

U.S. History Course Outline

United States History

I. General Information

Course: United States History

Scope: People, Events, and Movements of the 20th century in America.

Prerequisites: Required

Length of course: one year

Credits: five units per semester

Grade Level: 11

Text: American Odyssey, The United States in the 20th Century, 1999 by Gary B. Nash.

II. Course Content

Academic Content Standards	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
11.1 Students analyze the significant events in the founding of the nation and its attempts to realize the philosophy of government described in the Declaration of Independence	X			
11.2 Students analyze the relationship among the rise of industrialization, large scale rural to urban migration, and massive immigration from Southern and Eastern Europe.	X			
11.4 Students trace the rise of the United States to its role as a world power in the twentieth century.	X	X		
11.5 Students analyze the major political, social, economic, technological, and cultural developments of the 1920s.		X		
11.6 Students analyze the different explanations for the Great Depression and how the New Deal fundamentally changed the role of the federal government.			X	
11.7 Students analyze America's participation in World War II.			X	
11.9 Students analyze U.S. foreign policy since World War II.			X	
11.8 Students analyze the economic boom and social transformation of post World War II America.				X
11.10 Students analyze the development of federal civil rights and voting rights.				X
11.11 Students analyze the major social problems and domestic policy issues in contemporary American society				X

III. Instructional Plan:

In this course students examine major turning points in American history in the twentieth century. The year begins with a selective review of United States history, with an emphasis on two major themes- the nation's beginnings, linked to the Enlightenment and the rise of democratic ideas; and the industrial transformation of the new nations, linked to the global spread of industrialism during the nineteenth century. After these review units, we will begin our study of the twentieth century with an analysis of the Progressive Era and World War I. Critical responses to the Jazz Age and The Great Depression will also be empathized during the first semester. In the second semester we will cover the following: World War II, The Cold War, The Civil Rights Movement in the Postwar Era, Vietnam/Late 1960's, and The United States in Recent Times.

IV. Assessment:

Homework/Classwork: Homework will be assigned daily. Late work will not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances and prior arrangements are made with the teacher. Homework must be typed or completed neatly in black or blue ink.

In addition to reading the textbook and completing an assignment on the reading, other assignments include supplementary readings, research projects, oral presentations, group discussion, quizzes, objective and essay tests, critiques of documentary programs and others. Major assignments will be given with specific due dates assigned in advance to allow students to organize their time. You will also have at least one weeks notice before a major examination. Most quizzes will be announced ahead of time, but some may be unannounced.

Examinations: Chapter reading quizzes will take place every two weeks. Unit examinations will take place approximately every four to six weeks. The chapter reading quizzes will consist of objective based questions dealing with the content from the assigned reading. Unit examinations will consist of a combination of short answer essay and objective questions based on assigned readings, class discussion, and any other class assignments/activities

Grades: All assignments are graded on a point system, but one in which assignments and tests are placed into WEIGHTED CATEGORIES. As points are assigned and the score placed in the gradebook, they will be placed in a certain category, which, as grades are calculated, bears a certain weight in determining the grade for the class. The WEIGHTING is as follows:

Quizzes/Tests/Projects	45%
Homework/Classwork	30%
Current Events	20%
Transitions/Participation	5%

The final semester grade will be calculated from the following three components:

First Quarter Grade	40% of final grade
Second Quarter Grade	40% of final grade
Final Exam	20% of final grade

The following scale will be used to determine the student's grade:

90% +	=	A
80-89%	=	B
70-79%	=	C
60-69%	=	D
Less than 60%		F

V. Text

American Odyssey, The United States in the 20th Century, 1999 by Gary B. Nash.

VI. Learning Outcomes:

1. After a review of the nation's beginnings and the industrial transformation of the new nation, this course will examine major turning points in American history in the twentieth century. (ESLR #2)
2. Understanding that certain themes prevail in modern American history including: the expanding role of the federal government and federal courts; the continuing tension between the individual and the state and between minority rights and majority power; the emergence of a modern corporate economy; the movements toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. (ESLR #1)
3. Students will learn to assess historical materials- their relevance to a given problem, their reliability and their importance-and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. (ESLR #1,#3)
4. The development of the skills necessary to reach conclusions on the basis of informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly in essay formats. (ESLR #1)
5. The study skills necessary to read and understand historical scholarship including listening,

observing, notetaking, and organization. (ESLR #5)

Students will learn to think like a historian! This course also develops the skills necessary to reach this outcome.

VII. Make-up Work: After an excused absence, it is the student's responsibility to find out what has been missed. Failure to make up work will result in "0" points. Quizzes following reading and note-taking assignments, if missed due to an excused absence may be made up by the special arrangement with the teacher. Unit Exams are to be made up the day you return from a one or two day absence. Note: Being absent the day before a scheduled quiz or exam does NOT excuse you from taking the exam on the day it is scheduled.

VIII. Notebooks/Materials: The student will be responsible for organizing and maintaining his or her notebook in a neat and complete manner. This course description will begin the notebook. Then unit by unit, corresponding to the unit outline attached to this syllabus, your notebook will contain the following: lecture notes, classwork/homework, all primary and secondary source materials, and quizzes/tests.

Students are to bring textbook (unless told otherwise), paper, pencils, and pens (blue/black ink only for essays) and any other working materials to class daily. On occasion students may check out materials from the classroom to use at home. Prompt return of those materials is essential.

IX. Attendance/Tardy Policy: Students are expected to attend class and be on time. Students should be in their desks, working on the transition question by the second bell. If a student is tardy, they will be placed on the school's tardy contract. This policy consists of the following steps:

First Tardy: A Warning by the Teacher

Second Tardy: Detention

Third Tardy: Detention and a call home from the teacher.

Fourth Tardy: Saturday School

Fifth Tardy: Dropped from class

Please also note that truancies and excessive absences can also result in your grade being lowered. (See Student Handbook)

X. Rules: Please abide by the following rules.

1. Maintain good manners with respect for the teacher and peers at all time.
2. Be in attendance on time.

3. No food or drinks in class.
4. No hats, hoods, or caps in class.
5. No make up kits or head phones.
6. Any deviation from pattern will result in disciplinary action
 - a. First offense-between student and instructor
 - b. Second offense- parent notification
 - c. Third offense-parent/student/teacher/counselor conference
 - d. Repeated offenses-student removal from class

XI. Contacting Mr. Powers: Mr. Powers is available most days after school. He is also available for brief questions most mornings and during the snack period. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to ask. You may also reach Mr. Powers by phone at 831-646-6590 ext. 284 or by email at dpowers@pgusd.org. If you get my voice mail, please leave a message with the phone number and best time to get back to you. Please make time to see me if you have any questions at all!

When you turn in this entire handout to Mr. Powers, signed below; he will give you credit and return it to you. Your signature and the signature of your parent(s) or guardian constitute your commitment and agreement to do your very best in US History. Keep this page for reference in your notebook

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date