**United States History**

Mrs. Stiman

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**Mission Statement Golden Valley High School:**

The mission of Golden Valley High School is to provide all students with a comprehensive education that prepares them for post-secondary success in a global 21st century society.

**Golden Valley High School Student Learning Outcomes:**

***Our graduates will be:***

* + **Critical thinkers** who communicate effectively, problem solve efficiently and utilize technology appropriately.
  + **Globally-minded citizens** who use their knowledge, skills and unique talents to contribute to their community while demonstrating respect for self and others.
  + **Successful learners** who demonstrate a mastery of Common Core State Standards in preparation for the 21st century workplace.

United States History is a study of change over time from the founding of The United States to present-day America. This course is designed for students to learn the history, economics, geography, and political aspects of the United States. The course seeks to connect the world of today with the historical foundations of the past. Students will employ reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills to inquire, think critically, and apply history concepts to new situations. They will learn how political and economic theories and institutions have adapted to a changing world. Critical thinking and historical literacy are emphasized through an inquiry-based approach to historical evidence that requires students to work with texts and media drawn from many sources and to create evidence-based written and verbal explanations and arguments.

**U.S. History Units of Study**

Listed below are the units you will study. At the end of each unit there will be a Unit Test to see that students are achieving at proficient levels.

* Unit 1 – **The Nation’s Beginnings**
* Unit 2 – **Westward Expansion - Civil War**
* Unit 3 – **Industrialization - Progressive Era**
* Unit 4 – **Imperialism - WWI**
* Unit 5 – **1920s - New Deal**
* Unit 6 – **WWII**
* Unit 7 – **Cold War & 1950’s**
* Unit 8 – **Civil Rights and Kennedy & Johnson Years**
* Unit 9 - **Vietnam War & Nixon, Ford, Carter**
* Unit 10 - **1980s - Modern-Day America**

**Textbook**

The district-approved United States History textbook (listed below) will remain one of our core texts. However, we will be using numerous supplementary resources including additional books, document readers, databases, and websites. Much of the content will be provided through my United States History website so students will need to access it there in order to complete assignments. For students that do not have access to computers at home, hard copies will be provided but I would like to minimize copying and paper waste as much as possible.

* Lapsanky-Werner, Emma J., Levy, Peter B., Roberts, Randy, Taylor, Alan. *United States History: Modern America*. Boston, MA: Prentice Hall, 2008.

**Classroom Expectations**

I expect my classroom to be a respectful and safe learning environment for everyone.

* Respect others and classroom materials.
* Use academic, classroom-appropriate language.
* Leave cell phones off and put away unless it is approved by the teacher.
* Communicate needs.
* Complete work on time.
* Arrive to class on time, prepared, and ready to work.

**Recommended Supplies**

* Spiral-bound notebook: college-ruled
* College-ruled paper
* Pens
* Pencils

**Grades**

Course grade will be computed on a total-point basis. Grades will be based on the following categories:

Homework: 10-20 points per assignment

Classwork: 10-20 points per assignment

Projects: 50-100 points per assignment

Participation/Discussion: 25-100 points for semester

Unit Assessments: 60-100 points per exam

Final Exam: 150 points

\*The number of assignments and points are subject to change at teacher’s discretion.

The following scale will be used:

A 90-100%

B 80-89%

C 70-79%

D 60-69%

F 59% and below

**Late Work Policy**

Students are expected to complete all assignments on time. Completing assignments on time is imperative to student success in this course. Students who fail to turn in assignments when they are due will have the opportunity to turn in late work for the unit for 50% credit only.and will only be accepted up until the test for that unit. \*\*Late projects will be docked 1 letter grade per day the project is late.

**Academic Honesty**

Cheating on any assignment will not be tolerated*.* Cheating includes, but is not limited to plagiarism, copying from another student’s paper (including homework), allowing someone to copy your paper, or any type of communication during a test. If a student is caught cheating, an automatic zero will be given on that assignment, and the appropriate district guidelines, regarding disciplinary action, will be followed.

**Intervention**

Once grades have been calculated after the first grading period, those students with overall grades below a C (70%) will be referred to the United States History Intervention Program. Details on intervention will be provided in class.

**Videos**

Videos are key resources to our U.S. History curriculum. Each unit will highlight a number of video clips connected to the content. In this class, we will not be watching videos unless they are specifically related to what we are learning and students will be using videos to enhance their understanding. It is important that students are aware that there is an educational purpose to all the videos they watch, even those that are humorous. Students will take notes on ALL videos viewed in class. In most cases, their teacher will provide them with key questions to focus their attention as they watch. *If you have questions or concerns regarding this video policy, please contact your teacher as soon as possible.*

**Contact Information**

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. The best way to reach me is by email: [jstiman@hartdistrict.org](mailto:mrusch@hartdistrict.org). If a student has a question regarding homework, please do not assume that I will be checking my home email after 8:00 PM. I can also be reached by phone at (661) 298-8140 ext. 1203. My conference period is Period 2: 8:00-9:00 AM.

**Acceptable Use Policy for Electronic Devices**

We will be allowing students the option of using a cell phone or tablet as a personal learning device (PLD) as a means to enhance their education. In addition, students will regularly be using the computer lab and laptop cart for technology-based learning.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that students recognize, to quote from Spiderman, “with great power comes great responsibility.” The power to use technology in the classroom and in the computer labs carries with it a responsibility to use it appropriately. Technology is also constantly changing so it is possible that during the course of the year, additional rules regarding the use of PLDs and computers may become part of this policy. **Every student is expected to follow all guidelines, written or orally given, and to demonstrate responsible and ethical behavior.**

***General Usage (this policy applies to devices used in the classroom and the school computers)***

1. Student use of a PLD must at all times support instructional activities in the classroom. Students are expected to use their technology devices in a professional manner, in a way that supports the educational mission of our classroom and of the school.
2. Games, music, or other entertainment on a PLD or school computer is prohibited in the classroom and our labs.
3. The use of any electronic device for photography, audio recording, or video recording is prohibited unless such activity is explicitly approved in each instance of use by your teacher.
4. Personal communications via a PLD are prohibited unless explicitly approved by your teacher for educational purposes.
5. All audio must be muted and **headphones are prohibited** during instructional time unless such activity is explicitly approved in each instance of use by your teacher for educational purposes.
6. There are times when use of PLDs during class time will be permitted, and other times when it is not. If your teacher or a guest teacher asks a student to put his/her PLD away, the student must comply immediately and without question.
7. Use of a cell phone/tablet as a PLD is **completely optional** and all students in my class can complete all assignments with or without a PLD. Students who choose to use their cell phones/tablets as a PLD in the classroom assume **all** liability for its use. **Standard text message and data rates apply**. Neither your teacher, Golden Valley High School, nor the William S. Hart Union High School District shall be held responsible for cell phone charges, or if the device is lost, stolen or damaged.
8. Students are responsible for any damage they cause to a school computer. Students are expected to sit in their assigned computer lab seats (or use their assigned laptop) and report any technology issues before beginning their own work. Failure to do so will result in the student being held responsible for any damage.
9. **PLD use shall be permitted only when your teacher is in the classroom**. When there is another teacher or substitute teaching the class, no electronic devices of any kind are permitted.

***Consequences of Misuse of Personal Learning Device***

If a student fails to comply with these guidelines, the privilege of using a PLD may be suspended for the remainder of the grading period or permanently.

11th Grade 

**U.S. History A/B**

Golden Valley High School

**Class Syllabus Contract**

**2016-2017**

Please review the course syllabus provided in class. **We will be reviewing the course at Back-to-School Night so parents are strongly encouraged to attend.**

By signing this you understand and agree to follow your United States History teacher’s guidelines and expectations during the 2015-2016 school year. You also agree that you are aware of and approve the video policy. Finally, by signing below you acknowledge that you have read the Acceptable Use Policy. You understand that a student is assuming the risk of using their PLD in the classroom and that failure to comply with the policy will results in a student losing technology privileges. Additional disciplinary action may be taken if it is deemed necessary.

**Print Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Print Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Please list any other information that would be important for me to know in order to help make this a successful semester for you** (for example, you have difficulty seeing from the back of the room, you prefer to sit in the front/back, you have family commitments outside of school that may prevent you from completing your work, or any other information you think may be helpful).

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**Please sign and return this page by Tuesday, August 16.**

**Thank you.**