



American History Syllabus

Mrs. Musgrove - Room 14

Welcome to our classroom!

My name is Mrs. Musgrove and I am very excited to be your teacher for 8th grade American History. This is my fourth year at Redwood, but I have been teaching for ten years. I absolutely love history and teaching. I can't wait to share this learning journey with you. This year we will be learning about the birth and development of the United States through the Reconstruction Period.

Communication

All class information (with the exception of grades) will be posted in Canvas. Students will always have access to all assignment details through Canvas even when absent. Parents and caregivers can sign in as observers in Canvas and can see all classroom communication. Students and caregivers can email me through Canvas or at:
cmusgrove@conejousd.org

Required Materials

Students are to bring to class each day:

- 1.) A charged computer. Free school computers are available for ALL students.
- 2.) A history-only spiral notebook. If students need access to a spiral they can fill out a request form from Mrs. Musgrove but then are responsible for bringing it to class and maintaining it.

How to Succeed

- Actively listen to learn in class.
- Ask for help when you do not understand something or need support.
- Focus and use your class time wisely.
- Carefully read and follow all directions on assignments and tests.
- Use care and detail when working on assignments. Write in full sentences and check for correct spelling/grammar.
- Stay on track with deadlines. Getting too far behind on work can cause stress and low scores.
- Use study techniques and time dedicated in class to prepare for tests.

Class Expectations

I want our classroom to feel safe for everyone and be a brave space for creativity and learning. For this to happen, we need to build our classroom community around mutual respect.

Be Curious: Actively listen to learn in class.

Respect Yourself: Come prepared and ready to learn. Do your best. Advocate for yourself and ask for help.

Respect Others: Be kind and respect differences. Understand, celebrate and support each other in the classroom.

Respect the Classroom: Take care of our classroom and all materials shared with you. Other than water, no food or drink allowed in the classroom.

Follow Daily Classroom Procedures: come in quietly and begin bell ringer work, follow directions for the day's lesson and wait until I dismiss you before you begin packing up and heading for the door. No cellphone use is allowed in class as this is a school policy.

Grading Policy

All grades will be posted on Q in a timely manner. Do NOT look on Canvas for cumulative grades. Grading will be reflected in the following 5 point scaling system:

A = Mastery of Expectations (90-100%)	5
B = Accomplished Expectations (80-89%)	4
C = Developing Expectations (70-79%)	3
D = Beginning to Reach Exp. (60-69%)	2
F = Lack of Understanding (50-59%)	1
No Attempt Made	0

Students can resubmit class work and projects once for an improved grade, however it must be resubmitted before the end of the unit to receive additional credit.

Students can retake a unit test for a higher score (only one additional attempt is allowed) but this retake must be scheduled with Mrs. Musgrove outside of class time no more than one week after the first exam. The student will receive the highest score.

Excused Absences

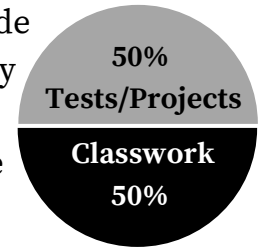
If students are out because of an excused absence they have more time to complete missing work. For every day absent, they will have one extra day added to the due date. All work is posted on Canvas so students have access to the information at all times. It is the student's responsibility to check in with the teacher upon return for questions about assignments or support with information presented in missed classes.

Late & Missing Work

Students are able to revise work or turn in late or missing work up until the end of the unit without penalty. After the unit project or test then late work will still be accepted but at 50% of the original value. I encourage students to stay on track because getting behind causes lower grades, stress and anxiety.

Grade Breakdown

The class is designed so that half of a student's grade reflects all of the work they do in class learning the material. Half of the grade is a reflection of how well they know the material as demonstrated in tests and project assessments.



Homework

There is no assigned homework for this class, however students are expected to use at home time to study for tests and complete work they did not complete during class time.

Cheating & Plagiarism

Unless you are assigned a group project and asked to work in collaboration with a group, the expectation is that all of your writing and work **is your own**. Academic dishonesty (cheating and plagiarism) is a serious issue and is NOT allowed. Academic dishonesty includes: copying class work or test answers from a classmate, copying directly from a source without giving credit to the source, and using unauthorized notes during a test. The first infraction = warning and note home to parents/caregivers. Second infraction = zero grade that cannot be made up + official write up and meeting with school administration.