Mr. Matthew P Crooks

F101

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**AP U.S. History Fall 2020**

**Course Description**

AP U.S. History covers the spectrum of American history from pre-Columbian days to the present. Using chronological and thematic approaches to the material, the course exposes students to extensive primary and secondary sources and to the interpretations of various historians. Class participation through seminar reports, discussions, debates, and role-playing activities is required; special emphasis is placed on critical reading and essay writing to help students prepare for the AP examination. The course is structured chronologically, divided into 9 units.

**Major differences between AP and other classes**

1. This is a college level course and as such, each student has the opportunity to earn college credit by earning a score of a three or better on the National Advanced Placement Exam offered in May.
2. Because students are potentially earning college credit for their work, A.P. U.S. History is designed to be taught on the college level and many students find the pace and work load difficult.
3. Each test will cover a significantly greater body of information than students may be used to.
4. Homework will consist primarily of reading assignments and reviews of daily notes in order to master the large body of factual information.
5. There will be very few “simple” assignments where the student can improve his or her grade merely by completing the work. Furthermore, there will be very little extra credit offered.
6. There are relatively few graded assignments each semester, which increases the need for adequate preparation every day.
7. Responsibility for mastering the material rests primarily with the student.

**Course Outline**

Unit 1 & 2 1491-1754, Chapters 1-4, Test on Sept 3rd, DBQ due Sept 4th

Unit 3 1754-1800, Chapters 5-7

Unit 4 1800-1848, Chapters 8-13

Unit 5 1844-1877, Chapters 14-16

Unit 6 1865-1898, Chapters 17-20

Unit 7 1890-1945, Chapters 21-25

Unit 8 1945-1980, Chapters 26-30

Unit 9 1980-present, Chapters 31&32

**Textbook**

* This year for class we will be using the **America’sHistory**, 9th Edition, by Henretta, Edwards, Hinderaker, and Self. This is available on CLASSLINK under the BFW icon. This is a new book for us and different from previous years.
* Students are financially responsible for all books issued by CHS. Textbooks may not be left in classrooms and teachers are not responsible for the whereabouts of your book. The copy which was issued must be turned in at the end of the course. You will not receive credit for turning in another student’s book and may not turn in replacement books. The cost of replacement will be assessed to any student that fails to turn in the book they were issued or turns in a damaged book.

**Weighted Grades**

* Summative Assessments will make up 100% of the grade this semester. Each Unit will have 2 summative grades, the first will be a multiple choice and essay question combined into one grade, the other will be a project based composite of multiple parts that will add up to one summative grade. There will still be smaller work in the class but it will only be used to guide your understanding of the curriculum.

**Late Work and Make-Up Policies**

It is the student's responsibility to see the teacher about any work missed while out with an excused absence. If you are in school but not in my class on any given day, it is the student's responsibility to hand in any work due that day and pick up any homework assignments for the next day.

The following policy will apply to all make-up work:

Tests: Tests will be made up on the day that a student returns from an absence. If the student is absent for several consecutive days, the student must make arrangements to make it up in the mornings, during lunch, or possibly after school.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be made up the day a student returns.

**Grading Scale**

90-100 A 80-89 B 70-79 C Below 70 F

**Expectations for Written Work Across the Curriculum**

All written assignments should:

• be in complete sentences using formal language

• follow conventions of grammar, usage and mechanics

• accurately cite sources used with discipline-specific requirements (MLA)

**Chattahoochee High School Provision for Improving Grades**

1. Students who complete a major assessment but fail to demonstrate mastery as evidenced by a grade below 75% on the major assessment may pursue an improvement opportunity to show proficiency. In the case of an honor code violation on a major assessment, the grade will stand as a zero with no eligibility for recovery on that assignment. What is classified as a major assessment is determined within the content area; consult your course syllabus for details.

2. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities within 5 school days of being informed of the grade on the assessment in class. Students are allowed one attempt at recovery per major assessment. All recovery work must be completed 10 days before the end of the semester.

3. The grade on the recovery assignment will replace the original grade if the recovery grade is equal to or below 75%. If the recovery grade is above 75%, the original grade will be replaced with a 75%.

**School Board Policy IHA Grading and Reporting System Provision for Improving Grades**

1. Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.

2. Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.

**Cheating and Plagiarism**

The Social Studies department considers academic integrity a top priority. ANY copying or sharing of answers on homework, major assessments, minor assessments, or exams will be viewed as cheating by the Social Studies Department. The only exception to this rule is if the teacher has explicitly stated that the work is a “cooperative learning” experience. If in doubt, ask the teacher.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is defined by the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language is “the act of stealing and using the work ideas or writings of another as one’s own.” Although the direct copying of another’s work is the most blatant example, any time a student takes another’s ideas and passes them off as their own, it is considered plagiarism. This includes “rephrasing” material without noting the source. If in doubt, ask in advance. The consequences for cheating or plagiarism on any assignment are outlined in the handbook: it will result in a zero grade on the assignment, an Honor Code Referral, and a phone call notifying the violator’s parent.

**Classroom Policies**

For each chapter you will receive a "Review Sheet" of terms. I suggest, but do not require, that you fill these out as you read. You will be allowed to use these on quizzes and they are your own work**.** It may help with the quizzes but more importantly they are excellent review sheets for Unit Tests, Final Exams, and the AP Exam. In May you can study 1000 pages in the Book, or 32 well-done Review Sheets.

**The AP Exam will be administered on May 6th, 2021**. I expect all students that remain in the class to prepare for and take this exam. If you can survive this course, you will do well on the exam.

**Classroom Expectations**

* This is a college level course and as such, each student has the opportunity to earn college credit by successfully completing the assigned work and earning a 3 or better on the National Advanced Placement Exam in May.
* Each student is expected to keep up with the workload. This will include readings in the text, outside readings, position papers, Document Based Questions (DBQ), homework, class work, and quizzes. Each student is required to keep an organized notebook.
* Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions, group work, and activities.
* Students will complete approximately 5 exams, combining multiple choice and essay questions.

**CLASSROOM POLICIES**

1. Respect everyone and everything.

2. Student must be in TEAMS when the tardy bell rings.

3. Students should come with notebook, paper, and writing utensils everyday.

4. It is a student’s responsibility to approach the teacher about make-up work missed during an absence.

**Digital Learning Expectations:**

a. Students must use their FCS email account ([studentID@fcstu.org](mailto:studentID@fcstu.org)) to log into a Microsoft Teams.

b. Attend the class meeting in Microsoft Teams 5 minutes before class begins.

c. Remain actively engaged in the class for the entirety of the class. In some cases, the class may end early to do work and you will be allowed to leave the meeting or stay and ask questions.

d. Engage in the class by answering questions and taking notes.

e. Enter the classroom meeting muted, but you are encouraged to have the video on.

f. Do not type in the chat bar unless instructed to do so.

g. Do not record the session in any way.

h. Stay muted unless asked to unmute.

i. Although we will be teaching through the internet, Students need to understand that what you do in a virtual course are under the same constraints as if in a live classroom. This applies to language, and inappropriate actions in the virtual meeting. Students are not allowed to carry on private chats or bully any student. There will be times when I will need you to turn your camera on and at that time you should be dressed appropriately.

**Attendance**

In a virtual setting attendance will be recorded based on one of three factors: a student turns in an assignment, a student actively participates in a lesson, or a student has direct communication with the teacher during the class period. To help ensure success in this class, attendance is Mandatory. Students who are absent shall receive a grade of incomplete for work missed for the day(s) or class periods(s) in which the absence(s) occur. Students shall be responsible for making up missed work for each absence. Students shall receive 100% credit for the make-up work for all absences completed within the allotted time determined by Fulton County.

**Technology**

I will be using Microsoft TEAMS for all assignments in the class. This is where students will take tests, and turn in any work for the course.

**Teacher Availability**

School Office Hours are from 7:40 to 8:40 and I am available at this time for a TEAMS Meeting or phone call. If you email your phone number I can call you. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any point during the semester with your questions or concerns. The best way to get in touch with me is via email (crooks[**@fultonschools.org**](mailto:ventrekl@fultonschools.org)). I am available in the mornings and some afternoons by appointment for students or parents. Appointments can be scheduled for help sessions, make up exams, private detentions, and conferences, just talk to me.