules

As high school students, I know you know how to behave in a classroom. All I ask is that you demonstrate respect and kindness toward yourself, your peers, and to me, your teacher. Wait for your turn to speak. Never insult another person's intelligence or character even if you disagree with their opinion. Don't play on your phone during instructions and then expect everyone else to help you. You are basically adults and I believe in your ability to act professionally in this setting!

## Grading Breakdown (Subject to change)

### **Participation: 10%**

You will be given 100 points at the beginning of each term. If you are late or refuse to participate appropriately I will dock participation points. Using cell phones at inappropriate times is a quick way to lose points. You will be just fine on participation points if you are present each day, and are participating in class. Please be respectful of classmates and teachers.

### **Assignments: 50%**

Assignments may consist of (1) homework, (2) group work, (3) handouts, (4) journal writes, (5) projects, (6) research papers, etc. Complete the assignments the day they are assigned, instead of waiting until the night before they are due. You will score much better in this section if you avoid procrastination.

### **Assessments: 40%**

At the end of each unit, you will take a unit test, complete a unit project, or write a research paper. Tests will consist of multiple choice, short answer, and possible essay questions. Projects will often take the form of in class presentations. If you keep up with the classwork, participate in class discussion, and complete assignments, you should score well on assessments.

### Grading Scale:

A = 93% - 100	A- = 90% - 92.9%	
B+ = 87% - 89.9%	B = 83% - 86.9%	B- = 80% - 82.9%
C+ = 77% - 79.9%	C = 73% - 76.9%	C- = 70% - 72.9%
D = 67% - 69.9%	D = 63% - 66.9%	D- = 60% - 62.9%

### Late Work Policy

All projects, papers, and assignments are due before you take each unit test. You will be able to turn in late work after the due date, however, you will only receive partial credit for your work. (The obvious exception to this is at the end of the term when grades become final.) No credit will be offered two weeks past the due date.

### Absent Work Policy

You will be required to turn in the work that was due the day of your absence on the day you return. You will need to take tests within two class periods of when you return. You may take tests and quizzes after school during my scheduled consultation time (Tuesdays 2:15-2:45). Do not expect to catch me during lunch. If Tuesdays absolutely don't work come and speak with me in person.

If you will be absent due to a Westlake extracurricular activity, it is your responsibility to speak with me beforehand about the work you will be missing. You will be able to predict what you will be missing by checking the class website, but speak with me before your absence for further clarifications about what you will be missing. I will be happy to work with you, as long as you prepare responsibly for your school approved absences.

### Electronic Devices

Cell phones and other personal electronic devices must remain on silent at all times. If you choose to use them at inappropriate times you could lose participation points and/or force your parent or guardian to come pick up your phone from me. Be respectful toward me and your classmates, and we shouldn't have a problem. If I see you using your phone when you are taking a test you will receive zero points on that test, and you will be required to make it up on your own time.